



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ANNUNCIATION
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS
MARCH 23, 2025

Sunday of the Holy Cross

March 23, 2025

Lenten Fast. Wine & oil allowed | Mode Plagal 2 | 6th Orthros Gospel

This Sunday we observe the Third Sunday of Great and Holy Lent on which we remember the Precious and Life-Giving Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, our strength and the joy of all the world. We also remember the Holy Righteous Martyr Nicon and His 199 Disciples; Anatolios & Protoleon the Martyrs converted by the martyrdom of St. George; and Luke the New Martyr of Mytilene.

Festal Antiphon I. Mode 2.

Verse 1: O Lord, the light of Your face was stamped upon us.

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

Verse 2: You gave a sign to those who fear You, so they may flee from the face of the bow.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ, σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Verse 3: You ascended on high, You led captivity captive.

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

Verse 4: You give an inheritance to those who fear Your name, O Lord.

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.

Festal Antiphon II. Mode 2.

Verse 1: All the ends of the earth saw the salvation of our God.

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

Verse 2: Let us worship at the place where His feet stood.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱέ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλοῦϊα.

Verse 3: God is our King before the ages; He worked salvation in the midst of the earth.

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

Verse 4: I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.

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 Logos of God....

Third Antiphon. Festal Apolytikion. Mode 1.

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over the enemy, and by Your Cross protecting Your commonwealth.

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος, καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

Resurrectional Apolytikion, Mode Plagal 2: Ἀγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμᾳ σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν, καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντὸν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν Ἅιδην, μὴ πειρασθεῖς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωὴν, ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin, and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, glory to You.

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 4: Τῇ ὑπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τὰ νικητήρια, Ὡς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστήρια, Ἀναγράφω σοι ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε. Ἄλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, Ἐκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ἐλευθέρωσον, Ἴνα κράζω σοι· Χαῖρε νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

Instead of the Trisagios Hymn:

We venerate Your Cross, O Master, and we glorify Your Holy Resurrection.

Τὸν Σταυρόν σου προσκυνοῦμεν, Δέσποτα, καὶ τὴν ἀγίαν σου ἀνάστασιν δοξάζομεν.

Prokeimenon of the Apostle. Mode Plagal 2. Psalm 27.

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

To You, O Lord, I cry, O my God. May You not pass me over in silence.

The Reading is from the Holy Apostle Paul's Letter to the Hebrews (4:14-16;5:1-6): BRETHREN, since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"; as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

Alleluia

The Gospel Reading is from Mark (8:34–38; 9:1): The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

Parish Council: Team A

Bill Evrigenis – Team Leader, Takis Fotopoulos,
Chris Georgoulas, RJ Hansen, Niko Pikios, Demetri Romas



Altar Guild

Lindsey Kivetos



Epistle Reader

Jasper Geranios

Memorials

Katerina Yerocostas (40 days), Maria Kollia (one year, sister of Evangelia Douveas),
Eleni Vathis (one year), Stavros Vathis (15 years), Sophia Vathis (22 years),
Vaso Mayer (nine years), Mary Apostolos (10 years), George Apostolos (47 years),
Toula Apostolos Karnezis (22 years)

Coffee Fellowship

Sponsored by Annunciation Greek School

PUBLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINES

SUNDAY BULLETIN - Wednesdays by 4pm to nhansen@annunciationsac.org
Limited to Annunciation parish and parochial ministry activities and announcements

WEEKLY EMAIL BLAST - Wednesdays by 4pm to nhansen@annunciationsac.org

QUARTERLY OBSERVER - June 10th to observer@annunciationsac.org

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

Annunciation Parish Calendar
tiny.cc/parishcalendar

2025

HOLY WEEK & PASCHA NEEDS

As of 3/19/25

DESCRIPTION/ PURPOSE	TOTAL COST	RECEIVED TO DATE
Pascha Stationery, Bulletin & Postage	\$975	\$0
Flowers/Daffodils - 3rd Sunday of Lent	\$200	Completed
Palm Fronds - Palm Sunday	\$450	Completed
Stefani/Wreath - Holy Thursday	Varies	Completed
Boutonnieres - Holy Friday & Saturday	Varies	Completed
Epitaphio Procession Permit, Police Escort	\$2,324	\$0
Epitaphio Flowers & Supplies	Varies	Completed
Epitaphio Candles	\$100	Completed
Candles - Holy Friday & Saturday Nights	\$2,470	\$0
Candle Cups - Holy Friday & Saturday Nights	\$395	\$0
Clergy Paschal Candles	\$400	\$0
Communion Wine	\$400	Completed
Visiting Chantor	\$3,500	\$0
Red Eggs	Varies	Completed
Anastasi Lamb Dinner	\$2,000	\$0
Holy Week Private Security	\$780	\$0

WAYS TO DONATE

- **CHECK** Submit a check to the Church Office. Make checks payable to "Annunciation GOC" with "Pascha needs" in the memo.
- **ONLINE** Visit tiny.cc/pascha2025 or scan the QR code below.



Your donation towards these costs, in any amount, is truly appreciated.

MYRRHBEARERS

Girls 2nd grade and up



Practices

Sunday, March 16 - following the Divine Liturgy
Sunday, March 23 - following the Divine Liturgy
Sunday, March 30 - following the Divine Liturgy
Sunday, April 6 - following the Divine Liturgy
Saturday of Lazarus, April 12 - following the Lenten Youth Retreat
Palm Sunday, April 13 - following the Divine Liturgy
Holy Friday, April 18 - following the Great Hours

Meet in the Sunday School pews

Services

Holy Friday, April 18 - The Descent from the Cross - 2:45pm (optional)
Holy Friday, April 18 - The Service of the Lamentations - 6:45pm
Holy Saturday, April 19 - Vespertal Liturgy of St. Basil - 10:00am (optional)



Registration required at tiny.cc/myrrhbearer

We ask that participants attend a minimum of three practices

A limited number of white dresses in various sizes are available for use

Please contact nhansen@annunciationsac.org with any questions

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION



The Annunciation Greek School invites you to an event commemorating Greek Independence Day and the Feast Day of our church, immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

Students will perform traditional songs and poems in honor of March 25, 1821, paying tribute to the bravery and sacrifice of our heroes.

Refreshments and Lenten treats will be served.

"Ο Θεός έβαλε την υπογραφή του για την ελευθερία της Ελλάδος και δεν την παίρνει πίσω."

-Θεόδωρος Κολοκοτρώνης



MARCH

23

12:00 PM

ANNUNCIATION
HELLENIC CENTER



PARISH FEAST DAY CELEBRATION ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS

MONDAY, MARCH 24

Great Vespers for the Annunciation • 6:00 p.m.
His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco Presiding

Coffee Reception
Hosted by Annunciation Philoptochos

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

Orthros 8:00 a.m. • Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.
His Grace Bishop Ioannis of Phocaea Presiding

Flag Raising Ceremony
AHEPA, Sacramento Chapter

Luncheon
Hosted by Annunciation Parish Council



The Annunciation Philoptochos Society is pleased to present

LENTEN RETREAT

PRACTICAL TOOLKIT FOR A SPIRITUAL LIFE
WITH FR. VINCENT MINUCCI



Annunciation Hellenic Center

10:00am - 1:00pm

SAT
MAR 29

SCHEDULE

Registration & Coffee 10:00am-10:30am

Session 1 10:30am-11:15am

Lunch 11:30pm-12:15pm

Sessions 2 12:15pm-1:00pm

REGISTRATION

\$15

Scan the QR code or submit the form below

ABOUT FR. VINCENT

Fr. Vincent graduated Hellenic College in 2009 with a Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies and a minor in Human Development, followed by a Master of Divinity in 2012. He worked at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese as the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Direct Archdiocesan District (2012-2014) before serving at St. Demetrios in Weston, MA as Pastoral Assistant. Fr. Vincent was ordained to the Holy Priesthood in 2015 and served as Assistant Priest at St. Demetrios before becoming Proistamenos of the parish in 2020. In November 2024, Fr. Vincent came to Annunciation as Proistamenos and has faithfully led our parish since. He and Presbytera Nadia currently reside in Elk Grove, CA with their two boys, Sami Vincent and Gabriel Saba.

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____ **PHONE:** _____

Mailing Address:

Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society
Attn: Lenten Retreat
616 Alhambra Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95816



Check payable to *Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos*

PLEASE CONTACT ANNUNCIATIONSACEVENTS@YAHOO.COM WITH QUESTIONS



GODPARENTS SUNDAY

APRIL 6, 2025

Children are encouraged to invite their Godparent(s) to join them for Holy Communion and fellowship on this special day.

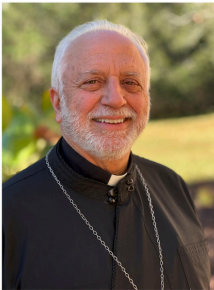
Following Holy Communion, children will stay with their Godparent(s) in church for the remainder of Liturgy. All are invited to join in coffee hour fellowship following Liturgy.

If Godparents cannot attend, family members are welcome to join in their place.

SUPPORT ORTHODOX MISSIONS



Join us on April 6 for a Missions Presentation



Please join Fr. James Retelas during the Coffee hour at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church. He will speak about the missionary efforts of OCMC around the world. Come and learn about news from the mission field and how you can become partner in this important ministry.

Scan and give online

<https://www.ocmc.org/serve-from-home/give>



ANNUNCIATION YOUNG PROFESSIONALS BLOOD DRIVE

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

600 Alhambra Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95816

Sunday, April 6th

12pm – 3:30pm
Donate in the Bloodmobile



To schedule your life-saving appointment Scan the QR Code or go to Vitalant.org, and use Blood Drive Code: 10054382



Donate in April for Chance to Win Groceries for a Year!

Fill patients' hearts with gratitude by helping us stock the blood supply this month, and we'll give you the chance to fill your grocery cart. Two lucky donors will win groceries for a year! **Donate April 1-30 and you'll be entered for a chance to win a \$10,000 gift card!**

Details at vitalant.org/GroceryGiveaway

Schedule at vitalant.org

PROMO DISCLAIMER

**Terms and condition apply; see vitalant.org/GroceryGiveaway.*

For more information or to schedule a donation,
call 877.25.VITAL or visit us at vitalant.org

Find us @vitalant:   

vitalant 



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



JOIN OUR ANNUNCIATION FAMILY FOR

SATURDAY OF LAZARUS

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

9:00AM ORTHROS, 10:00AM DIVINE LITURGY

FOLLOWED BY A LENTEN BREAKFAST SPONSORED BY PHILOPTOCHOS
AND TYING OF THE PALM CROSSES



ANNUNCIATION SACRAMENTO
LENTEN
YOUTH
RETREAT
2025

SATURDAY OF LAZARUS
APRIL 12

10am – 3pm

GRADES TK-12

DIVINE LITURGY · LENTEN BREAKFAST
TYING OF THE PALM CROSSES
PROSFORO BAKING · LESSONS & CRAFTS


REGISTER AT tiny.cc/youthretreat25

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

CONTACT NHANSEN@ANNUNCIATIONSAC.ORG WITH QUESTIONS

MADE POSSIBLE BY OUR ANNUNCIATION STEWARDS





The Annunciation Philoptochos Society
invites you to the annual

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON



Sunday, April 13, 2025


Immediately following the Divine Liturgy
Annunciation Hellenic Center

\$20 Adults | \$10 Children 12 & Under
RSVP at tiny.cc/palmsunday25

Reserved seating available for groups of 8 or 10 only

RSVP required | Payment will be collected at the door

Call Rula Manikas at (916) 606-2193 with questions



HOLY WEEK AT ANNUNCIATION

Palm Sunday, April 13	9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy 7:00pm Service of the Bridegroom
Holy Monday, April 14	7:00pm Service of the Bridegroom
Holy Tuesday, April 15	10:00am Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 7:00am Service of the Bridegroom <i>Hymn of Kassiane</i>
Holy Wednesday, April 16	4:00pm Service of Holy Unction 7:00pm Matins for Holy Thursday <i>Holy Unction to be administered at both services</i>
Holy Thursday, April 17	10:00am Vespers Divine Liturgy St. Basil <i>Institution of the Holy Eucharist</i> 7:00pm The Passion of Christ/The Twelve Gospels
Holy Friday, April 18	9:00am The Great Hours 3:00pm The Descent from the Cross 7:00pm Service of the Lamentations
Holy Saturday, April 19	10:00am Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 11:00pm Vigil of Pascha 11:45pm Anastasi! Paschal Divine Liturgy
Holy Pascha, April 20	11:00am Agape Vespers <i>at Annunciation</i> 12:00pm Agape Vespers <i>at Hellenic Park</i>

PASCHA 2025 EASTER PICNIC

@ THE LINCOLN PROPERTY

Sunday, April 20th
7:00 A.M.

Agape Vespers will be celebrated under the Old Oak Tree at Noon

FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL TO CELEBRATE AND ENJOY.

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN TABLES AND CHAIRS.

PARK GROUNDS HAVE POWER, WATER AND BEAUTIFUL SHADE.

THE SHADE STRUCTURE AND BUILDING FACILITIES ARE OPEN AND STOCKED!!!

For more information call:
Chris Georgoulas 916.541.6124, Nick Avdis 916.813.3146

DIRECTIONS
4775 Moore Rd. Lincoln CA 95668
Hwy 80 towards Reno, exit Hwy 65 North towards Lincoln
Left on Twelve Bridges, Left on Industrial Blvd.
Right on Athens Rd., Right on Fiddymnt
Left on Moore, Left on Ferrera



SPONSORED BY THE HELLENIC ORTHODOX
EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL CENTER



ANNUNCIATION YOUTH
Easter Egg Hunt

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20
FOLLOWING THE AGAPE VESPERS, 11AM
ANNUNCIATION PLATEIA



VOLLEYBALL IS BACK!

**UPCOMING
OPEN GYM PRACTICES**

**Tuesday 3/18
Tuesday 4/8
Tuesday 4/22**

**Youth (3rd Grade and Up) • 6:00pm
Young Adults & Adults • 7:00pm**

Annunciation Hellenic Center

**For more info call or text
Kate Margaris @ 916-718-3749**

COME AND JOIN THE FUN

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 are offering an **Introduction to Orthodoxy Class. During Lent, we are meeting on Monday evenings after Great Compline (6 pm). Class will begin at 7 pm and meet for about an hour.** If you cannot come in person, let me know. I send out a Zoom link every week.

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.

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



OUR STORY IS COMING TO PRINT

The Annunciation Historical Society's mission is to preserve and celebrate the rich history and traditions of the Greeks in the Sacramento region. With that in mind and the fact that the history of Greek immigrants in the greater Sacramento area is linked to the history of our city and reflects the pioneering spirit of California, the Historical Society is currently writing a book about the Greek community of Sacramento. The book, which will be part of the Images of America series, is entitled "The Greeks In Sacramento," and will focus on the formation and events of our Annunciation Parish.

We are now working on the chapters and collecting photos. It's an exciting and interesting undertaking and we are having a lot of fun!

For any questions or further information, please talk to Terry Kastanis, Katerina Lagos, Maria Sampanis, Julie Mamalis, Jim Chuchas, or Toni Chapralis.

We will keep you informed of our progress, so stay tuned!





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

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



SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 23 - 27

MORE DETAILS TO COME

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.

The Bookstore will have extended hours during Lent to service parishioners' Lenten needs. It will be open 4-6p throughout Lent every Wednesday before Presanctified Liturgy.



Join Us This Week!



The Family Wellness Initiative Winter Program

February 3 - April 31, 2025
*(every Monday & Wednesday with
occasional schedule changes)*

Annunciation Hellenic Center
10am-3:00pm

*Join us as we embrace healthy living and long-term wellness. Enjoy walking together, chair exercises, balance classes, healthy lunches, games, resources and more, so bring your walking shoes and invite a friend!
We are all aging ... let's do this together!*

For our schedule of events and to learn more about FWI,
contact Bernadette Kontos at (916) 505-3946.

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 23–30

Sunday, March 23

Sunday of the Holy Cross

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

Myrrhbearer Practice

Greek School Greek Independence Day Celebration

Monday, March 24

6:00pm Great Vespers for the Annunciation

Tuesday, March 25

Annunciation of the Theotokos

8:00am Orthros, 9:00am Divine Liturgy (*please note earlier time*)

Flag Raising

Parish Feast Day Luncheon

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, March 26

10:30am Bridge-Dominos Group Meeting

6:00pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

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

Thursday, March 27

6:00pm Byzantine Chant Class

Friday, March 28

6:00pm Salutations to the Theotokos

Saturday, March 29

10:00am Lenten Retreat Hosted by Philoptochos

Sunday, March 30

Sunday of St. John Climacus

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

Myrrhbearer Practice

12:30pm Parish Oratorical Festival

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