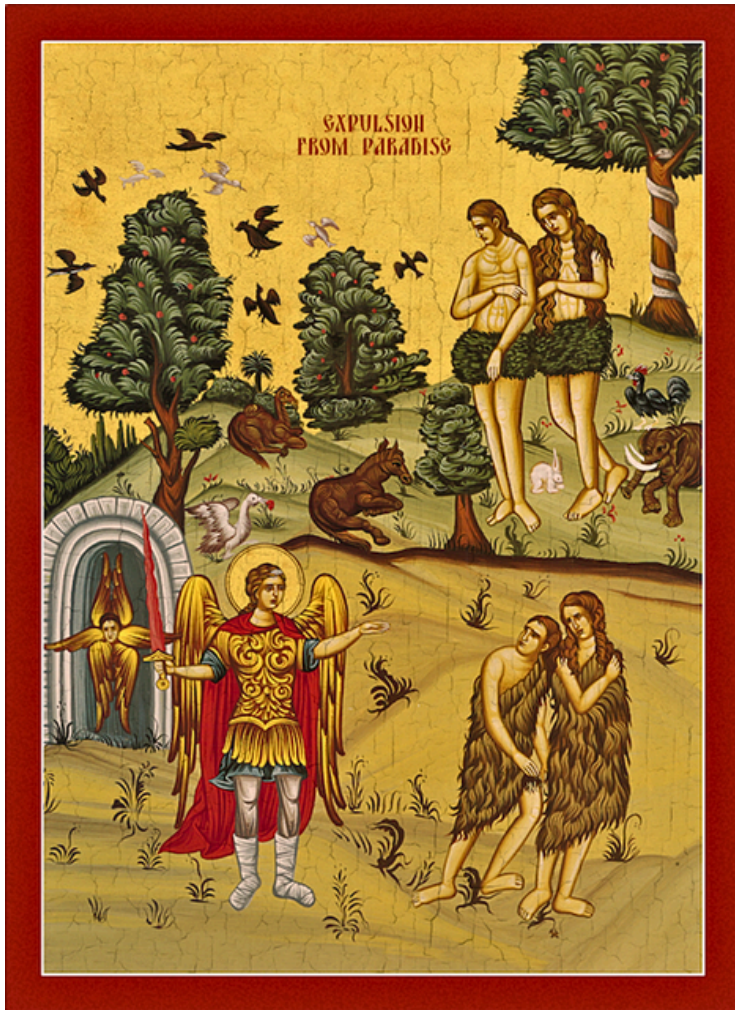




GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ANNUNCIATION
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



FORGIVENESS SUNDAY
MARCH 2, 2025

Forgiveness Sunday

March 2, 2025

Mode 3 | Fast from meat-dairy allowed today | 2nd Morning Gospel

This Lord's Day, we remember Hesychius the Martyr; our Holy Father Nicholas Planas; Joachim of Vatopedi who was given the name Papoulakis; Andronikos & Athanasia the Martyrs; Theodotos the Holy Martyr, Bishop of Cyrenia; Euthalia the Virgin-Martyr of Sicily; and Chad, Bishop of Lichfield.

Antiphon I. Mode 2. Psalm 103.

Verse 1: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and everything within me, bless His holy name.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Verse 2: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His rewards.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ, σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Verse 3: The Lord prepared His throne in heaven, and His Kingdom rules over all.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Antiphon II. Mode 2. Psalm 146.

Verse 1: Praise the Lord, O my soul! I shall praise the Lord while I live; I shall sing to my God as long as I exist.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

Verse 2: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob; his hope is in the Lord his God.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλουῖα.

Verse 3: The Lord shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, to all generations.

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.

Only begotten Son and Word of God....

Antiphon III. Resurrection Apolytikion. Mode 3.

Εὐφραίνεσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιᾶσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ἄδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Let the heavens rejoice; let the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the mighty power of His arm. He trampled down death by death and became the first-born of the dead. From the depths of Hades, He delivered us and granted the world great mercy.

Apolytikion of the Church, Mode 4: Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἡ φανέρωσις, ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

Today is the crowning moment of our salvation, and the unfolding of the eternal mystery: the Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin, and Gabriel brings the good tidings of grace. Therefore, with him let us also cry aloud to the Mother of God: Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.

Festal Kontakion, Mode Plagal 2: Τῆς σοφίας ὀδηγέ, φρονήσεως χορηγέ, τῶν ἀφρόνων παιδευτά, καὶ πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστά, στήριξον, συνέτισον τὴν καρδίαν μου Δέσποτα. Σὺ δίδου μοι λόγον, ὁ τοῦ Πατρὸς Λόγος· ἴδου γὰρ τὰ χεῖλη μου, οὐ μὴ κωλύσω ἐν τῷ κράζειν σοι· Ἐλεῆμον, ἐλέησόν με τὸν παραπεσόντα.

O guide to wisdom, provider of prudence, disciplinarian of fools, and defender of the poor, fortify and discipline my heart, O Master; You, give me a word, O Word of the Father. For behold, I will not hinder my lips from crying to You: O merciful Lord, have mercy on me who have fallen.

After the Trisagion Hymn:

Prokeimenon of the Apostle. Mode Plagal 4. Psalm 75.

Pray and return to the Lord Your God.

In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading is from the Holy Apostle Paul's Letter to the Romans (13:11-14;14:1-4): Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

Alleluia

The Gospel Reading is from Matthew (6:14-21): The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Parish Council: Team B

Milt Apostolidis – Team Leader, Nick Avdis, George Chuchas,
Michael Dariotis, Stella Dariotis, Maria Sampanis



Altar Guild
Marianna Demas



Coffee Fellowship

Sponsored by the Annunciation Greek Dance Ministry

Publication Submission Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin – Wednesdays by 4pm to nhansen@annunciationsac.org
Limited to Annunciation parish and parochial ministry activities and announcements

This Week at Annunciation Email – Wednesdays by 4pm to nhansen@annunciationsac.org

Quarterly Observer – March 10th to observer@annunciationsac.org

SATURDAY OF SOULS

On the Saturday of Souls, Orthodox Christians commemorate those who have fallen asleep in the Lord. We will be offering the traditional memorial prayers for the reposed on the following dates:

Saturday, February 22: Saturday of the Souls

Saturday, March 8: Feast of St. Theodore and the Miracle of the Koliva

Please note, services will *not* be held on Saturday, March 1.

If you would like to have the names of your Orthodox loved ones remembered in prayer, please list their first names on the provided card or submit them online by scanning the QR code. The submitted names will be included in the memorial prayers for both services, so there is no need to submit more than one list.



STAY UP-TO-DATE ON UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS WITH THE

Annunciation Parish Calendar
tiny.cc/parishcalendar



ANNUNCIATION SACRAMENTO
DANCER RECOGNITION

TA KAMARIA • TA KOUKOUNARIA • RIZES • OI APOGONOI • NEA GENIA • DEOS

THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 2

- DIVINE LITURGY -

10:00AM

DANCERS WILL BE CALLED FORWARD AND RECOGNIZED

**- COFFEE FELLOWSHIP CELEBRATION -
FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY**

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP WILL INCLUDE AN END
OF SEASON CELEBRATION AND SLIDESHOW

HOSTED BY THE ANNUNCIATION GREEK DANCE MINISTRY





ANNUNCIATION YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
KICKOFF MIXER

SUNDAY, MARCH 2
2:00PM • ANNUNCIATION HELLENIC CENTER FOYER

DRINKS & HORS D'OEUVRES PROVIDED

AGES 18-35

ANNUNCIATION SACRAMENTO

LENTEN
**YOUTH
RETREAT**

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY OF LAZARUS
APRIL 12, 2025

**ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND
REGISTRATION COMING SOON**



ANNUNCIATION SACRAMENTO



MARCH MEETING & KOLIVA MAKING

CONNECT WITH YOUR FAITH, HERITAGE, AND FELLOW GOYANS—ALL WHILE MAKING SOMETHING MEANINGFUL. JOIN US AS WE LEARN HOW TO PREPARE KOLIVA AND THE IMPORTANCE OF REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES AFTER THEY HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE LORD.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

6:00PM • SALUTATIONS TO THE THEOTOKOS

7:15PM • KOLIVA WORKSHOP

GRADES 6-12

LENTEN DESSERT WILL BE PROVIDED

RSVP AT tiny.cc/goyamarch

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT NIKKI AVDIS AT GOYA@ANNUNCIATIONSAC.ORG

Please join us for
tea & treats at a

MYRRHBEARER MEET & GREET



Sunday, March 9

*Classroom 2209
Following the Divine Liturgy*

Girls 2nd grade and up



RSVP at tiny.cc/teaparty25

SAVE THE DATE

LENTEN RETREAT



SATURDAY, MARCH 29

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER
FR. VINNIE

ALL ARE WELCOME

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

SPONSORED BY ANNUNCIATION PHILOPTOCHOS



2025 ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

JUNIOR DIVISION (GRADES 7-9) · SENIOR DIVISION (GRADES 10-12)

ANNUNCIATION PARISH FESTIVAL

Sunday, March 30, 2025 · Following the Divine Liturgy, 12:30pm

AWARDS

National finalists are eligible to receive the following:

- St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival Scholarship: \$500 to \$2000
- FAITH - An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism: to be announced

Finalists at any level are eligible to receive the following:

- Chrysostom Scholarship to Hellenic College: \$2,500 up to \$30,000 per year

Find topics, tips, manual & award information at www.goarch.org/oratorical

Questions? Interested in participating? Contact nhansen@annunciationsac.org





SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 23 - 27

MORE DETAILS TO COME



Is the Lord Jesus calling you?

Do you want to learn more about Orthodox Christianity
and becoming an Orthodox Christian?

In recent months, our Parish has been blessed with a number of people inquiring about the Faith. **Are you among these inquirers?** We would like to share our Faith with you in an organized and systematic way. Beginning Tuesday, February 18, and continuing through Great and Holy Lent and Pascha, we will be offering an **Introduction to Orthodoxy Class** (for adults). We will meet in the downstairs Conference Room in the Hellenic Center. Class will begin at 6 pm and meet for about an hour and half. If you cannot come in person, but you would like to participate via Zoom, please tell us, and we will endeavor to accommodate you.

Required Texts:

- Dr. Eve Tibbs, *A Basic Guide to Eastern Orthodox Theology: Introducing Beliefs and Practices* (Baker Academic, 2021). This excellent recent book is available in print (our bookstore has some copies), Kindle, and Audio.
- Mark Nauroth, *The Power of the Creed* (Worldview Guys Media, 2019). This privately published text is only available in print, BUT Mark, a Parishioner at St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church in Irvine, CA, has also done a series of YouTube videos based on the book. Search for Mark Nauroth on YouTube. 13 videos. (Caution! There is a lot of religious "junk" on YouTube. I think you know this!)

If you are interested in attending this class, please email me at frtimothy@annunciationsac.org. I need your name and an email address.

Fr. Timothy Robinson, Associate Priest



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Building a solid foundation for Christian education and formation

REGISTRATION STILL OPEN FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR
REGISTER AT tiny.cc/sunday-school

NURSERY-5TH GRADE

Class begins at 10am.

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

Students attend the Divine Liturgy or assist our youth in class lessons and activities beginning at 10am. Middle School and High School lessons begin following Holy Communion.

Please contact sundayschool@annunciationsac.org with questions



ALTAR BOY REGISTRATION 2024-2025

2nd Grade and Up

Visit tiny.cc/altar2024

Please contact Gary Leonard with questions
garyleonard@hotmail.com

Epistle Reading Program

The Epistle Reading Program is open to our parish youth (ages 10+) and is a wonderful opportunity for our children to take part in the Divine Liturgy on Sundays, and serve our community!

Please register and select reading dates at the link below. A confirmation will be emailed, along with the reading(s) for the selected date(s). Assistance is available to prepare new readers. Readers are needed every Sunday.

Please contact Nicki Hansen at nhansen@annunciationsac.org with questions.

tiny.cc/epistlereaders

Coffee Hour Fellowship

The members of Philoptochos want to thank our parishioners who support us throughout the year by sponsoring Annunciation's Sunday coffee hours and bringing pastry and goodies to share. Your sponsorship and sharing promotes fellowship, and we are so grateful.

Please consider hosting a coffee hour anytime during the year! Cookies, fruit, or a cake would be great! Coffee will be made for you.

Contact Donna Wagner at 916-214-9794 to secure a date for hosting a regular coffee hour. When contacting Effie in the church office to schedule a memorial, please let her know if you also wish to host coffee fellowship. She can be reached in the office at 916-443-2033 ext 222.



Annunciation Costume Inventory Project

We are creating a digital inventory of our costume collection and its rich history and would like to include as many photos and examples as possible.

- Did you dance with the Annunciation in the past?
- Do you have photos of yourself, your children, or grandchildren in these costumes?
- Did you sew or help with costumes?
- Do you have any other information about the costumes or do you still have old costumes at home?

In particular, we are looking for group and individual photos from the 1970s to the present day. We have already inventoried many costumes stored at the church, but we know there are more out there!

Please text or email Anastasia if you have questions, information or photos at 530-574-2756 or panagaa@crc.losrios.edu.

If you'd like to see what we've inventoried so far, the digital costume record forms can be accessed by scanning the QR code.



This inventory is a work in progress and some costume forms are still incomplete as we gather more information.



ANNUNCIATION BOOKSTORE NEWS

Καλή Σαρακοστή! We will be presenting "good reads" to help you along your journey through Lenten. Look for these items on the first console to the left.

6 Hours, 7 Lessons: How Christ's Light Transcends Our Darkness

By Rev. Dr. Nicholas G. Louh and Dr. Roxanne K. Louh

During His darkest moments, Jesus uttered seven statements on the Cross that offer us tremendous wisdom in our own dark seasons—when we feel alone, forgotten, and unable to surrender, forgive, or let go of our mistakes. In *6 Hours, 7 Lessons*, Orthodox Christian priest Father Nicholas Louh and licensed clinical psychologist Dr. Roxanne Louh show us that there is no darkness so dark that our Lord hasn't already experienced it. Christ's final words direct us toward the light of His love and protection while giving us the guidance we need to find hope and healing.

Thirty Steps to Heaven: The Ladder of Divine Ascent for All Walks of Life

By Vassilios Papavassiliou

Many laypeople have attempted to read the great spiritual classic, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*, but have been frustrated in attempting to apply the lessons of this monastic text to their everyday lives in the world. In *Thirty Steps*, Archimandrite Vassilios interprets the Ladder for the ordinary Christian without sacrificing any of its beauty and power. Now you too can accept the challenge offered by St. John Climacus to ascend closer to God with each passing day.

Pilgrimage to Pascha: A Daily Devotional for Great Lent

By Archpriest Steven John Belonick with Michele Constable and Michael Soroka

Second edition edited by Deborah Malacky Belonick

This unpretentious little book of meditations based on Scripture, ancient hymns, and writings from Church Fathers will nourish the souls of reflective seekers during the forty-day period of Great Lent. Authors of each meditation have delved deeply into the sins and shortcomings of their own hearts, enabling readers to share in a collective human experience - from darkness to light, from despair to hope, and from isolation to commonality in the body of Christ - as they move steadily toward our Lord's Resurrection.

Tending the Garden of Our Hearts: Daily Lenten Meditations for Families

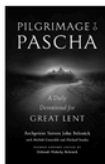
By Elissa Bjeletich and Kristina Wenger

Are you looking for a way to keep your family engaged in the true spiritual nourishment Lent has to offer? *Tending the Garden of Our Hearts* offers family devotions based on the scriptures for each day of Great Lent, including questions to discuss and ponder and an appendix full of hands-on activities to bring the lessons of the season to life. Whether you use it every day or dip into it occasionally as time permits, this book will help the whole family get more out of this crucial season of the Orthodox year.

Consider the Bookstore for all your gifting needs whether they be for the family home, girlfriend, child or a hostess gift. We carry beautiful journals, soy candles, holy oil, a variety of icons, inspirational canvas pouches, beautiful jewelry and more!

Be sure to check out the Father Vinnie Happy Birthday soy candles - "because it's everyone's birthday"! Long burning with a natural wood wick, these colorful confetti candles are a treat for every person in your life. Buy one for the family and light it over and over as a family birthday tradition.

Supporting your Bookstore is supporting your church as we give back to the community. This year icons were purchased for the priests to give out at weddings and baptisms.



DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT FALLING?



"A Matter of Balance" is an empowering workshop designed for individuals who wish to overcome their fear of falling and embrace a more active lifestyle. Over the course of eight weeks, participants engage in two-hour classes that focus on building strength, enhancing balance, and boosting confidence.



This transformative program not only addresses physical aspects but also incorporates strategies to help you manage concerns about falls. By the end of the workshop, you'll find yourself more self-assured and ready to enjoy life to the fullest, equipped with the tools and confidence to engage in activities you love without fear!

Eight two-hour sessions in Annunciation Hellenic Center
Wednesdays, 1 - 3 PM
March 5 - April 23, 2025

Join us! It's free! Invite a friend!



A MATTER OF
BALANCE

MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

To sign-up or for more info, call Dennis Ferreira, (916) 747-1442

Sponsored by the Family Wellness Initiative.
Program licensed and overseen by UC Davis.

A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model

Recognized for Innovation and Quality in Healthcare and Aging, 2006, American Society on Aging.
A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model was developed by a grant from the Administration on Aging (#90AM2780).



STEWARDSHIP 2025

"Give, and it shall be given unto you."

Luke 6:38



STEWARDSHIP FACTS

Q: DO MY RECURRING STEWARDSHIP PAYMENTS ROLLOVER FROM YEAR-TO-YEAR?

A: In past years, recurring stewardship payments have NOT rolled over to the next year and stewards were required to create new pledges and payments at the beginning of the year. For 2025, recurring payments from 2024 will continue on unless stopped by the giver. If you would like to check your 2025 stewardship status or make changes to your recurring payment, please login to your PushPay account at pushpay.com/login or contact the Annunciation Financial Office at accounting@annunciationsac.org.

Q: WHAT DOES MY STEWARDSHIP PAY FOR?

A: In 2025, it will cost approximately \$3,500/day to keep the church open. Most operating expenses are paid from stewardship. Some examples are utilities, office staff and pastoral salaries, candles, permits, security, and facilities maintenance. Additional costs are directly related to church-funded ministries and programs.

Q: I ALREADY PAY FOR GREEK DANCE, GREEK SCHOOL, ETC. WHY DO I HAVE TO ALSO PAY FOR STEWARDSHIP?

A: These programs operate independently from our general operating budget. The church provides the facility, in addition to facility-related expenses, enabling their operation and receives no money from these ministries. It is also important that families participating in our children's ministries be currently pledged stewards.

Make your pledge online at
annunciationsac.org/stewardship
or return a pledge card to the Church Office



March 2-9

Sunday, March 2

Forgiveness Sunday

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Dancer Recognition Sunday

2:00pm Young Professionals Kickoff

6:00pm Vespers of Forgiveness

Monday, March 3

First Monday of Lent: Clean Monday

6:00pm Great Compline

7:00pm Introduction to Orthodoxy

Wednesday, March 5

6:00pm Greek School Classes

6:00pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

7:15pm Presanctified Lenten Supper - *Hosted by Philoptochos*

Thursday, March 6

6:00pm Byzantine Chant Class

Friday, March 7

6:00pm Salutations to the Theotokos: First Stanza

7:15pm GOYA Meeting & Koliva Workshop

Saturday, March 8

Feast of St. Theodore and the Miracle of the Koliva

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, March 9

Sunday of Orthodoxy

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Myrrhbearer Meet & Greet Tea Party

THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

600 Alhambra Blvd. Sacramento, California 95816 (mailing address 616 Alhambra)

OUR MISSION is to bring all people to full maturity in Christ through Worship (Liturgia), Service (Diakonia), Education (Paideia), Witness (Martyria) and Fellowship (Koinonia), guided and united in all things by the One Holy Spirit.

If you are visiting with us this morning, you are most welcome! Please fill out a Visitor's Card in the Narthex. If you have questions about the Orthodox Christian faith, our schedule of services, or becoming a member of the parish, please go to our website at www.annunciationsac.org, or contact the church office to speak with one of the Priests (M-F, 9 am – 3:30 pm, phone (916) 443-2033).

Be sure to visit our bookstore in the Annunciation Hellenic Center (entrance on Alhambra Blvd). The bookstore is open Sundays after Church or call (916) 231-9949 for an appointment.

Rev. Fr. Vincent Minucci, Presiding Priest | frvincent@annunciationsac.org
Rev. Fr. Timothy Robinson, Associate Priest | frtimothy@annunciationsac.org

616 Alhambra Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95816
Office: (916) 443-2033 | Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:30pm
www.annunciationsac.org