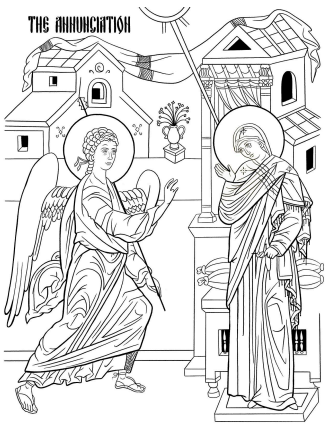

Weekly Bulletin

Orthodox Church of the Annunciation

877 Francine Lane, Santa Maria, CA 93455
Rev. Justin Taylor, *Rector*
V. Rev. Lawrence Russell, *Pastor Emeritus (Retired, Attached)*
805-938-7877 (Office) FrJustin@odox.org
www.odox.org

Confessions:
During & after Vespers, before Divine Liturgy, or by Appointment

Upcoming Services

Sunday, November 22
9:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours
10 am Divine Liturgy
1 pm Catechesis & Adult Education

Wednesday, November 25
(*Greatmartyr Catherine*)
8:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours
9 am Divine Liturgy
6 pm Akathist of Thanksgiving

Saturday, November 28
5:30 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, November 29
9:40 am 3rd & 6th Hours
10 am Divine Liturgy
1 pm Catechesis & Adult Education

Nativity Fast until 12/25. Fish allowed on Sat/Sun. Confessions before/after evening services or by appt.

Many Years!
11/24: Samir Fadel (Birthday); Stefan Brown (Name's Day).
11/25: Name's Day for Mat. Cheryl, Catherine Whitford, Kate McGuire, Margo Marchel, Sydney Bello
11/28: Dennis Whitford (Birthday); Kyle Howen (Birthday)

Sunday, November 22nd

9th Sunday of Luke (**Tone 8**)
Ephesians 4:1-6; Luke 12:16-21

From *"Thoughts for Each Day of the Year According to the Daily Church Readings from the Word of God"*
By St. Theophan the Recluse

Having spoken the parable about the man who became rich and planned to just eat, drink and be merry, and for this was struck with death, not remaining alive for the supposed pleasures, the Lord concluded: So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

"So"—that is, such occurs, or such a lot befalls both these and others. Those who become rich and forget about God only think about pleasures of the flesh. Let those who desire to avoid this bitter lot "lay up" not "unto themselves, but be rich only toward God."

Since riches come from God, then devote them to God when they flow, and holy riches will come of it. Divide all surplus with the needy: this will be the same as returning to God what was given by God. He who gives to a poor person gives to God. Seemingly exhausting his riches, such a person becomes truly rich—rich through good deeds, rich for God. In pleasing Him he becomes rich in God, and by attracting His good will, he becomes rich from God, Who makes one who is faithful over a few things, ruler over many things.

He becomes rich toward God, and not toward himself, for he does not consider himself to be master of the house, but only a steward and accountant, whose entire concern consists of satisfying all who come to him in need. But he fears spending anything in particular on himself, considering it to be an improper usage of property entrusted to him.

Great Martyr Catherine of Alexandria

(*November 25*)

The Holy Great Martyr Katherine was the daughter of Konstos, the governor of Alexandria, Egypt during the reign of Emperor Maximian (305-313). Living in the capital, the center of Hellenistic knowledge, and possessed of a rare beauty and intellect, Katherine received an excellent education, studying the works of the greatest philosophers and teachers of antiquity. Young men from the most worthy families of the empire sought the hand of the beautiful Katherine, but she was not interested in any of them. She told her parents that she would enter into marriage only with someone who surpassed her in nobility, wealth, comeliness and wisdom.

At that time Emperor Maximian was in Alexandria for a pagan festival. Therefore, the celebration was especially splendid and crowded. The cries of the sacrificial animals, the smoke and the smell of the sacrifices, the endless blaze of fires, and the bustling crowds at the arenas defiled the city of Alexandria. Human victims also were brought, the confessors of Christ, who would not deny Him under torture. They were condemned to death in the fire. Katherine's love for the Christian martyrs, and her fervent desire to ease their sufferings, compelled her to speak to the pagan priest and to Emperor Maximian.

Introducing herself, the Saint confessed her faith in the One True God, and exposed the errors of the pagans. The beauty of the maiden captivated the Emperor. In order to convince her of the superiority of pagan wisdom, the Emperor ordered fifty of the most learned philosophers and rhetoricians of the Empire to dispute with her, but the Saint got the better of the wise men, so that they came to believe in Christ themselves. Saint Katherine made the Sign of the Cross over the martyrs, and they bravely accepted death for Christ and were burnt alive by order of the Emperor.

The relics of Saint Katherine were taken by the Angels to Mount Sinai. In the VI century, the venerable head and left hand of the holy martyr were found through a revelation and transferred with honor to the newly-constructed church of the Monastery on Mount Sinai, built by the holy Emperor Justinian (November 14).

Saint Katherine is called upon for relief and assistance during a difficult childbirth. Pilgrims to her monastery on Mount Sinai are given souvenir rings as a remembrance of their visit.

Prayer Corner



Archpriest Matthew Tate; Archpriest Lawrence Farley; Archpriest Gregory; Joe (Sunday's brother); Thomas; Helen; Maria; the nun Paraskeva and her mother Radojka; the newborn Sieglinda (for health); Derek (Nektarios) for employment and housing assistance; Miles (Larissa's grandson); Zoi and Valeri (Oxana's parents); Natalia (Nina Slater's sister); Maria Carmen (Joseph Nuno's mother); Carol (Edie's mother); the child Rastko; Claude; Olga (recovery from surgery); Kyle; Virginia (cancer); Lana; Seraphima; Tina (Joseb's mother); Laura (Roger's wife); Alexandra (recovery from surgery); John (Alzheimer's) and his wife Eileen; Marion (sick); Timothy (cancer)); Ethne; Daniel; Iskra; Viktor and Andrea; Ionna (cancer); Cheryl (cancer); Lee and Veronica; Michelle; Michael and Martha; Matt (health); Steve (health); Anna (Olga's sister); Angelina; Theresa (Linda Deak's daughter-in-law, health problems), William, Joe, Khrie; Anna; Scott; Laura Beth (health); Heather; Chris; Gregory; Barbara; Larry; Linda Deak; John (Lana's friend; Brian and his family (Kevin's friend); Yesinia Lopez (sick); Dawn.

Pregnancies: Matushka Rachel, Michelle Millar, Aleena Smith.

Newly Departed: Jakov (Natasa's friend); Ken and Ron (Mike Meko's friend and cousin); Monk Barnabas; Marija.