



THE ANNUNCIATION OBSERVER

Vol. XXXIX, Issue IV | July/August 2023



SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
ANNUNCIATION
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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THE ANNUNCIATION OBSERVER

Published bi-monthly for the parishioners of
the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation
in Sacramento, California

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COMMUNITY UPDATE

We welcome into the church:

Stella Sioukas, daughter of Alex and Lia, May 6
Chloe Tilleskjer, daughter of Anthony and Stephanie, May 14
Kalliope Haralambakis, daughter of Michael and Deanna, May 27
Yerasmina Kane, daughter of Christopher and Kristen, June 17
Katerina Meckley, daughter of Andrew and Kaleigh, June 24

We pray for the servants of God, who departed this life:

Shirley Peters, May 5
Nicholas Tzanis, May 10
Demetrios Makris, May 15
Nicholas Grammatikakis, May 24
James Henniger, June 2
Jerry Angelides, June 22

PUBLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Sunday Bulletin

Wednesdays by 4pm to nhansen@annunciationsac.org

This Week at Annunciation Email

Wednesdays by 4pm to nhansen@annunciationsac.org

Bi-Monthly Observer

August 10th to AnnunciationObserver@annunciationsac.org

JULY LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

JULY

Sunday, July 2	4th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Sunday, July 9	5th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Sunday, July 16	Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Thursday, July 20	The Glorious Prophet Elias 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Sunday, July 23	7th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Monday, July 24	Great Vespers for the Feast of Saint Anna 6:30pm @ <i>Saint Anna, Roseville</i>
Tuesday, July 25	Feast of Saint Anna 9:00am @ <i>Saint Anna, Roseville</i>
Wednesday, July 26	Saint Paraskevi 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Thursday, July 27	Saint Panteleimon 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Sunday, July 30	8th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy

AUGUST LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

AUGUST

Wednesday, August 2	Paraklisis to the Theotokos 6:00pm
Friday, August 4	Paraklisis to the Theotokos 6:00pm
Saturday, August 5	Great Vespers for the Transfiguration 6:00pm
Sunday, August 6	Transfiguration of our Lord 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Monday, August 7	Paraklisis to the Theotokos 6:00pm
Wednesday, August 9	Paraklisis to the Theotokos 6:00pm
Friday, August 11	Paraklisis to the Theotokos 6:00pm
Sunday, August 13	10th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Monday, August 14	Great Vespers for the Dormition 6:00pm
Tuesday, August 15	Dormition of the Theotokos 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Sunday, August 20	11th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Sunday, August 27	12th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
Tuesday, August 29	Beheading of Saint John the Baptist 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Stepping Through the ER Door

As most of you know, I was recently hospitalized for a heart issue. This issue is still with me. I suddenly have an “Atrial Flutter.” When I asked our primary care physician, whom we have known for many years, what might have caused this, his response was “Welcome to getting older!” I asked, “Do you have a pill for getting older?” “If I had a pill for that,” he replied, “I would not be working here in this clinic!” Several of you have talked to me about your similar conditions and experiences. I have always tried to take care of my heart, but then our bodies do not last forever and they inevitably develop problems. Yes, I am taking meds. I saw my cardiologist in the hospital, and I am waiting to see her again.

I truly appreciated the calls and cards and prayers! This was scary. If you have been there, then you know. When something serious happens to you, when something in your body goes wrong, as it nearly always does, you have a meeting with God. Ill health, pain, leads to prayer. Or it should. Is this an exit on the highway of my life? Where does that highway lead to? Disability? Retirement? Surgery? Is this the end of my life? At this point, on the meds, I am doing okay. Not great. I am back to work, but I have to “dial back” a bit. I am living with new limitations and a new awareness of my mortality (I don’t think I needed to be reminded!), my age, and my body’s potential weakness. And a new awareness of my need to depend on God for all things! God knows. Our lives are in His hands.

I finally experienced being hospitalized. This was my first time. I have had a couple of minor surgeries and I have been in the ER a couple of times, but I had never been admitted. I have also been visiting people in hospitals and ICU’s for many years. But it is completely different when you are the patient! I truly sympathize with those of you who have spent weeks or even months in a hospital bed! First, I realized quickly that the hospital is not necessarily a place to rest! I got no sleep the first night. Tests! CT scan at midnight! What is up with that? Heart monitor that beeps all the time. Thank God for a respiratory therapist who was visiting my wonderful devout Roman Catholic roommate and who gave me some earplugs. Why didn't I think of that? Second, I was truly impressed by the staff at our local hospital in Folsom. Long work hours. Many duties. Double and triple checking everything. If you are a doctor, nurse or technician, you work hard. They took good care of me. As our veteran nurse, Wendy, told me before I left: “I wouldn't do anything else.” I say the same thing about being a Priest. Caring for sick people is truly a calling, a ministry, a noble profession, and never just a job. Are you a healthcare professional? May God bless you and be with you and strengthen you in your work.

My adventure put me in mind of this chapter from The Wisdom of Sira. Sira (or Greek “Sirach”) was written in the second century BC by a devout scholarly Jewish man in Jerusalem. It is the last, and best, of the Hebrew “wisdom” writings (Proverbs, Ecclesiastes). Sira wrote this in Hebrew, and his grandson, Yeshua (Jesus), translated it into Greek. If you have not read this, then get a modern translation and put it on your Summer reading list. It is well worth the time. In the section that I reproduce below, Sira distills what is basically our traditional theistic Christian approach to illness: Are you sick? Go see the Priest. Confess your sins. Let the Priest pray for you. God is the great physician. He can heal you. Then go see your doctor. Pray for him/her. Listen to his/her advice. Take your pills. Twenty-two hundred years ago. Faith AND science, working together. We can debate and argue and complain about our modern medical system, about pharmaceuticals, technology, etc., but this is our basic fundamental approach to illness and healing. The wisdom to deal with illness comes ultimately from God.

[The Wisdom of Jesus ben Sira, chapter 38:1-15. *New American Bible, Revised Edition*]

Make friends with the doctor, for he is essential to you;
God has also established him in his profession.
From God the doctor has wisdom,

PASTORAL MESSAGE

and from the king he receives sustenance.
Knowledge makes the doctor distinguished,
and gives access to those in authority.
God makes the earth yield healing herbs
which the prudent should not neglect;
Was not the water sweetened by a twig,
so that all might learn his power? [See Exodus 15:22-25]
He endows people with knowledge,
to glory in his mighty works,
Through which the doctor eases pain,
and the druggist prepares his medicines.
Thus God's work continues without cease
in its efficacy on the surface of the earth.
My son, when you are ill, do not delay,
but pray to God, for it is he who heals.
Flee wickedness and purify your hands;
cleanse your heart of every sin.
Offer your sweet-smelling oblation and memorial,
a generous offering according to your means.
Then give the doctor his place
lest he leave; you need him too,
For there are times when recovery is in his hands.
He too prays to God
That his diagnosis may be correct
and his treatment bring about a cure.
Whoever is a sinner before his Maker
will be defiant toward the doctor.

We say things like “If you have your health, you have everything.” But eventually we are going to get sick. The real truth is this: “If you have Christ Who is the Great Physician of our souls and bodies, you have everything.” Good health to you!

Fr. Timothy



PASTORAL MESSAGE

Depend on God

"Where can I get meat for all these people? They keep wailing to me, Give us meat to eat! I cannot carry all these people by myself. The burden is too heavy." Numbers 11 : 13 - 14

At some point in their wilderness wanderings, the Israelites grew tired of manna, their "bread from heaven." They wanted meat and demanded Moses give it to them. Angry and frustrated, Moses cried out, "Lord, I can't do this by myself!" Notice that he *didn't* say, "I can't do this." Rather, he couldn't bear his burden without God's help.

When we feel overwhelmed with anguish or bereft of confidence and hope, we should remember Moses' cry. We would do well to follow his example and cry out, "God, I can't do this by myself. I need you!" In times of need, let's reaffirm our ties of dependence upon God Almighty.

Troubling experiences often bring this truth to our consciousness. In dark times, we learn that we cannot depend on ourselves alone. We go through a period of anxiety and fear, and then, finally, we put our faith in God— not easily, not quickly, not as a matter of certainty, but because we search our hearts and souls and say, "I'm not able on my own to face these circumstances. I must turn to God Almighty."

We all have troubles in life. Maybe we set a goal for ourselves that is beyond our ability. We may lose someone we love or suffer serious illness or face a temptation we cannot overcome. At such times, we often feel reluctant to admit our inadequacy and instead blame our troubles on other factors. And so long as we refuse to rely on God, we continue to suffer.

Let's not do that. The next time we feel inadequate or overwhelmed, let's seek a divine partner in prayer and depend on God's incredible wisdom and strength.

Lord, when I feel overwhelmed by life and imagine that my burdens are too heavy, help me remember that you are the answer to my difficulties. You promise to help me through my Savior, Jesus Christ, who died to wipe away my sins. Use my troubles to lead me to a greater life, a successful life as measured by your holy standards. I ask these things in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

(From *Through the Year with Jimmy Carter: 366 Daily Meditations from the 39th President*. Jimmy Carter and Steve Halliday. Zondervan, 2011. #364.)



LETTER FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Dear fellow parishioners,

Many of you are either on vacation, returning from vacation, or preparing to begin a vacation, and I hope you enjoy this time with your families and friends. During a recent vacation with my family, my daughter and wife began playing a game of peek-a-boo while driving in the car. As they played, I listened to my daughter's laughs and came to the realization that that laugh—the giggle of a little girl—wasn't something I would be able to hear and enjoy for much longer. Soon, she would grow to be a "big girl" (she claims to be a "big girl" now), then a teenager, a young woman, and so on. I, obviously, knew that children grow up, but this realization caught me off guard and has changed my perspective on how important (and precious) time with family is.

Watching our children grow up is bittersweet and playing the role of parent is often difficult. Having to lead your children forward while still having a good relationship with them is challenging. But, as parents, it is our responsibility to lead; we have to tell our children that they have to eat broccoli for dinner, not ice cream. Likewise, as Orthodox Christians, we have to lead our children to the faith and to God. This starts with getting the whole family to church, which can be difficult with young children. I know (from personal experience) that rushing to church just to have your child throw a temper tantrum during liturgy can be embarrassing, but you are doing the right thing by being in church with your child. Praying with your child, taking your child to Sunday School, talking to your child about God — these make an impact on your children and help them develop a relationship with the faith. We do these things not out of obligation, but out of love.

For parents, there is no time like the present when it comes to involving your family with the Church. As Thomas S. Monson, former prophet of the Church of Latter-Day Saints, stated: "If you are still in the process of raising children, be aware that the tiny fingerprints that show up on almost every newly cleaned surface, the toys scattered about the house, the piles and piles of laundry to be tackled will disappear all too soon and that you will — to your surprise — miss them profoundly." In short, time is finite. It's very common for people to look back on their lives and wish they would've done this or that. I assure you that won't regret spending time with your family at church.

May you and your family have a great summertime, and I hope to see you in church.

RJ Hansen
Parish Council Member

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

*Annunciation
Parish Calendar*



VIEW & SUBSCRIBE AT annunciationsac.org/calendar/

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

In today's world, we often find ourselves needing some type of metric to guide our behavior or decision making. For our health, we might look at our blood pressure reading and, if not around 120/80, may need to adjust our eating and exercise habits. In a professional setting, we might look key performance indicators (KPIs in business lingo) or financial ratios to make investment or spending decisions. Regardless of the setting, we often rely on a quantitative figure to help us make decisions and whether we're "on the right track."

In spiritual life, it is much more difficult to place a number on our faith. If you attend church 52 times a year (once per week) then this might lead you to a more spiritual life (and, indeed, church is important), but it doesn't mean much if you're not engaged. In terms of stewardship, there have been various quantitative values used to help guide giving amounts. The definition of tithing means to give 10%, with half-tithing meaning 5%. But stewardship is much more than a percentage or dollar figure; it is an expression of one's love of and gratitude for God and His blessings.

Our faith calls on us to put our faith into action, with stewardship being an act of love. When you are considering how much to give to the church (whether it be time, talents, or treasures), please consider your love for the parish, the Church, and for God.

RJ Hansen
Stewardship Ministry

INCOME	01/01/2023 - 06/20/2023	2023 BUDGET YTD
Pledges	\$297,141.00	\$352,859.00
All Other Revenue	\$239,096.00	\$289,602.00
Total Revenue	\$536,237.00	\$642,461.00
EXPENSES		
Staff Expenses	\$115,641.00	\$176,106.00
Program Services	\$8,175.00	\$11,825.00
Other Operating Expenses	\$450,290.00	\$728,376.00
Archdiocese National Ministries	\$25,245.00	\$100,980.00
Total Expenses	\$599,351.00	\$1,017,287.00
Balance as of 06/20/23	\$108,858.00	
	2023 Pledges as of 06/20/2023	
Stewardship Budget	\$650,000.00	
Pledged to Date	\$398,537.00	
Total Amount Received	\$297,141.00	
Total Members Pledged	355	

BELIEVE, BELONG, BE LOVED

The joy of **believing** comes from believing in God, to whom we give our love, loyalty, and trust.

The joy of **belonging** comes from becoming practicing stewards by being responsible caretakers of His House of Worship and lovingly participating in the life of His Church.

The joy of **being loved** comes from experiencing the love of God and the love we have for one another in our faith community.



Renew your 2023 Stewardship at www.tiny.cc/stewardship2023

SACRAMENTO GREEK FESTIVAL



Sixty years! Can you believe it?!? 60 years of food, family, and fun. God willing, this year should be filled with more of the same. The Festival Board is working hard organizing, procuring, and coordinating. Volunteers have started preparing our delicious entrees & pastries. You, too, can join in the fun! See the most up to date baking schedule in the Sunday bulletins and weekly emails.

The past few years, we've welcomed many new families to our community and encourage everybody to join in as festival volunteers. We also hope to see each and every one of our parishioners joining in the fun this year by showing off your syrtaki skills, setting kefalotyri on fire, or serving pastries at the Zaharoplasteon. Did you know it takes more than 400 volunteers to put on our Festival? We can't do it without you!

To volunteer at the Festival, keep an eye out for Sign Up Genius links in Annunciation's weekly email blast. You are also welcome to reach out to any Festival board member to learn about additional volunteer opportunities and to sign up. We are grateful for your support!

We would also like to extend our gratitude to the businesses, families, and individuals who make generous donations to underwrite Festival expenses. Every dollar donated allows us to support the Festival, church operations, and our community. Please consider underwriting an item or becoming a booth sponsor. Donations can be made by several methods: reaching out to any board member, calling the church office, via the QR code below, or our website: <http://sacramentogreekfestival.com/sponsors>.

Respectfully,

The 2023 Greek Festival Board: Stefanie Hionis, Dan Eriksson, George Chuchas, Emily Coleman, Michael Dariotis, Christo Georgoulis, Helen Grammatitakis, Julie Mamalis & Demetri Romas

Thank you to our 2023 Booth Sponsors!
We appreciate your support!

Charis Consulting Group
Terry Kastanis
Old Spaghetti Factory
Kim Pacini and Richard Hauch
PV AMPS Inc. / Hionis Family
Kane / Magers Family
Dr. Kosta Adams
CGI

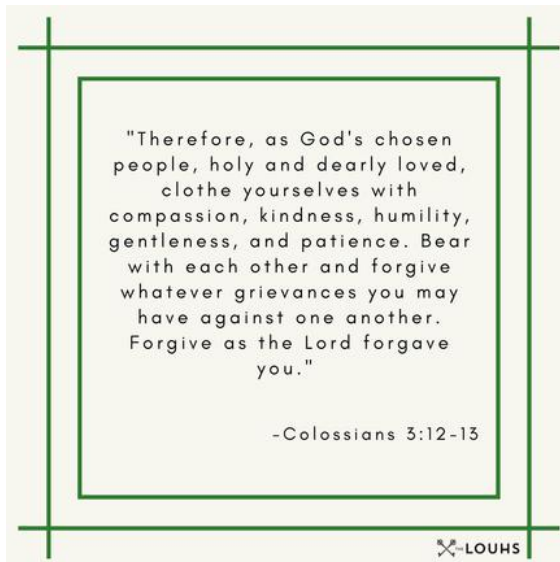
QR code to Donations link:



PHILOPTOCHOS

Following their acclaimed visit to Annunciation in 2022, The Louhs will return to our parish on Friday, October 20 and Saturday, October 21. Additional details to come.

To receive daily inspirational messages from The Louhs, like the one below, join their mailing list by visiting thelouhs.com/subscribe/



Most of us know what being our best self looks like when it comes to being hurt. We know we ought to forgive, let go of grudges, fight the negative thoughts that come with anger, and keep a calm, virtuous and kind disposition. The struggle lies in that our feelings don't naturally lead us toward any of that, because we are imperfect in our own humanity.

So, when someone devalues us or upsets us in a strong way, it's easy to succumb to the temptations that exist in our free will. Our feelings are raw, we feel righteous, and our brooding begins. We don't question it, because the wrong just makes it feel right to hold on. The collective force of anger, tunnel vision and judgment all pave the way for temptations like unforgiveness.

But this is where we have to catch ourselves, doing our part to realize and put into practice, our faith. Because when we get stuck

here feeling sorry for ourselves, angry and righteous in our own hurting, we tend to replay the same thoughts and experience over and over again in our minds only fueling our position, without reaching any new ways of thinking about our situation. This is also what sets us up for unforgiveness, judgment, and distance from those we love.

So, while it's natural to reflect on upsetting events when they happen, our pondering needs to lead us somewhere better; a place that helps our soul move forward; perhaps figuring out our role in it, deciding on a gentle request, deciding to let it go because of grace, or discovering a new way of looking at it that allows our soul to heal. In this way, we pave the way for forgiveness and a more peaceful existence with those we must live in communion with, remembering that "as far as it depends on us," we are called to "live at peace with everyone," (Romans 12:18).

The decision to turn toward forgiveness is one that leads to so many benefits, mentally, physically and most importantly, spiritually. But to get there, our mind and our faith must take the lead, over our emotions. And we must remember that without God, we can do nothing. So, lean into prayer, open up your situation and your thoughts about it to God, attempt to borrow God's compassion if you cannot feel it yourself. Remember that when we make the decision to forgive, praying for our situation, praying for those that hurt us and showing kindness despite it, not only do we lead with grace, but God paves the way for healing. And it is God who helps our feelings catch up with our decision to forgive because forgiveness is not a feeling we hope to arrive at, it's a decision.

So, the next time you get angry, discern what path you are headed for, by reflecting on how your thoughts are making you feel (physically, spiritually and emotionally). Are you at peace? Are you feeling connected to God in your upset? Does your brooding feel unproductive? Are you easing or fueling tension? "And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses," Mark 11:25.

The Louhs - Marrying Faith and Psychology • thelouhs.com

ICON PAINTING WORKSHOP

Icon Painting Workshop

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church

Experience the unique spiritual world of the Byzantine Era through icon painting

July 31-August 5, 2023

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Sacramento, CA



Join us on this six day intensive course under the direction of visiting master iconographer and expert instructor Theodoros Papadopoulos from Greece. This Archangel Gabriel icon will "come alive" as he will guide you step by step, through the ancient techniques of Byzantine Iconography. Let us journey together, discovering anew, this traditional artistic expression of theology and spirituality often called the "meeting place of the Divine". Whether you are beginner or a professional, this workshop offers the opportunity to learn or refine your techniques.

Your tuition fee of \$700 includes most supplies including boards, pigments etc.

Space is limited and early registration is suggested.
For enrollment or information contact Mr Theodoros Papadopoulos at the email: theodoreicons@gmail.com or visit the website <https://theodoreicons.com/sa>

ANNUNCIATION BRIDGE-DOMINOES GROUP



Annunciation Bridge-Dominoes Group

Come join us! The Bridge Dominos Group meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the Annunciation Hellenic Center 10:30 – 2:00 for game playing fun and fellowship. We have a no-host lunch break with a yummy dessert provided by the host for the month. Some experience is needed for Bridge. We will teach you our version of Mexican Train Dominos within a few hands. No experience needed! No stress—just fun! For more information contact Sophia Evrigenis for Bridge and Liz Dokimos for Dominos. Cell phone numbers are in the Church Directory or email:

Sophia Evrigenis: sophiage@sbcglobal.net, Liz Dokimos: lizdokimos@comcast.net.

FR. DEMETRIUS T. DOGIAS PARISH LIBRARY



News from the Fr. Demetrius Dogias Parish Library

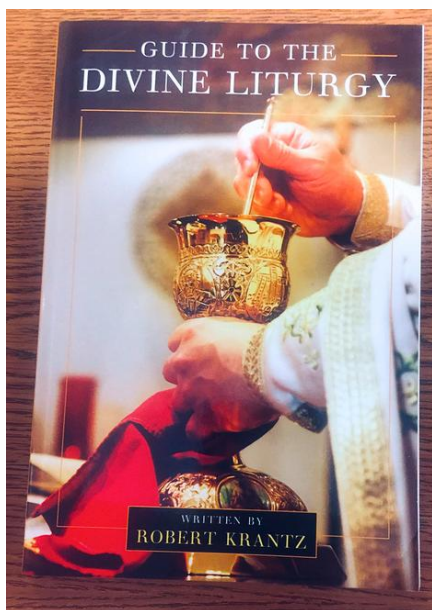
We can be found in the Library every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m.– noon doing many different things. While waiting for additional shelves for our growing archives, we continue to catalog precious old photographs and new material. In addition, we are finishing up with some oral histories and are working towards adding more books to our dedicated family life section while reorganizing the whole space. We hope that you'll come up and visit, browse, and maybe even check out a book!

A BIT OF HISTORY

In the 1920's, alligators lived in the lake across the street in McKinley Park. They were part of the zoological gardens, which also included deer, rabbits, and raccoons. All of the animals were moved to the current zoo when it opened in 1927.

CHECK IT OUT

Guide To The Divine Liturgy by Robert Krantz



Why is the word, catholic in the Orthodox service? When we say, “Give us this day our daily bread” are we asking for food? And what does “worship” really mean? If you’ve ever wondered about these and other things, you must read Guide To The Divine Liturgy by Robert Krantz.

On the right hand page this book has the Divine Liturgy in English and Greek while on the left hand page there’s a clear explanation of what it means. At the same time it references the Bible verses in the service. It is a fine resource for all who want to better understand the Divine Liturgy. Check it out.

Enjoy the summer!
Kalo Kalokairi!

Terry Kastanis and Antonia Chapralis

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUNCIATION GOYA INVITES YOU TO

FAMILY NIGHT AT THE RIVER CATS

FUN FOR ALL AGES



TICKET
\$ 20
LAWN SEATS

STADIUM
SUTTER HEALTH PARK
WEST SACRAMENTO, CA

BASEBALL GAME

SATURDAY, JULY 15

SACRAMENTO RIVER CATS | VS | OKLAHOMA CITY DODGERS

FIREWORKS SHOW FOLLOWING THE GAME

PURCHASE TICKETS AT tiny.cc/rivercats

GATES OPEN
5:00 PM

FIRST PITCH
6:37 PM

CONTACT NHANSEN@ANNUNCIATIONSAC.ORG WITH QUESTIONS



ANNUNCIATION MINISTRIES KICKOFF

JOIN US FOR LUNCH, FELLOWSHIP, AND FESTIVITIES
WHILE EXPLORING OUR PARISH MINISTRIES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

HELLENIC CENTER
FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY

UPCOMING EVENTS



Please join us for

TAVERNA NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

⦿ *The Passing of the Torch* ⦿

Appetizers - Dinner - Dancing - Raffle Prizes

\$45 for Adults and \$20 for Kids Under 12

PRESENTED BY

Greek American
Progressive Association
(Sacramento Chapter)



Peloponnesian Club
of Sacramento
"O Moreas"



WHEN

Saturday
September 16th
6:00 p.m. Appetizers
7:00 p.m. Dinner

WHERE

Annunciation Hellenic Center
Plateia (Courtyard)
616 Alhambra Boulevard
Sacramento

SEATING

Individual tickets and
tables of 8, 9, and 10
available

RESERVATIONS

Bessie Papailias
(916) 802-1195
Bess Stathos
(916) 714-7663

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

Cocktails for a Cause

TO BENEFIT IOCC



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023

ANNUNCIATION HELLENIC CENTER, SACRAMENTO



MISSIONS



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

MISSION: In the spirit of Christ's love, IOCC offers emergency relief and development programs to those in need worldwide, without discrimination, and strengthens the capacity of the Orthodox Church to respond.

FACTS: IOCC provides aid to families and communities in over 60 countries, including Greece and the Holy Land. IOCC is world-renowned for its strong financial oversight, with 92 cents of every dollar going to good works.

PARISH CONNECTION: Annunciation has had a relationship with IOCC for many years, including hosting a Gala fundraiser in 2017 and recently providing IOCC with monetary donations for Turkey and Syria earthquake relief (in honor of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros).

HOW TO SUPPORT: Visit [IOCC.org](https://iocc.org) for donation and volunteer opportunities, connect with our IOCC Parish Ambassador, Dr. Nick Rotas, and attend the upcoming *Cocktails for a Cause* event on November 4.

Learn more by visiting [IOCC.org](https://iocc.org) and watching IOCC in action at the video links below:

<https://youtu.be/etpguyJhuuA>

<https://youtu.be/wIqxG864uJ8>

MISSIONS



On June 8, six Annunciation team members departed for a seven-day, life-changing mission to Mexico. Together with seven other churches, our team members built two weather-tight homes for impoverished families. Though these houses are small in size, as seen in the photos below, they are overwhelmingly significant to those who are now able to call them home. These homes provide families with shelter, security, and the ability for parents to provide brighter futures for their children.

To Katina Vail, Scott Vail, Anna Dogias, Demetri Dogias, Aaron Davis, and Zach Lau: your Annunciation family wholeheartedly thanks you. While your lives have been changed by this experience, through your work, you have made a profound impact on the lives and futures of two families.

Thank you to Fr. James who joined our team in Mexico to bless the newly built homes. His continued work for and support of Project Mexico has changed the lives of many.

Please pray for the continued good works of Project Mexico, their volunteers, and the families they assist. The names of the family members now living in the two humble homes, built during our team's trip, are listed in the image below.

To learn more about Project Mexico's Home Building program and how you can help those in need, please visit www.projectmexico.org/homebuilding.





GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ANNUNCIATION
 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

JULY 2023

Schedule Subject to Change - Consult Website/Sunday Bulletin | www.annunciationsac.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
4th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthos 9:30am Divine Liturgy	9:00am Festival Baking	<i>Independence Day</i> <i>Church Office Closed</i>	6:30pm Summer Choir Rehearsal	6:30pm Volleyball Practice		8
						7
5th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthos 9:30am Divine Liturgy	6:30pm Festival Meeting		6:30pm Summer Choir Rehearsal			5:30pm River Cats Game
						14
						15
Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council 8:30am Orthos 9:30am Divine Liturgy	6:00pm Parish Council Meeting		6:30pm Summer Choir Rehearsal	The Glorious Prophet Elias 8:30am Orthos 9:30am Divine Liturgy 6:30pm Volleyball Practice		22
						21
						20
7th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthos 9:30am Divine Liturgy	9:00am Festival Baking 6:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of Saint Anna @ <i>Saint Anna, Roseville</i>	Feast of Saint Anna 9:00am @ <i>Saint Anna, Roseville</i>	Saint Paraskevi 8:30am Orthos 9:30am Divine Liturgy 6:30pm Summer Choir Rehearsal	Saint Panteleimon 8:30am Orthos 9:30am Divine Liturgy 6:30pm Volleyball Practice		29
						28
						27
8th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthos 9:30am Divine Liturgy	9:00am Annunciation Summer Day Camp					31
						30

Schedule Subject to Change - Consult Website/Sunday Bulletin | www.annunciationsac.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:00am Annunciation Summer Day Camp <i>Dormition Fast Begins</i>	2 9:00am Annunciation Summer Day Camp 6:00pm Paraklisis to the Theotokos	3 9:00am Annunciation Summer Day Camp 6:30pm Volleyball Practice	4 6:00pm Paraklisis to the Theotokos	5 6:00pm Great Vespers for the Transfiguration
6 Transfiguration of our Lord 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	7 9:00am Festival Baking 6:00pm Paraklisis to the Theotokos	8	9 6:00pm Paraklisis to the Theotokos	10 Observer Articles Due 6:30pm Volleyball Practice	11 6:00pm Paraklisis to the Theotokos	12
13 10th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	14 6:00pm Great Vespers for the Dormition	15 Dormition of the Theotokos 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy <i>Church Office Closed</i>	16 6:30pm Summer Choir Rehearsal	17 6:30pm Volleyball Practice	18	19 9:00am Festival Baking
20 11th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	21 6:00pm Parish Council Meeting	22	23 6:30pm Summer Choir Rehearsal	24 6:30pm Volleyball Practice	25	26
27 12th Sunday of Matthew 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	28 Behanding of Saint John the Baptist 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	29	30	31 6:30pm Volleyball Practice		

VOLLEYBALL

VOLLEYBALL NEWS

We had a great start and we are looking forward to a great season!

Practices for the months of July & August:

Thursday 7/6
Thursday 7/20
Thursday 7/27

Thursday 8/3
Thursday 8/10
Thursday 8/17
Thursday 8/24
Thursday 8/31

6:30pm • Annunciation Hellenic Center

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

SAVE THE DATE
St. Nicholas Volleyball Tournament, San Jose
October 27-29, 2024

COME AND JOIN THE FUN



UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS



**LEARN ABOUT OUR FAITH THROUGH
LESSONS, CRAFTS, MUSIC & MORE**

**JULY 31 - AUGUST 3
9AM - 12PM**

ANNUNCIATION HELLENIC CENTER

GRADES TK-6 • \$15 PER CHILD

REGISTER AT tiny.cc/daycamp

**CONTACT NICKI HANSEN WITH QUESTIONS
NHANSEN@ANNUNCIATIONSAC.ORG**

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS



LEARN ABOUT OUR FAITH THROUGH
LESSONS, CRAFTS, MUSIC & MORE

CAMP COUNSELORS NEEDED

JULY 31 - AUGUST 3

9AM - 12PM

GRADES 7-12

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP LEAD CAMPERS
GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE HOURS

REGISTER AT tiny.cc/campcounselor

CONTACT NICKI HANSEN WITH QUESTIONS AT NHANSEN@ANNUNCIATIONSAC.ORG

BACKPACK BLESSINGS



Join us as we pray for God to bless our students
and keep them safe in the new school year

Sunday, September 10

Students are encouraged to bring their
backpacks to the Divine Liturgy to be blessed



SUNDAY SCHOOL



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Building a solid foundation for Christian education and formation.

Registration Now Open For the 2023-24 School Year

Register at tiny.cc/sundayschool23

CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 17

NURSERY-6TH GRADE

Class begins at 10am

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

Meet in church at 10am for the Divine Liturgy
and class begins following Holy Communion



We look forward to sharing our updated curriculum, engaged educators,
and faith-building activities with the youth of our parish.

Please contact Sunday School Director Lisa Harr with any questions
lisaharr9@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL



2023–2024 Sunday School Teachers Needed

Looking to make a difference and help our youth grow in their faith?

Seeking Sunday School teachers for a rewarding opportunity to make an impact by teaching our youth about our faith. All classes will have two teachers to ensure adequate coverage.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact
Lisa Harr at (916) 807-0967 or lisaharr9@gmail.com.

EPISTLE READING PROGRAM



Epistle Reading Program for the Youth of Our Parish

The Epistle Reading Program is open to children ages 10 to 18 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. Dates are currently available through October, and additional dates will be added later.

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

tiny.cc/epistlereaders

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 GRADUATES

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



GEORGIO MACKIS

Christian Brothers High School
Attending St. Mary's College, Moraga



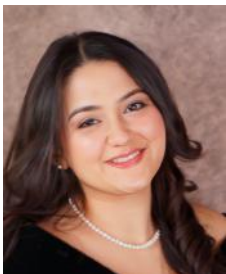
GUS RIGGSBY

Western Sierra Collegiate Academy
Attending CSU Fullerton
Marketing Major



EVANGELIA ROMAS

St. Francis High School
Attending Loyola Marymount University



ELENI VOUDOURIS

Oak Ridge High School
Honor Roll, National Honors Society
Attending University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign
Studying Computer Science



ALEXANDRA WATTS

Rocklin High School
Athletic scholarship
Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
Attending Murray State University
Volleyball Scholarship

COLLEGE GRADUATES



KATARINA ALEXANDRATOS

University of Utah, Salt Lake
BS Health & Kinesiology
Future Plans: Graduate School to
obtain Doctorate in Physical Therapy



SAMUEL CAMBRA

University of Nevada, Reno
Bachelor of Arts
Future Plans: Gap year,
studying for the LSAT



SOPHIA DELIS

UC Berkeley
BA Molecular and Cell Biology,
Minor in Public Policy
Future Plans: Applying to
graduate school next year

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 GRADUATES

COLLEGE GRADUATES, CONT.



DEMETRI DOGIAS

Hellenic College
BA Religious Studies
Future Plans: Attending Holy Cross
pursuing a Masters of Divinity



ABIGAIL HARR

Sonoma State University
BA Criminology & Criminal Justice
Studies, Minor in Philosophy
Future Plans: Joined Legal Aid of Sonoma
County as Case Worker for Elders



KATHRYN KANE

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
BA Political Science/Pre-law
Cum Laude
Future Plans: Taking a year off and
applying to law school for fall 2024



MARIA KLOSTRAKIS

University of San Diego
Major in International Business and
Marketing, Minor in Spanish
Magna Cum Laude, Outstanding
Leadership as President of the
Student International Business
Council, Academic Excellence in
International Business, Poets and
Quants Best and Brightest Business
Undergraduate Student
Future Plans: Working in New York
City as a Management Consultant



ALEXANDRE LYDON

Loyola University Chicago
BA Public Relations,
Minor Information Systems
Future Plans: Marketing Insights
Analyst, Millennium Trust Company



SOFIA PANTIS

University of San Diego
Behavioral Neuroscience,
Minor in Chemistry + Bioethics
Graduating with Honors
Future Plans: Neuroscience research
at Sanna Labs at Scripps, pursuing PhD



THEO PETSALIS

CSU Sacramento
BS Construction Management,
Minor in Business
Future Plans: Pursuing employment
as a Project Engineer



ALEXANDRA SCHMIDT

UC Davis
BS Environmental Chemistry
Minors in Environmental Policy
and English Writing

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 GRADUATES

TEACHING CREDENTIAL



VERONICA PANDEOLOPOULOS
Saint Mary's College of California
Single Subject Teachers Credential in English
Career Plans: Currently teaching English to middle school students

MASTERS DEGREE



DR. THEODORA TRIPHON
Loma Linda University
Masters of Science, Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
Career Plans: Private practice

PARISH PHOTOS • SPRING AT ANNUNCIATION

Last Day of Sunday School • May 21, 2023



PARISH PHOTOS • SPRING AT ANNUNCIATION

GOYA Family Summer Swim Party • June 3, 2023



Young Professionals Hike • June 3, 2023



Graduate Sunday • June 11, 2023



PLEGDED STEWARDS 2023

AS OF 6/27/2023

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO THE ONE WHO BELIEVES IN CHRIST

Nick & Shari Alexander
Ziki & Annetta Amir
George & Alexis Anastasopoulos
David & Evelyn Anderson
Peter Andrews
Philip & Julie Angelides
Geoffrey & Antonia Antipa
Milton & Panorea Apostolidis
Dina Apostolou
Paul & Elizabeth Arellanes
Vasiliki & John Argyris Wheeler
Dennis Augostatos
Theodoros & Georgia Avdalis
Nicholas & Nikki Avdis
Maria Avgeris Lappas
Spencer Awes
Christine Balalis
Manny & Sunday Balalis
Dan & Katherine Ballas
Elias & Jane Bardis
Susan Bitar
Denny Boom
Julia & Anton Boorinakis Harper
Alexander, Athena & Agamemnon Bourdaniotis
P.J. & Vicky Bourdaniotis
Evan Boylan
Marie Bravou
Anna Brusco
Katherine Buttacavoli
Andonia Cakouros
Dallas & Angela Calmes
Paul & Zaferia Cambra
John & Aglaia Capetanos
Anthony & Michele Caposio
Peter & Fotine Casheros
Taky & Georgiana Cazanis
Voula Cazanis
Tonia Champas
Gus Changaris
Tim & Antonia Chapralis
Jack Chesson
Nadira Chouicha
Adoni & Kristen Christie
Annette Christopulos
Grigorios & Bettina Chrysofakis
George & Christina Chuchas
James & Despina Chuchas
James & Toula Clubb
John & Linda Compoginis
Peter & Samantha Cononelos
Antonia Const
Dennis & Jeanlaurie Corelis
Stamatiki Coss
Carol & Berle Crisp
Timothy & Effie Crush
Mary J. Curtis
George & Christine Dariotis
Michael Dariotis
Magdalene & Matthew David
Linda Davison
Maria De Ville
Irene DeKellis
Edie Delegans
Andrew & Christina Demas
John & Marianna Demas
John & Penny Demas
Stasis & Jody Diavatis
Tom Dicktakes
Costa & Victoria Dimitriades
Angelo & Adel Dimitropoulos
Michael & Forest Dimitropoulos
Nicholas & Laura Docous
Elizabeth Dokimos
Kathy Dokimos
Donald Dole
Katherine Dole
Elaine Donovan
Demosthenis & Evangelia Douveas
Marina Downing
William & Jessaca Downing
Demos & Bessie Dulger Sheikin
Scott & Angie Ebrahimi
Kiki Econome
Georgia Econome
Peter & Anastasia Efstathiou
Nicholas & Jeanne Efstratis
Chris Eliopulos
Elene & Tim Eliopulos
John & Stella Eliopulos
Dan & Maria Eriksson
Bill & Leah Evrigenis
Sophia Evrigenis
Samir & Nuha Fadayel
Michael & Elena Fazio
Vasiliki & Erik Fkiaras-Magnuson
Christos Fotopoulos
George & Kathy Fotopoulos
John & Theofani Fotopoulos
Panayiotis Fotopoulos
Panayiotis J. Fotopoulos
Peter & Koula Fotopoulos
Phillip & Soula Fotopoulos
Antonia Fotos
Demetre & Christine Fotos
Kyriako & Brenda Fotos
Ruseta Fotos
Kyriakos & Elaine Frangogiannis
Christina & Robert Freeworth
George Galas
Gus & Stelene Galaxidas
George & Katerina Gasnakis
Maria Gassoumis
Andrew & Teresa Gates
Constantin & Maude (Micki) Genigeorgis
Alexis Scandalis Genung
Nikolaos & Thalia Georgalis
Joann Georgallis
Christina George
Dianna George
John & Debbie George
Chris & Angie Georgoulas
Helen Gianakakis
Diane Gianopulos
Angela Gianulias
Vaso Gianulias
Sandra Giobres
Lener & Carmie Lee Gousetis
Helen Grammatikakis
Linda Gredvig
Paul Grellas
Peter Grellas
Louis & Georgette Grivetti
John & Edith Hagelis
George Hagios
Linda & Richard Hakala
Sandra Hamameh
Richard (RJ) & Nicki Hansen
Demetre & Dimitra Haralambakis
Michael & Deanna Haralambakis
Thomas & Phyllis Harper
Katina Harris
Elias & Catherine Hatzakos
Richard & Kim Hauch
Bia & Steve Hayes
Domna & James Hebenstreit
Wyatt & Eva Hershon
William Hess
Nikko Higdon
Anastasios & Stefanie Hionis
Julian B. & Diane Holt
Dino & Margarita Jakovas
George Jouganatos
Chris Jovalis
James & Robin Kafouros
Panagiotis & Katerina Kakkavas
Nikiforos & Catherine Kalfountzos
Dennis & Robin Kamilos
Nick Kamilos
Christopher & Kristen Kane

PLEDGED STEWARDS 2023

AS OF 6/27/2023

Sinie Karas
George & Mary Ellen Kassotakis
John & Vanessa Kassotakis
George Kastanis
Terry Kastanis
Athan & Maria Katsandres
Stelios & Angela Katzakis
Dan & Maria Kaufman
Andreas & Evelyn Kazanis
Ioannis & Cindy Kazanis
Anthony & Gail Kentroti
Bess Kerhoulas
Connie Keriotis
Despina Kiriakes
Steven & Lindsey Kivetos
Peter Kleary
Pete & Maria Kokkinis
Alex & Koula (Kiriaki) Kokologiannakis
Mary Kondos
Anthony Kontes
Mary Kontes
Stella Kontes
Nick & Bernadette Kontos
George Koufasimis
Fran Koulos
George Koumis
Will & Christine Kouvaris
Katina Kretsoulas
Stan & Angie Kritsepis
Ivana Krstic
Constantino & Dena Kuchulis
William & Terri Kuchulis
Angela Kuchulis Gianopoulos
Valerie & Greg Kuchulis-Simvoulakis
Loula Kufasimes
Nicholas & Michele Kufasimes
Carl & Tricia Kuhn
John & Mary Kyriakides
Stelios Kyriakides
Stephen & Anna LaBritt
Irene Ladd
Henry & Maria Lafayette
Frances Lambrose
Dean & Diane Langley
Ronald Langley
Kathy Lecas
Andrea Lendaris
Gary & Irina Leonard
Esther Lilakos
Jesus Loaiza
Kathy Loper
Helen Loris
Diane Lydon
MariBeth Lydon
Mary Lydon

Alice & Randy Lyons
Elaina & Gary Magana
Geraldine Magers
Stanley Makris
Thomas & Yiota Makris
Eleni & Sergey Malko
Julie Mamalis
Exaveria (Rula) and Athanasia Manikas
Anne Manolakas
Sam & Kerry Manolakas
Timothy & Annette Manolis
Tom & Anna Manologlou
Athanasios Manolopoulos
George & Marina Mantis
Sam & Ann (Ourania) Marandos
Antigoni Marcos
Katherine Marefos
Peter Margaris
Steve & Katherine Margaris
Nellie Margarite
Sylvia Maritsas
Nia Marketos
Christaki Mastorakos
Annell & Kevin Mavrantonis-Kruithof
John & Vicki Meers
Helen Mellas
Olympia Mercuris
Pamela Middleton
Jack & Marque Molodanof
Shari Moody
George & Gaye Nicholau
Helen & Lawrence Nickolson-Michel
Howard & Stella Norris
Nick & Kontilo Pandeleon
Peter & Gina Pandelopoulos
Michael & Meryl Panelli
Evangelia Pantis
Yianni Pantis
John & Julianne Papagiannopoulos
Stephanie Papas
Mary A. Pappas
Helen Paras
Paris & Helen Paraskevas
Perry & Kiki Parker
Yurie Pauls
Jerry & Catherine Pavlatos
Constantine & Brigid Perakis
Christopher & Chanel Perinati
Denise Perinati
Gregory & Jill Perinati
Chris & Heidi Perris
Paul Peters
Diane Petersen
Michael & Stella Petrucci
Fotis & Tammy Petsalis

Sofianos & Sara Piliotis
Danielle & Brian Pimentel
Marina & Alin Podoreanu
Elizabeth & Michael Pontikes
George & Maro Poulos
Lucky & Dina Poulos
Marshall Pryor
Father James & Pres. Barbara Retelas
Father Timothy & Pres. Marsha Robinson
Thomas & Carol Ann Robinson
Demetri & Malamo Romas
Sotiris Romas
Dino & Evelyn Rotas
Katherine Rotas
Nicholas & Carol Rotas
William Nicholas Rotas
George & Mary Roussas
Dimitrios Rozakis
Peter & Jodie Sakaris
James & Sylvia Salidas
Katherine Sampanis
Tony & Angeliki Sargetis
Maria Ginette & George Nabil Sawaya
Daniela & Andrew Schmidt
Ralph & Vassie Sett
Roy & Dale Shults
Mary Silva
Nicholas & Loreine Simopoulos
Demetrios Spyridakis
Stylianios & Klea Spyridakis
Vasilios Spyridakis
Dessie & Sam Stamas
Mike & Connie Stanton
Christos & Amy Stathakopoulos
Merle Stathis
Makis & Freda Stathopoulos
Maria Stefanou
Kristen Stubblefield
Stacey Stubblefield
Barbara Takanikos
Althea & Fred Tatarakis
Eleanor M. Tatarakis
Carole Taverna
Nikolaos & Angeliki Technopoulos
Art & Terre Terzakis
Effie Theodor
Maria & Christopher Theodor-Higdon
Sophie Theodore
Gregory & Mary Theophilopoulos
Pearl Thomas
Stephanie & Tony Tilleskjer
Paula Titus
Marian Trapp
William & Joann Triphon
Angelo & Sofia Tsakopoulos

PLEDGED STEWARDS 2023

AS OF 6/27/2023

Angelo G. & Katerina Tsakopoulos
 Drosoula Tsakopoulos
 Sofia Tsakopoulos
 Christina Tsapouklis
 Manuel & Dianna Tsihlas
 Margo Tzikas
 Paul & Robyn Urvinitka
 Scott & Vivian Vail
 James & Faye Vallas
 Angelo & Maria Vandarakis
 George & Dina Vasiliou
 Nick & Christina Vathis
 Vasilis & Judy Verrios
 Maro & Chris Verrios Maguire
 Vasseliki Vervilos

Stella Vescu
 Anthony & Athanasia Virgadamo
 Paul & Rusti Voresis
 Stavros & Eleftheria Vougioukas
 Efstratios Vourakis
 Dimitri Vouros
 Douglas & Donna Wagner
 Richard & Valentina Watts
 Jeremy Wong
 Maria Kostidou Workman
 Jerry & Elaine Wright
 Andreas & Becky Yerocostas
 Anestis & Areti Yiaslas
 Athanasios & Elizabeth Yiaslas
 Nikitas & Maira Zagoras

And our stewards who wish
 to remain anonymous

Pledged Families: 355

COMMUNITY CORNER



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 (916) 443-2033 ext. 222

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7727 Laguna Blvd. Elk Grove, CA (916) 478-2400	51 N. San Pedro St. San Jose, CA (408) 288-7488	1610 East Shaw Ave. Fresno, CA (559) 222-1066
11896 Foothill Blvd. Rancho Cucamonga, CA (909) 980-3585	111 N. Twin Oaks Valley Rd. San Marcos, CA (760) 471-0155	
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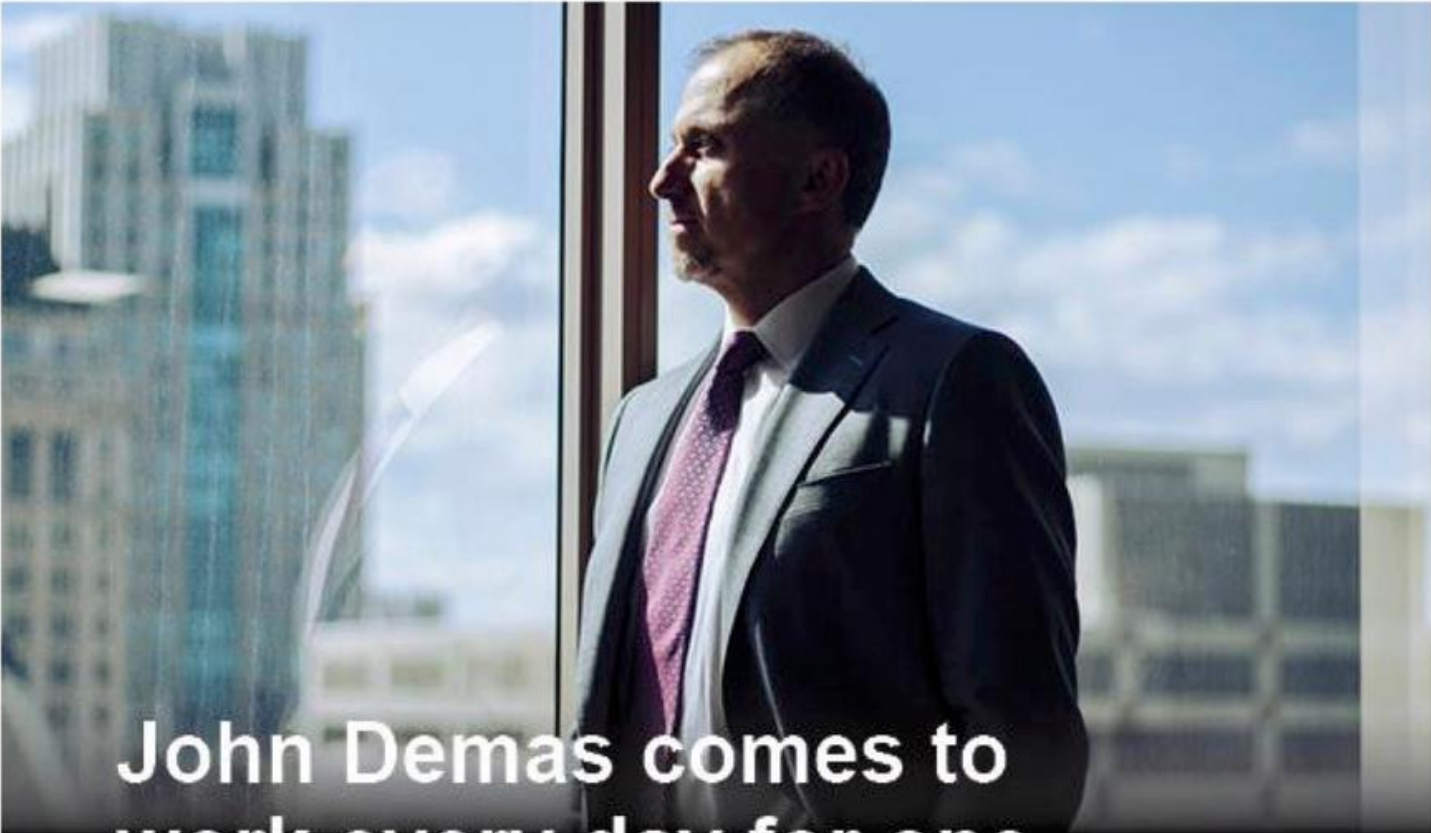
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Lewie Donhost
Funeral Director



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by Kim Pacini Hauch

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- ♥ 35 Fascinating Years of Real Estate Service!
- ♥ Sacramento County's #1 Selling Agent & #1 Luxury Agent!
- ♥ A Record of Over \$100,000,000 Sold in 2021!
- ♥ A Billion Thank You's Sacramento!

RE/MAX GOLD

916.204.8900 | KimPaciniHauch@gmail.com | www.KimPacini.com | DRE 00997109

Source: Metrolist, Trendgraphix, Broker Metrics & RE/MAX Gold



**The Greek Orthodox Church
of the Annunciation**

616 Alhambra Blvd.
Sacramento, Ca. 95816
Phone: 916-443-2033
www.AnnunciationSac.org

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Current Resident or

Place Label Here

WELCOME HOME

SUMMER HOURS
ORTHROS 8:30AM | DIVINE LITURGY 9:30AM

