



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ANNUNCIATION
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY
JANUARY 4, 2026

Sunday Before Theophany

January 4, 2026

No Fasting | Mode Plagal 1 | 8th Orthros Gospel

On this Lord's Day, we observe the Forefeast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; we also celebrate the Synaxis of the 70 Holy Apostles; we remember our Righteous Father Theoctistus, Abbot of Cucomo in Sicily; Nikephoros the Leper; Zosimos the Monk and Athanasios the Notary; Righteous Apollinaria the Senator; Martyrs Chrysanthos and Euphemia; Righteous Euthymios the Younger; New Martyr Onuphrios; Righteous Euthymios of Vatopedi; Righteous John Scholarios; and Eustathios Archbishop of Serbia.

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 Logos of God....

Third Antiphon. Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode Plagal 1.

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν, ὅτι ἠυδόκησε σαρκί, ἀνελεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγειραὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ Ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

Let us worship the Word who is unoriginate * with the Father and the Spirit, and from a Virgin was born * for our salvation, O believers, and let us sing His praise. * For in His goodness He was pleased * to ascend the Cross in the flesh, and to undergo death, * and to raise up those who had died, * by His glorious Resurrection.

Apolytikion for the Forefeast of Theophany, Mode 4: Ἐτοιμάζου Ζαβουλών, καὶ εὐτρεπίζου Νεφθαλείμ. Ἰορδάνη ποταμέ, στήθι ὑπόδεξαι σκιρτῶν, τοῦ βαπτισθῆναι ἐρχόμενον τὸν Δεσπότην. Ἀγάλλου ὁ Ἀδὰμ σὺν τῇ Προμήτορι· μὴ κρύπτετε ἑαυτοὺς, ὥς ἐν Παραδείσῳ τὸ

πρίν· καὶ γὰρ γυμνοὺς ἰδὼν ὑμᾶς ἐπέφανεν, ἵνα ἐνδύσῃ τὴν πρώτην στολὴν. Χριστὸς ἐφάνη, τὴν πᾶσαν κτίσιν, θέλων ἀνακαινίσαι.

O Zabulon, prepare, and be ready, Nephthalim. * Jordan River, hold your course, and exultantly receive * the Master who is coming to be baptized. * Adam leap for joy with Eve the Foremother. * No longer hide yourselves, as once in Paradise; * for having seen you naked He has appeared * to clothe you in your former vesture. * The Christ has appeared, wishing to renew * the entire creation.

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 for Theophany, Mode 4: To the flowing streams today * of River Jordan * comes the Lord and cries aloud * to John the Baptist, and He says, * "Be not afraid to baptize me now; * for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

Ἐν τοῖς ρείθροις σήμερον τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, γεγονὼς ὁ Κύριος, τῷ Ἰωάννῃ ἐκβοᾷ· Μὴ δειλιάσῃς βαπτίσει με· σῶσαι γὰρ ἤκω, Ἀδὰμ τὸν πρωτόπλαστον.

After the Trisagion Hymn:

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.

The Reading is from the Holy Apostle Paul Second Letter to the Timothy (4:5-8):

TIMOTHY, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Alleluia

The Gospel Reading is from Mark (1:1-8): The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John was baptizing in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Parish Council: Team B

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

Altar Guild

Kathy Ballas

Epistle Reader

Jasper Geranios

Memorials

George Geranios (3 years), Peter Geranios (24 years)

40 Day Blessing

Sofia, Daughter of Nick and Victoria Rotas
Theodore, Son of Chris and Abbey Rotas

Coffee Fellowship

Sponsored by The Geranios Family

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 - March 10th to observer@annunciationsac.org





ANNUNCIATION SENIOR LEAGUE DIVINE LITURGY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

JOIN US FOR THE DIVINE LITURGY AS WE CELEBRATE THE SYNAXIS OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
AND A MORNING OF PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP, AND FRIENDSHIP WITH OUR ASL COMMUNITY

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 7
10:00 AM

ANNUNCIATION
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
SACRAMENTO



The Philoptochos Society of the Annunciation
Invites you to the

2026
VASILOPITA LUNCHEON

Sunday, January 11

Immediately following the Divine Liturgy
Annunciation Hellenic Center

\$20 Adults | \$10 Children 12 & Under

Traditional Cutting of the Vasilopita & Vasilopita Auction

Scan the QR code for tickets





LIMITED SPACES

\$100.00 BUY IN

\$25.00 SPECTATOR TICKET

MEZEDES & NO HOST BAR

**GRAND PRIZE- PREMIUM TAVLI
BOARD**

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 24th, 2026**

**DOORS OPEN AT 1:30PM
GAMES BEGIN AT 2:00PM**

The ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

600 ALHAMBRA BOULEVARD, SACRAMENTO, CA



PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE DSG

CLICK LINK BELOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT VERRIOS.DEMAS@GMAIL.COM OR 916.541.3486

COSTUME CLOTHING DONATIONS NEEDED!

Before we begin to purchase costumes,
we are asking for your help!



LATE 1800s–EARLY 1900s INSPIRED CLOTHING

- Long dresses or skirts
- Simple blouses
- Knit cardigans
- Sweater vests
- Neutral or muted colors



1950s “CHURCH CLOTHES” FOR BOYS & GIRLS



- Dresses with color
- Button-down shirts
- Sweaters
- Vests or slacks



SIZES NEEDED:

Kids' Large–XL

Adult Small–Medium

Please drop off donations in the designated
box by the costume room before December 21



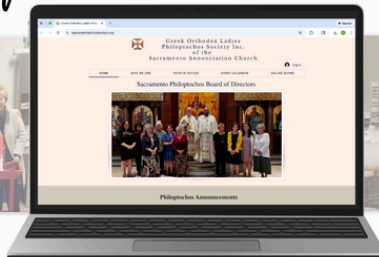
PHILOTOCHOS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our pastry sales, our coat drive, our sock drive, and our sales of "More Than Olives" brought to us by Sophia and Alexandra Theodorides, were all successful thanks to you, our Annunciation parishioners. Thank you for supporting us to help those in need.



Explore the New

ANNUNCIATION PHILOTOCHOS WEBSITE



www.sacramentophilotochos.org





**BOOKS • GIFTS • ICONS • JEWELRY • CANDLES • CHILDREN'S BOOKS & MORE
OPEN EVERY SUNDAY FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY**

Visit us after liturgy today for wonderful baptism gifts, icons, children's books and items, good reads, cross jewelry, monastery incense for the home, and more!

We now have the sterling silver cross in stock.
This cross has been uniquely designed for us
using our parish cross and is just beautiful.



SALE - various items now on sale - check them out before they sell out!

Thank you for your support. Your purchases help
the Bookstore give back to our parish community.

Contacts us at bookstore@annunciationsac.org



ALTAR BOY REGISTRATION 2025-2026

2nd Grade and Up

Visit tiny.cc/altar2526

Please contact Gary Leonard with questions
garypleonardehotmail.com



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Building a solid foundation for Christian education and formation

REGISTRATION STILL OPEN FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

DIVINE LITURGY BEGINS AT 10:00AM
CLASSES BEGIN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HOLY COMMUNION

Please contact sundayschool@annunciationsac.org with questions



ANNUNCIATION SACRAMENTO



JR. GOYA
GRADES 6-8

SR. GOYA
GRADES 9-12

STAY CONNECTED! REGISTER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL TO BE ADDED TO OUR GOYA MAILING LIST
ONE REGISTRATION COVERS IT ALL!

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.



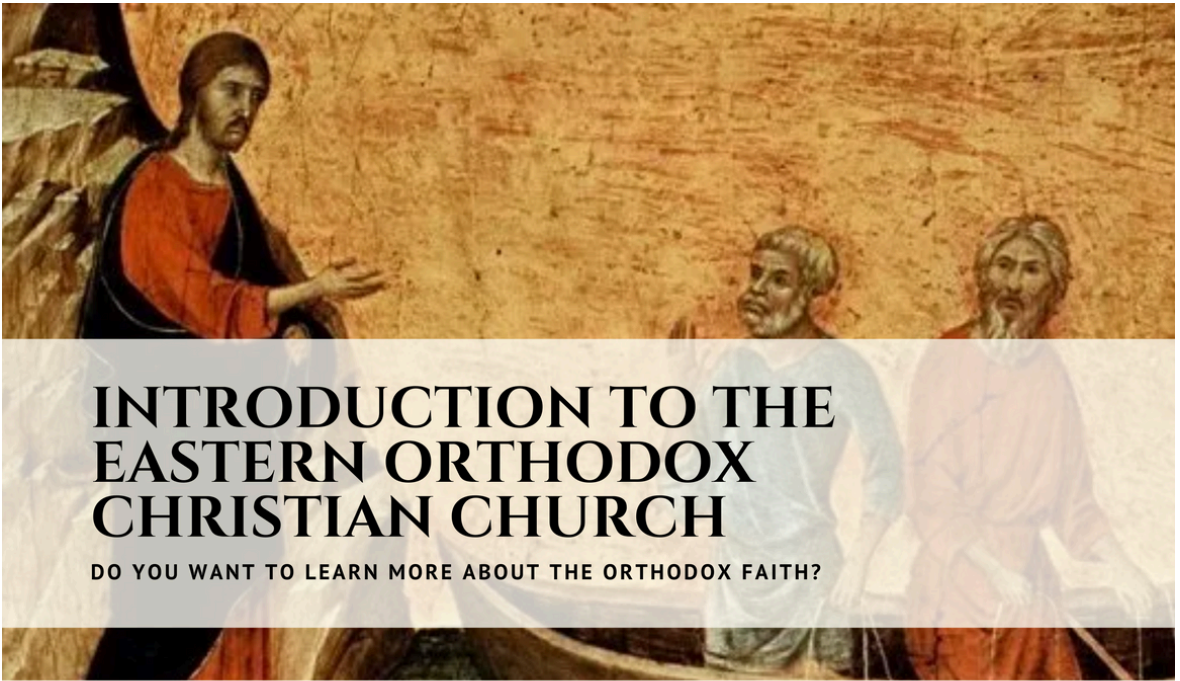


BEAUTIFYING THE LITURGICAL EXPERIENCE



Our parish is undertaking a special campaign to replace and renew several liturgical items that have fallen into disrepair. These sacred vessels and furnishings are not merely functional, they reflect our love and reverence for God, and the beauty of our worship. Your generosity will help ensure that the Divine Services are celebrated with the dignity and splendor worthy of the Lord.

Please prayerfully consider contributing to this effort. If you are interested in learning more and would like to see a full list of items needed, please email Fr. Vinnie at frvincent@annunciationsac.org



INTRODUCTION TO THE EASTERN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ORTHODOX FAITH?

In recent months, our Parish has been blessed with a number of people inquiring about the Faith. **Are you among these inquirers?** Or are you Orthodox, but you feel you need to learn more about your Faith? We would like to share the Faith with you in an organized and systematic way. **Beginning Monday, September 22**, the Autumnal Equinox(!), and continuing until Holy Week and Pascha, we will be offering an **Introduction to the Eastern Orthodox Christian Church**. We will meet in the downstairs Conference Room in the Hellenic Center most of the time and from time to time in the upstairs classroom 2206. Class will begin at 6pm (7pm during Lent) and meet for about an hour plus. If you cannot come in person, but you would like to participate via Zoom, please tell us, and we will endeavor to accommodate you as much as possible.

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

Fr. Timothy Robinson
Associate Priest

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- BESIDES HANDOUTS THAT I WILL EMAIL TO YOU BEFORE CLASS MEETS, PLEASE OBTAIN A COPY OF REV. FR. MICHAEL SHANBOUR, *KNOW THE FAITH: A HANDBOOK FOR ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS AND INQUIRERS* (ANCIENT FAITH PUBLISHING, 2019). THIS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN OUR BOOKSTORE VERY SOON. IT IS ALSO AVAILABLE NOW DIRECTLY FROM ANCIENT FAITH OR FROM AMAZON IN PRINT OR VIA KINDLE.
- A MODERN LANGUAGE BIBLE, E.G. *THE ORTHODOX STUDY BIBLE*, OR AN EDITION OF THE NEW KING JAMES OR NEW AMERICAN BIBLE (ROMAN CATHOLIC) OR NEW REVISED STANDARD BIBLE (ECUMENICAL).



STAY CONNECTED



THIS WEEK AT ANNUNCIATION EMAIL

Get updates, events, and news in your inbox every week

Subscribe at mailchi.mp/annunciationsac/subscribe



PARISH CALENDAR

Service times, events, and activities — all in one place

Visit tiny.cc/parishcalendar



INSTAGRAM

Photos, events, links, and more — right at your fingertips

@[annunciationsac](https://www.instagram.com/annunciationsac)



FACEBOOK

Live services, parish photos, and community updates

Visit facebook.com/annunciation.sacramento



Become a Sponsor!
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. Effie can be reached in the office at (916) 443-2033 ext 222.



WELCOME

ANNUNCIATION
SACRAMENTO



We're so glad you are here with us today!

If you are visiting, we warmly invite you to join us next door in the Hellenic Center following the Divine Liturgy for coffee fellowship.

Be sure to stop by the Welcoming Table during coffee fellowship to meet our team, ask questions, and learn more about our faith, parish, and ministries.

We look forward to greeting you!



EVERY MINISTRY
EVERY MOMENT
EVERY BLESSING

YOUR STEWARDSHIP
MAKES IT POSSIBLE

STEWARDSHIP 2026

Every photo tells the story of a moment made possible by stewardship—youth growing in the faith, families worshipping together, ministries serving others, and the traditions that strengthen our parish life.

Our Annunciation community thrives because of the dedication, involvement, and generosity of parishioners like you. For many, Annunciation is where lifelong friendships were formed and core memories were made growing up in the life of the Church. For others, it has become a welcoming spiritual home where new memories are being created, one faithful step at a time. Together, these moments weave the story of our parish.

Your commitment ensures that these ministries, memories, and experiences continue now and for the generations yet to come. Thank you for supporting the mission and life of our parish and for being an essential part of our Annunciation family.

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



Please visit the Stewardship Table during coffee fellowship to learn more about our mission and how we strengthen our parish community together.

January 4-11

Sunday, January 4

Sunday Before Theophany

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Family Church Day - No Sunday School Classes
Greek Dance Practices

Monday, January 5

6:00pm Vespertal Liturgy of Theophany | Blessing of Waters

Tuesday, January 6

The Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 7

Synaxis of Saint John Baptist

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
6:00pm Greek Dance Practices
6:00pm Greek School Classes

Friday, January 9

6:00pm Greek Dance Practices

Sunday, January 11

Sunday After Theophany

9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Sunday School Classes
High School Sunday School Class & Sr. GOYA Meeting
Vasilopita Luncheon
Greek Dance Practices

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. The Bookstore is open Sundays after Church or contact bookstore@annunciationsac.org 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