



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

FR. JAMES RETELAS, PRESIDING PRIEST

July 1, 2020

Sts. Cosmas and Damianos the Unmercenaries

Over the past year, we have been fortunate to broadcast our services via a GoPro camera linked with Facebook Live. This simple, inexpensive solution was so helpful for us. With this set-up we were able to stream the ordination of our own Fr. Panagiotis Dogias, the Lenten, Holy Week and Paschal services for two years, sacraments and funerals for families and friends who were unable to attend for various reasons, and ultimately, as the shelter in place protocol was enacted, we were ready for YOU, our faithful parishioners, to participate in the prayers and liturgical life of our Church, from home.

While this set up worked, it also had its issues. From one camera angle on a tripod, to sound issues, to inconsistent wifi connection, viewing the service worked, but a GoPro on a tripod is not respectful to the glory of the Orthodox Christian Faith and the beauty of Her services.

With the blessing of His Eminence, Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco and Fr. James, and the support of the Annunciation Parish Council and Endowment Fund, I am pleased to announce to our parish our new live broadcasting system. We do not know what the future holds, a shelter in place situation can happen again. Moreover, for our homebound parishioners, our young people who will go away for college or work, and those who are interested in learning more about our Orthodox Christian Faith, this new live broadcasting system will serve as a ministry of outreach and in-reach, uniting our Annunciation parish with the Church in the home, as well throughout the Orthodox Christian world.

The new live broadcasting system is state-of-the-art, with three high definition (HD-1080p) pan-tilt-zoom cameras, camera control/mixing/transition board, and all sourcing into a broadcasting computer to bring Annunciation online.



METROPOLIS OF
SAN FRANCISCO

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Now it will be easier than ever to view services online (when attending church services in person is not an option). We will now be sending our services to the Archdiocese, as well to Facebook Live, meaning, you will be able to watch our services from the Archdiocese website, mobile app, and (most importantly) Smart TV app, as well as on our Facebook Page. Simply download the GOARCH app on your mobile devices and Smart TVs to view our services is the highest quality, directly on your TV. Again, the live stream is not a replacement for receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ and the Grace of the Holy Spirit from the Holy Sacraments of the Church.

We are excited to have this new system installed by the end of July. When it is installed and fully functioning, please look for an e-mail with instructions on the new ways to view the services (again, Facebook will still work).

I am extremely grateful for the support of the Annunciation Endowment Fund and being able to see the need and vision of expanding our online presence and ministry. May God continue to guide them in their service!

Faithfully, in Christ,

Efstratios "Yianni" Magoulias
Pastoral Assistant