MERRY CHRISTMAS

When the Lord Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judah, Magi coming from the East worshipped God made man. And eagerly opening their treasures, they offered Him precious gifts: refined gold, as to the King of the ages; frankincense, as to the God of all; myrrh they offered to the Immortal One as one three days dead. Come all nations, let us worship Him Who was born to save our souls. (Compline of the feast day of the Nativity)

Gifts are what come to most people’s minds when we think about Christmas. Which pleases us most—giving or receiving a gift? The answer is that both giving and receiving are equal in the eyes of God. Let us be gracious in our reception of the most important gift of all, Jesus Christ Incarnate.

Are we willing to be satisfied this year knowing that God the Father giving us His Son is the most awesome gift—the gift of eternal life, the gift that is and should be the number one request on our Christmas list? We should be humbled by how God thinks of each one of us. Now, what do we give to our Lord? What gift do you think God would want?

Calling the Magi by a star, heaven brought the first fruits of the Gentiles unto Thee, a Babe lying in the manger: and they were amazed to see neither scepter nor throne but only utter poverty. For what is meaner than a cave, what is humbler than swaddling clothes? Yet therein shone forth the wealth of Thy divinity: glory to Thee, O Lord. (Hypakoe of Nativity Matins)

The Lord rejoices when we treat each other as brothers and sisters. The Lord rejoices when we love one another. The Lord rejoices when we care for each other. I want to thank all of you for the early Christmas present we, the congregation of Saint Katherine, gave to the children of the Hogar Rafael Ayau Home for Children in Guatemala. Nicole Leontzinis, team leader; along with Alex and Jennifer Carr; Korinna Garbis; Jerry Rich, DDS; Betty Slanta; Mary Stathopoulos; and I have some very memorable moments of receiving the smiles, hugs, and joys of being with the orphaned children.

Our children, here in the United States, have the freedom to participate in activities outside of their homes on a daily basis. The children at the Hogar do not. They broke out in cheers when the gates opened and our mission team took them to a park. A simple gift? Not at all. A gift that is at the core of Christian outreach? Definitely! We received much more than we gave.

Make your list and check it twice. Do you have God at the top of your list? If not, you have plenty of time to add, or move, Him to the number one spot. I will see all of you in church as we celebrate the blessing of giving and receiving together.

Today Christ is born of the Virgin in Bethlehem. Today He who knows no beginning now begins to be, and the Word is made flesh. The powers of heaven greatly rejoice, and the earth with mankind makes glad. The Magi offer gifts, the shepherds proclaim the marvel, and we cry aloud without ceasing: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. (Great Doxology and Dismissal)

Christ is born! Glorify Him!
**CLERGY**

Rev. Protopresbyter Konstantinos A. Pavlakos, Proistamenos  
751-213-1109 cell, 703-239-2627 home  
frcostas@stkchurch.com

**STAFF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Phone 1</th>
<th>Phone 2</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Vlachos</td>
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<td>703-671-1515</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jvlachos@cox.net">jvlachos@cox.net</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Vassilopoulos</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PARISH COUNCIL**

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Pierre Tavoularis  
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Perros@cox.net

**CHURCH SCHOOLS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Bible Study (Sundays)</td>
<td>Bill Polizos 571-434-7790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Catechetical (Sunday) School</td>
<td>Bill Polizos 571-434-7790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Catechetical (Sunday) School</td>
<td>Christian Demeter, Principal 703-534-5669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek School</td>
<td>Sophia Tsangali, Principal 703-671-5820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journey to Orthodoxy (An intro class to the Orthodox Faith)</td>
<td>Elena Ziu 703-825-7245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAIDEIA Bilingual Preschool</td>
<td>Maria Papathanassiou, Director 703-671-7715</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MINISTRIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acolyte Captains</td>
<td>Anastasios Galatis (First Liturgy) TBD (Second Liturgy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHEPA #370</td>
<td>George K. Eliades, President 703-388-0073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHEPA #438</td>
<td>Angelo Toutsi 703-281-0843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookstore</td>
<td>Christopher and Frances Kalavritinos 703-671-1515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir</td>
<td>John Doulis 703-899-4131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daughters of Penelope Helle #283</td>
<td>Jane Moore, President 703-239-2627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOYA</td>
<td>Presv. Pauline Pavlakos 703-984-2256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOYA (ages 13-18)</td>
<td>Tiffani Willis, President 703-948-7950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRACE</td>
<td>Fr. Costa Pavlakos 703-671-1515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek School Auxiliary</td>
<td>Elena Lagos, President 703-241-1176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOPE (ages 7 and under)</td>
<td>Kelly Alexis, Director 703-909-2256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listserv (email list)</td>
<td>Presv. Pauline Pavlakos 703-239-2627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOY (ages 8-12)</td>
<td>Tina Papamichael, Director 703-536-4711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missions and Outreach</td>
<td>Dr. John Demakis 703-319-1610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Committees, List of</td>
<td><a href="http://saint-katherines.org/about_us/parish-committees">http://saint-katherines.org/about_us/parish-committees</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Philoptochos</td>
<td>Andrea Ballard, President 703-250-5419</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalters</td>
<td>James Loizou, Protopsalts 703-356-8220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safeway eScrip</td>
<td>Elvira Garnett 703-425-3675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Presv. Pauline Pavlakos 703-239-2627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Book Club</td>
<td>Christina Vazquez 703-723-7424</td>
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<tr>
<td>YAL (Young Adult League)</td>
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**Website**

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<tr>
<td>Presv. Pauline Pavlakos 703-239-2627</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christina Vazquez 703-723-7424</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Dear Saint Katherine Family,

It seems like just yesterday it was January 2011 and now the year is drawing to a close! It is a busy, festive time but also a time to reflect on the year that has passed, as well as the one that is quickly approaching. We reflect on our goals and see if we have met them. We think about our hopes for 2012. We do this as a church, too. If we have fallen short, we ask God for the strength to do His will and His work.

Our Parish Council elections will be held Sunday, December 4. Thank you to those who have chosen to take on this important ministry of our church!

The Annual Christmas Pageant will take place on December 11, following the Divine Liturgy. This tradition continues after so many years as the children of our schools come together to tell the story of the birth of Christ.

Have you double-checked your Christmas list? Is Saint Katherine on your gift list? It’s still not too late to fulfill your 2011 Stewardship pledge. Nor is it too early to fill out your 2012 Stewardship pledge card!

This time of year always brings to mind those dear to us. It is also a time to acknowledge those people who work so hard for our faith and our Church: our office staff, those who teach and guide our youth, the members of our choir and our chanters, and those who reach out to the poor and helpless. Thank you to our faithful Stewards—YOU are our Church!

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas, I am

Your servant in Christ,

Daphne Papamichael
President, Parish Council

Merry Christmas! Καλά Χριστούγεννα!

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SUNDAY CHURCH DUTY ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 4, 2011</th>
<th>December 11, 2011</th>
<th>December 18, 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>8:00am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pierre Tavoularis, Captain Andrea Ballard Chris Christou Martha Lampros</td>
<td>George Silis, Captain Chris Christou Chris Euripides Korinna Garbis</td>
<td>Frances Campbell, Captain John Andre Andrea Ballard Christian Demeter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costas Mavromatakis Bill Polizos Bill Porter</td>
<td>Iacovos Ioannou Martha Lampros Christina Vazquez</td>
<td>Iacovos Ioannou Daphne Papamichael Christina Vazquez</td>
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<td><strong>9:30am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Andre, Captain Frances Campbell Dr. John Demakis Chris Euripides</td>
<td>Korinna Garbis Daphne Papamichael George Silis</td>
<td>Chris Christou, Captain Dr. John Demakis Chris Euripides Maria Wills</td>
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<td><strong>December 25, 2011</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Porter, Captain Korinna Garbis Costas Mavromatakis</td>
<td>George Silis Pierre Tavoularis</td>
<td>Maria Wills</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CATECHETICAL (SUNDAY) SCHOOL

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.” And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasure, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” (Matthew 2:1-2, 2:11)

FOR OUR YOUTH AND OUR FAMILIES, the most significant aspect of the month of December is Christmas and, like the three wise men, our focus is on the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. On December 11, the students of both the Catechetical (Sunday) and Greek Schools will present our annual Christmas Pageant. The Pageant will give our young people the opportunity and privilege to present the scriptural narrative of the birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to our community. The actors will pantomime as narrators recite Biblical passages in both Greek and English. Some of our other students from both schools will be angels and some will be singers. The singers, together with members of our Adult Choir, will sing the accompanying music. A number of our senior high school students will serve as guides and ushers. A cast request list and rehearsal schedule has been distributed to all students to take home. Parents are urged to review the schedule and make sure that the children meet their rehearsal assignments. On December 10, beginning at 10:00am, we will have a dress rehearsal and following that enjoy a party and a visit from Saint Nicholas. The Pageant will be presented on Sunday, December 11 in the Meletis Churuhas Center, immediately after the Divine Liturgy. Our students are very excited about this presentation, and we are certain that our parents will be eager to see and hear them as they relay to us the TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS.

In the last issue of DOXA, we related to you that during both November and December our young people and staff focus on the scriptural lesson that, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). Through the kindness and devotion of Mrs. Sherry Maggio, a Giving Tree has been decorated and placed in the downstairs foyer of the community center. Each student has been given the opportunity to take one of the tags from the tree. The tag suggests the purchase of a gift for an adult male or female. It is requested that the gift consist of new warm clothing such as a sweater, gloves, scarf, hat, socks, etc. It is requested that the giver wrap this gift and place the tag from the giving tree amidst the ribbon used to make the bow. Our young people will bring in their presents for the homeless and place them under the Giving Tree on either Sunday, December 4, 11, or 18. On December 18, the gifts will be taken to the homeless shelter in Falls Church. We know that when our students return to school on January 8 they will be excited talking about Christmas and New Year’s. We look forward to that reunion.

HOPE (ages 7 and under)

JOIN HOPE IN FOUNDERS’ HALL ON DECEMBER 4, after the second liturgy, as we celebrate the beginning of the holiday season with a Christmas craft, pizza lunch, and the story of the Nativity for our little ones. We ask that you bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots. Please RSVP to Kelly Alexis (kalexis76@gmail.com or 703-909-2256) so we can have enough food and craft materials on hand. We look forward to seeing everyone!

PAIDEIA

WE’VE BEEN QUITE BUSY these past weeks: We found out about our families and neighborhoods; and all about the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving. We noticed the changes in nature as winter approaches; and learned our letters and numbers, of course. We talked about being healthy and eating healthy foods, and enjoyed a delicious vegetable stew that we made ourselves.

We also learned to be thankful for what we have and about helping those in need. To share our blessings we will collect Toys for Tots. We talked about the people who help the poor in our community and around the world—like Doctors Without Borders and the mission teams from our church. We also made pretty holiday cards, which our parents will take to the Bailey’s Crossroads homeless shelter where they will serve dinner on December 8.

With many holiday festivities coming up, we practiced our table manners at a “formal dress-up” lunch. So, Mom and Dad, we’re ready!

Best of all, we are preparing for the birth of Baby Jesus! We’re making wonderful crafts and decorations to put up in our classrooms. We are baking cookies and learning how Christmas is observed in Greece and elsewhere.

Our music teacher, Mrs. Gilda Vretea Kornhauser is teaching us Greek carols. Mrs. Shelby Tombras has choreographed a lovely routine for our movement class. We look forward to performing these at our Christmas Program on December 22. We are so blessed to have these two delightful and talented ladies working with us, in addition to our wonderful PAIDEIA teachers: Mrs. Elsa Papageorgiou, Mrs. Elena Papadopoulou, Mrs. Yianna Kehaiov, Mrs. Chryssa Giakoumaki Cook, and Miss Fotini Kotsoroni.

Καλά Χριστούγεννα σε όλους σας! May the Blessings of Christmas be with you throughout the New Year!

In other news: Enrollment for the Spring 2012 session is now open! Meet our teachers and learn about our program at the Open House on Wednesday, December 7 from 8:30am to 10:30am. Please contact the director, Maria Papathanassiou, at mpapathanassiou@gopaideia.org or 703-671-7715, for more information.

December Dates to Remember

01 Parent-Teacher Conferences, No Aftercare
15 Toys for Tots collection
22 Christmas Program, 4:00pm-5:30pm
23-30 Christmas Break
ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ! Έστιν κι άλλας! Και οι χριστιανοί, μικροί - μεγάλοι, προσφέρουμε στο Θείο Βρέφος έμμον, την ζωή και τις πράξεις μας, όπως ο άγγελος στον ουρανό.

Ουράνιο, αγγελικό τραγούδι αντήχησε στη γη τη νύχτα εκείνη! Και ο ουρανός έγινε πιο λαμπρός από ποτέ άλλοτε. Μυριάδες άγγελοι φτερούσαν από τον ουρανό στη γη και αυτά τα αγγελικά τους φτερούσημα λες και εδιούζαν την παγωμένη από τα σώματα και τις καρδιές των ανθρώπων. Άγγελοι οι Στολμένοι! Υπάρχει και άγγέλια στην πλευρά από την παραδεισεύσα, γλυκεία αρμονία της αναρίθμητης αγγελικής σφαίρας, που γλύκανε τις πονεμένες ψυχές των ποιμένων. Ελπίδα, γαλήνη, ανακοίνωση φέρνει στην καρδία τους. Και άγρινου, καθώς φύλαγαν την νύχτα εκείνη τα πρώματα τους στα λιβάδια εκεί πιό πέρα, ξαφνιάστηκαν, θαμπώθηκαν με μιας, όταν άστραγαλιά η σύνθεση του θεϊκού φως. Στολμένοι από το ίχνος του ουρανού, ο αραχαγόλος τους φέρνει το χαριτωμένο μήμα των Αγγέλων του Θεού «Ευρεθήκαμεν υμάν χαρών μεγάλην...» Και στη συνέχεια πλήθος αγγέλων σπορά συνάγεται στην ελλική «Δόξα εν υιοθετών Θεώ και θείας ευχαρίστησις και έκτασις ανθρώπων ευδοκίας».

Τι ουράνια μελοδία! Τι αγγελική αρμονία! Πάντα φορές δεν έχουμε επιθυμήσει κι εμείς να ημαστάν την θεία εκείνη νύχτα εκεί, να ακούγουμε την θεϊκή υμνωδούς και να υμώνουμε κι εμείς μαζί με τους άγγελους το Θείο Βρέφος!

Και όμως! Κι εμείς μπορούμε να ακούσουμε την θεία εκείνη νύχτα εκεί και να την κηρύξουμε και στους συναδέλφους μας! Αλλά πώς: Αν ανοίξουμε την καρδία μας καθαρά και ταπεινά σαν την φωτεινή φάτνη για να δεχόμεν τον Χριστό με την θεία Κανώνια. Με τον εκκλησιασμό, όπου οι φτιοχί ποιμένες πήγαν στην φάτνη για να τον προσκυνήσουν. Με τον να βάλουμε στην καρδία μας Πατέρα και Σοφία μας. Με το να πράττουμε το άγιο δέλτημα Του! Τότε σήμερα θα νοούνες μεγάλη χαρά και θα μπορέσουμε να ακούσουμε τα γλυκοτόνιστα τραγούδια της καλούσεςς. Οι μελωδικοί σκοποί θα συγκίνουν την ψυχή μας, την όρα που θα δίνουμε στοργικά το χέρι μας στον άρρητο, στον θειωμένο, στον φτερούς, στον ποιμένα. Θα τους νοούσαμε τους προστριγάστενους σκοπούς, όταν δόσωμε από το εορταστικό μας φαγητό και γλυκό, όταν δόσωμε ένα ενδομή μας, ένα χέρι βοήθειας σε κάποιον ανήμορο, σε κάποιον που ζει μόνος, σε κάποιον που μπορεί να βοηθήσει σε κάποιον ανήμορο, που ζει μόνος, σε κάποιον που μπορεί να βοηθήσει σε κάποιον ανήμορο, που ζει μόνος.

Παντοτινά! Ασκήσεις μελετήνα! Ευχαριστούμε που η θεία εκείνη νύχτα να την κηρύξουμε και στους συναδέλφους μας!

(Continued on page 15, column 2)
WEEKDAY SERVICES
December 06* Nicholas the Wonderworker
December 09* Conception of the Theotokos by Saint Anna
December 12* Spyridon the Wonderworker
*9:30am Orthros | 10:30am Divine Liturgy

CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE
Friday, December 23
10:30am: Orthros, Great Hours

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve
6:00pm Orthros
7:00pm Divine Liturgy, Great Vespers

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day
9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy

AHEPA #438
2011 CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT
THE PETER N. DERZIS AHEPA CHAPTER #438 is proud to continue the sale of the Fourth Annual Community Christmas Ornament. These collectable ornaments have grown in popularity from year to year and are beautiful. This year’s ornament is no exception!

A stunning 3-D rendition of The Star of Bethlehem serves as the inspiration for our 2011 offering to the community—a perfect ornament for the Christmas season, depicting the divine light that served as a beacon to all mankind, heralding the joy of the Nativity.

These high quality ornaments are manufactured by the same firm that creates the famous White House Christmas ornaments. The decorative boxed packaging makes them ideal for gift giving...they are the perfect stocking stuffer. The cost is $20, with proceeds supporting our AHEPA Charities such as Vacation Bible Camp, Greek School, Church Missions, and College Scholarships. Please support our chapter with your purchase of these highly collectable and sought-after ornaments. Place your orders by emailing jstoucker@verizon.net or calling 703-671-1515 or 703-929-6110.

2011 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD
YOU ARE INVITED to participate in the annual Christmas card of our parish. Our Community Christmas Card brings us together as a family, expressing prayers and love to all of our brothers and sisters. It will be mailed by the church office to everyone on our mailing list for only $25.00. Please send your name, as you want it to appear in the card, and a check payable to Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church to the Church Office by Monday, December 5.

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

November 2011 Guatemala team and Madre Ines, Abbess, with the Orthodox Monastery of the Holy Trinity-Lavra Mambre in the background.
MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL and thank you for your support of the Missions and Outreach Committee’s activities during 2011!

GLOBAL MISSION ACTIVITIES

November’s Guatemala mission team to the Hogar Raphael Ayau Orphanage in Guatemala has returned safely. The January 19-26 team is making final preparations for their mission trip. Fr. Maximus Urbanowicz is the spiritual leader and Antonia Chelpon is the team leader. Other members include Alicia Banks, Katerina Chelpon, Maria Chelpon, Frank Landry, Tasso McCarthy, Vivian Spahopoulos, Daphne Vaccarello, and Maria Wills. To see more of the orphanage and hear its charismatic abbess, Mother Ines, as she describes the special challenges they face, watch the YouTube video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vWrdz-Aqw-U.

Maria Roebber, the OCMC long-term missionary to Tanzania from the DC area, recently participated in a health care assessment project in the Lodwar area of Kenya. She reports:

[T]here is a lot of healthcare education that can and needs to be accomplished, along with supporting the goals of the government healthcare officers...[O]ne of the biggest challenges for the government is recruitment and retention of healthcare workers to live and work in the area, since the cost of living is so high and the environment so harsh. I will admit, I was very intimidated about the idea of possibly serving in such a remote, hot, dry climate, and being so far from the healthcare resources I would want as “backup.” But then again, this is why it is so important for us to be ministering in Christ’s name—to go to the people others cannot or do not wish to serve. Christ doesn’t tell us only to minister where it’s pleasant, or convenient, or even where it’s safe...I ask for your prayers for the people of Lodwar and the surrounding region.

The joyful and uplifting part of the trip, for me, was witnessing the celebration of the first Orthodox liturgy in one of these remote villages, and to be there to help welcome 110 souls into the Church. The baptisms took place after a liturgy, in a river that appeared overnight after a surprise rainstorm. While Fr. Martin [Ritsi, OCMC Director] stood waist-deep in muddy water, baptizing men, women, and children...I sat on the riverbank with some children and prayed for those who were beginning their new life in Christ. I had a beautiful view of Fr. Martin, a line of faithful waiting patiently in the water for their turn, and of camels standing under palm trees on the other side of the river, looking on. A couple of children sat with me, and started to mimic me as I made the sign of the cross at each submersion—three for each new Christian. It was fun to teach the kids how to participate in the service, and to pray with them. Glory to God for that day!

Learn more about Maria’s work at http://www.ocmc.org/missionaries/missionary_profile.aspx?MissionaryId=17.

Watch for news about a Saint Katherine mission team to Alaska, which is in the planning stages for summer 2012. Contact Gregory McKinney at 571-338-6929 for more information. God willing, parish teams will also return to Guatemala in 2013.

Orthodox Christian Mission Center 2012 Mission Team Opportunities. These short-term mission trips offer evangelism, health care, construction, catechism, and/or youth ministry in eight foreign countries: Mongolia, Kenya, Uganda, Guatemala, Moldova, Romania, Tanzania, South Korea, and Alaska in the United States. More information is available at www.OCMC.org.

Support our Troops. If you know of someone serving in the military overseas, send their names and APO addresses to Christina Vazquez at cvzmail@aol.com or Ray Vazquez at rayvazquez1@aol.com. The soldier will be prayed for during Liturgy and we will send them a bag of toiletries and sweets, along with the name and website address of our church and assurance of our continuing prayers for them. To contribute, please make your checks out to Saint Katherine with “Support our Troops” in the memo line. The person need not be Greek or Orthodox. Thanks to the Vazquez family for initiating this important ministry.

LOCAL OUTREACH

Diaper Collection. On Sunday, December 4, we will have our third annual Saint Nicholas Diaper Drive. Emergency food pantries in the immediate area love to have disposable diapers to aid the numbers of parents who come in for help, since families cannot use food-assistance dollars to purchase diapers. Please bring any size disposable diapers, in their original packaging (but no pull-up pants types), to the foyer of the Meletis Charushas Center.

Furniture Donations. The Bailey’s Crossroads shelter collects furniture to be used by people leaving the shelter for housing. The shelter will pick up the furniture within, roughly, a ten-mile radius. To arrange pickup or if you have questions, please call the Shelter Director, Thomas Nichols, at 703-659-3460. Please do not bring the furniture to church.

Clothes and Toiletries Collection. We continue to collect new and used (clean) clothing and toiletries for the shelter. There is a collection bin in the foyer of the Meletis Charus Center. With winter approaching, warm clothing in new to good used condition, is needed—especially coats, scarves, long underwear (new), etc., in adult sizes.

Emergency and Hygiene Kits. Thanks to everyone who helped with the collection of items and/or assembled the Emergency and Hygiene Kits for clients at the shelter. Each winter, many people end up being turned away from the shelter because of lack of space. They use 500-600 of each kit from November to March. Our parish was able to assemble over 300 kits on Sunday, November 20, thanks to generous donors and church organizations.

Christ is born! Glorify Him!
Saint Katherine YAL invites you to celebrate
New Year’s Eve 2012
with the one and only
Kalomira
with Zephyros
Meletis Charuhas Center
Saturday, December 31, 2011
8:30pm - 2:30am
Full Dinner Buffet
Midnight Champagne Toast
Open Bar
Raffle
For more information:
Call 703-615-0110
Visit www.dcgreeks.com

Family Fun Night!
JOIN OUR FAMILY NIGHT...
fun, dancing and a delicious dinner!
Saturday, January 21, 2012
5:30pm - 10:00pm
DJ
Cash Bar
Face Painting (6pm-7pm)
Raffle Tickets
1 for $5, 5 for $20, 15 for $40)
Win great prizes: restaurant gift certi-
ficates, electronics, and more!
Adults: $25 | Children: $10
Kids 5 and under are FREE!
All proceeds benefit the Saint Katherine
Bilingual Preschool and Nursery

Reserve your seat and purchase raffle tickets:
Email paideiaffn@gmail.com
Call 703-655-5420
Call 703-909-2256

Reserve today… space is limited.

For Family Fun Night!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|        |        |         |           |          |        | **New Year’s Eve 2012!**  
Saturday, December 31, 2011  
8:30pm - 2:30am  
See page 8 for information. | 1 Adult Greek School  
6:00pm Intermediate  
7:30pm Advanced  | 2 5:00pm Greek School | 3 9:30am Greek School  
1:30pm Greek School Teachers’ Meeting |
| 4 10th Sunday of Luke  
Barbara the Great Martyr  
8:00am Divine Liturgy  
9:30am Orthros and  
Catechetical School  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
Diaper Drive  
~Parish Council Elections~  
HOPE Lunch, Craft, and  
Nativity Story | 5 6 Nicholas the Wonderworker  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
Adult Greek School  
6:00pm Introductory II  
7:30pm Introductory I | 6 8:30am PAIDEIA Open House (thru 10:30am)  
10:30am Women’s Book Club  
6pm Conversational Greek | 7 8:30am Conception of the Theotokos by Saint Anna  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
5:00pm Greek School and Practice for Kalanda | 8 9:00am Challenge Liturgy at Saint George  
9:30am Greek School  
6:00pm YAL Deuteri  
Deutera  | 9 10th Sunday of Luke  
Spyridon the Wonderworker  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
7:30pm YAL Deuteri Deutera  
7:30pm AHEPA #438 | 10 11th Sunday of Luke  
9:30am Orthros and  
Catechetical School  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
Christmas Pageant | 11 12Spyridon the Wonderworker  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
7:30pm YAL Deuteri Deutera  
7:30pm AHEPA #438 | 12 13Adult Greek School  
6:00pm Introductory II  
7:30pm Introductory I | 13 1410:30am Women’s Book Club  
6pm Conversational Greek | 14 15Adult Greek School  
6:00pm Intermediate  
7:30pm Advanced | 15 16Adult Greek School  
6:00pm Intermediate  
7:30pm Advanced | 16 17Adult Greek School  
10:00am X-mas Pageant  
Dress Rehearsal  
SS. C & H, Newport News Tournament | 18 19Adult Greek School  
6:00pm Introductory II  
7:30pm Introductory I | 20 216pm Conversational Greek  
4:00pm PAIDEIA Christmas Program | 21 2210:30am Orthros, Great Hours  
6:00pm GOYA Making Lunches for the Homeless in Washington, DC | 22 23Eve of the Nativity  
Christmas Eve  
6:00pm Orthros  
7:00pm Divine Liturgy, Great Vespers | 23 24New Year’s Eve  
8:30pm New Year’s Eve Party | 24 25Holy Nativity Christmas Day  
9:00am GOYA distributing lunch bags to the homeless in DC  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy | 26 27 28 29 30 31 |
PHILOPTOCHOS
This month, our National Philoptochos commitments are for UNICEF, benefiting the United Nations Children’s Emergency Fund, and to the General Medical Fund, which provides financial resources for individuals in need of assistance not specifically covered by other restricted National Philoptochos funds or programs.

This year, in addition to supporting the 18 National Philoptochos Commitments/Programs and those in need, we have supported local charities such as the World Foundation for Children Volunteer Farms Program to help combat children’s hunger, Bailey’s Crossroads Fire Department, Bailey’s Crossroads Shelter, Saint Katherine Missions and Outreach programs, as well as the Saint Katherine heating/air conditioning fund. We hope to sponsor a local Marine Corps family through the Marine Corps Adopt a Family Program at Henderson Hall in Arlington again this year.

Philoptochos dues for 2012 are due in January. Please consider joining us by becoming a member. Many things can be accomplished by working together. Quoting Metropolitan Evangelos, speaking of Philoptochos, “You are not only the Right Hand of the Church, you are the mothers of the Church who unselfishly nurture every need that arises and follow the path of Philanthropy without complaint, but with a smile on your faces....”

May you receive the Lord’s Blessings and continue to help those in need. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Christ is born! Glorify Him!

SAINT KATHERINE BOOKSTORE
Featured Items for December: Orthodox Calendars
Daily Lives, Wisdom, and Miracles of the Saints and Festing Calendar 2012. On each page there is a story about the life of a saint celebrated that day, a listing of other saints commemorated that day, a quote from a saint or elder of the Church, fasting guidelines, and Scripture reading for the day. This is one of the most complete Orthodox calendars available. This calendar could also be used as a daily devotional. (Journal format)

The 2012 Icon Calendar. This full-color wall calendar, measuring 11” x 12”, features icons of saintly families and large calendar boxes for recording your important date reminders. It also lists major saint and feast days traditionally celebrated in Orthodox countries around the world (dates according to the new calendar).

The 2012 St. Herman Calendar. Dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the repose of Hieromonk Seraphim (Rose), the 2012 St. Herman Calendar features an article by Fr. Seraphim entitled, “How to read the Holy Scriptures,” taken from a lecture given by him at the St. Herman Pilgrimage in 1979. Also included are selections from Fr. Seraphim’s writings on some of the feast, icons, saints, and righteous ones listed in the calendar. This year’s calendar is eight pages longer than last year’s. Many additional saints have been included, especially new martyrs of Russia. (Journal format)

WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB
The Women’s Book Club will meet on Wednesdays, December 7 and 14 at 10:30am. We just finished our discussion on Ella: Princess, Saint & Martyr last month. This book was about the life of Saint Elizabeth the New Martyr of Russia. Prior to becoming a nun, Ella lived in this world and was known as Grand Duchess Elizabeth Fyodorovna of Russia.

Having read about her great love for Christ, we will now turn our attention to Bishop Kallistos Ware’s book, The Inner Kingdom. Bishop Kallistos begins his book with the story of his personal journey to Orthodoxy and then focuses on repentance and confession, prayer, monasticism, martyrdom, “fools for Christ,” and concludes with salvation. If you are interested in attending the discussions and/or would like to learn more about the Women’s Book Club, contact Christina Vazquez at cvmail@aol.com or 703-723-7424, please.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELlope
Helle sisters celebrated Founders’ Day with our sisters from Arion and Hermione chapters at Alfio’s Trattoria in Chevy Chase. We remembered our departed sisters at a memorial service and hosted the coffee hour afterwards. We collected lots of canned goods and boxed food items which we are donating to a local food bank.

By the time you read this, you should have already made your reservations for our Christmas Luncheon on Sunday December 4 at Westwood Country Club in Vienna. The event this year promises to be an elegant affair. If you would like to attend, please contact Kathy Misleh at 703-448-0296 to see if there are any seats still available. The donation for this event is $40 for adults and $22 for children 10 and under. Spouses and guests are welcome! Please bring a new, unwrapped winter hat, gloves, mittens, or scarf for our Children’s Winter Coat Drive (ages 3 to 12).

Our chapter plans to go to Oatlands Historic House and Gardens near Leesburg on Saturday, December 10 for Afternoon Tea and a tour of the mansion. The cost is $24.95 (plus tax) for tea, plus an additional $5 for the tour. The tea starts at 1:00pm. The menu includes assorted delicate tea sandwiches, delicious sweets, scones with preserves and cream, and Oatlands Afternoon Tea Blend. Join us at Oatlands, a place for all seasons. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Cavallo (kcavallo1@aol.com or 703-978-1539) as soon as possible because this is a busy time for the plantation.

Upcoming in January...a bowling tournament against the Brothers in AHEPA Chapter #438! The challenge is ON!

From all the Sisters in Helle Chapter #283, our best wishes to all of you for a wonderful Christmas holiday and a New Year filled with much health and happiness!
**Baptisms**

Elizabeth Desta Akosua (November 12)  
daughter of David and Zemma Chachu  
Godparents: Zeleka Mekuria and Dennis Owusu Fianko

Andrew Kenneth (November 19)  
son of Trent and Joanna O. Rogers  
Godparents: George and Taryn Sifakis

George Odysseas (November 19)  
son of Dimitri and Cheryl Ann Alexson  
Godparents: Andreas and Suzette Xenos

Toni Loiza (November 26)  
daughter of Christopher Michael & Anna Loiza Conroy  
Godparent: Andrea Kyriacos Pieri

Christos Angelo (November 27)  
son of Angelo and Eleni Linardakis  
Godparents: Panagiotis and Penny Zoutis

**Weddings**

Cinthia Minan  
and  
Omiros Giannakos (November 5)  
Koumaroi: Robert and Georgia Dendrinos

Kiriaki George Avramidis  
and  
Daniel James Kelly (November 12)  
Koumarai: Lynn Patsis

**Funerals**

Correction: John Tsempales (October 10)  
Kamil N. Haje (October 28)  
Christoforos D. Mamalis (November 3)

May their memories be eternal.

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In an attempt to "go green" and save green (money), starting with the March 2012 issue of the DOXA, an email with a link to an electronic copy of the newsletter will be sent to everyone for whom we have an email address. A hard (paper) copy will continue to be mailed to everyone for whom we do not have an email address. A message will be sent to those on our listserv, along with instructions on how to opt-in for a hard copy of the newsletter, if so desired.
WHAT DOES STEWARDSHIP MEAN TO YOU?

What does Stewardship mean to you? Does it mean signing a pledge card and sending in your weekly or monthly pledge? Does it mean selling baklava at the Festival? Does it mean volunteering to take on a project for one of our Ministries? Of course, there isn’t one correct answer. Each answer to the question, “What is Stewardship?”, is as unique as each of us.

One definition of Stewardship is the conducting, supervising, or managing of something, especially the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care. The *something* is our Orthodox faith and Church.

An Orthodox Christian definition of Stewardship encourages spiritual growth and strengthens our faith. As Stewards, we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from God. Stewardship calls the faithful to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts with which they have been blessed. This last sentence is so important. We are to give willingly and happily *that* which we feel shows our thanks and love to God for His many gifts.

We often hear the phrase “time, talent, and treasure” when referring to Stewardship. Singing in the choir, teaching Sunday School, cooking a meal for the homeless shelter, doing carpentry or plumbing work for the church are just a few ways of offering time and talents. Our skills are treasures that we offer to the Church. Often, though, treasure refers to funds donated towards the Ministries, programs, and operations of one’s Church.

Our Stewardship goal for 2011 is $504,000. This figure has been the same for the past few years and has yet to be reached. Just because we have not yet accomplished this goal does not mean that we cannot. At a projected $504,000, that still accounts for less than 50 percent of our revenue. The rest comes, primarily, from our Festivals and rentals.

How can we reach this goal? The following Stewardship figures from 2010 might explain why the goal has not been met.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010 Stewardship Amounts for Families or Individuals</th>
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<tr>
<td>$1 - $250</td>
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<tr>
<td>$251 - $500</td>
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<tr>
<td>$501 - $1,000</td>
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<td>$1,001 - $2,000</td>
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</table>

If we could all consider increasing our Stewardship by $5, $10, or even $20 per week, the results would be dramatic. This would allow us to support our Ministries and meet our obligations without such great dependence on our Festivals and rentals. As it is often said, each of us must examine our list of priorities and decide where our Church is on that list, in order to decide how we give our time, talent, and treasure. Additional giving may require an additional sacrifice on the part of each Steward, but it will also bring financial stability to our parish.

It might be difficult to reach our 2011 Stewardship goal of $504,000, but it is not impossible. It is definitely within our power and ability to do so. God often challenges us to go beyond that which is easy. Each of us will decide if this challenge will be met and what our roles will be.

With thanks,

*Parish Council President*  
*Daphne Papamichael*  

*Stewardship Chairman*  
*Maria Wills*
SHOWN BELOW is a list of families and individuals who participated in the 2011 Saint Katherine Stewardship Program as of October 30. Thank you for responding to us the needs of your church.

Our stewardship pledge form is on page 15. If you have not yet sent a pledge, please complete the form and send it to the office as soon as possible. Alternatively, you may pledge online today at www.saint-katherines.org/stewardship. Your Church and community depend on your stewardship commitment.

If you have any questions, please contact Anna Vassilopoulos at 703-671-1515 or avassilopoulos@stckh.com.
Did you know that Saint Nicholas was born during the third century in the village of Patara? At that time, the area was Greek. It is now on the southern coast of Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was young. Obeying Jesus’ words, “sell what you possess and give to the poor” (Matthew 19:21), Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to the those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships.

Below are the lyrics to one of the most popular Greek carols (kalanda), Agios Vasilis Erhete, in English phonetics and with an English translation. Now you can join in the singing of this popular carol (and understand it, too).

**Aiyos Vasilis erhete**

Ke den mas katadehete
Apo, apo tin Kessaria.
Si sa arhon, si sa arhondissa Kiri!  

Vastaei penna keharti
Zaharakandio zimoti
Harti, hartí kalamari
Des kai eme, des kai eme, to pallikari!  

To kalamari egrafe
Ti mira tou tin elegre
Ke to, ke to hartí milouse
To hriso, to hriso mas kariofil!  

Arhimina ki arhionia
Psili mou dendraovnia,
Ke arhi, ke arhi kalos mas chronos.
Ekliisia, ekliisia, me t’ ayio throno!  

Arhi pou vygie o Hristos
Aiyos ke Pnevmatikos,
Sthi gi, sti gi na perpatisi
Ke na mas, ke na mas kalogardisi!
It’s not too late to become a 2011 Steward!

In faith, prayer, and sacrifice, my family and I wish to share in the support and work of our Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Katherine. Out of our love and gratitude to God for all His blessings, we would like to pledge the amount of

$____________ for the year 2011

Today’s Date: _______________

Name:  ____________________________________________________________________________________

Address:  __________________________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip:  ____________________________________________________________________________

Telephone and email address:  _________________________________________________________________

Με πίστη, προσευχή και θυσία, η οικογένειά μου και εγώ επιθυμούμε να συμμετάσχουμε στην υποστήριξη και υπηρεσία της Ελληνικής Ορθοδόξου Εκκλησίας. Από αγάπη και ευγνωμοσύνη στον Θεό για τις ευλογίες Του, θα θέλαμε να υποσχεθούμε το ποσόν των

$____________ γιά το έτος 2011

Ημερομηνία (σήμερι):  ____________________________

Ονόμα:  ________________________________________

Διεύθυνση:  ________________________________________

Πόλη, Νομός, Ταχ. Κώδικας:  _______________________

Τηλέφωνο και Διεύθυνση email:  _______________________

GOYA

OUR GOYA BOYS B TEAM will participate in the Saints Constantine and Helen, Newport News Basketball Tournament the weekend of December 10-11.

On Sunday, December 18, GOYA has Church Duty. Chris Bota will be GOYA Captain and read the Epistle. Five other GOYAns will join him in executing church duty. Proceeds from the second tray will be used to purchase food gift cards for GOYA’s annual “Feed the Homeless in DC on Christmas Day” project. GOYAns will prepare lunch bags on Friday, December 23, at 6:00pm. On Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25, GOYAns will meet at church at 9:00am to distribute these lunch bags (Christmas cards and food cards included) in the District. They will return in time for Liturgy.

Upcoming events include the Epiphany Celebration in Ocean City, MD on Saturday, January 7, cooking for and feeding the homeless at Bailey’s Crossroads Homeless Shelter on Tuesday, January 10, and Ice Skating at the Sculpture Garden in Washington, DC on Friday, January 13. All teenagers of our community are invited to join us.

GOYA would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire community for their support throughout the year and wish everyone a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with love, health, and happiness. Christ is born!

JOURNEY TO ORTHODOXY

The Journey to Orthodoxy class will meet on Sundays, 9:30am-10:30am, in the hall where coffee is served. In addition to covering the fundamental teachings of the Orthodox Church, the class will provide an open forum for participants to address questions and concerns about becoming Orthodox.

Those interested may contact Georgia Kazakis at gkazakis@cov.com or Elena Ziu at eziu@cox.net.

We hope to see you there!

(Continued from page 5, column 1)

ύμνους μας, με την καλωσόντη μας και με της αγάπης μας τα δώρα, θα φέρνουμε στους γύρω μας το μήνυμα «επί γης ειρήνη!»! Θα κάνουμε να ξανακουστεί στον πλανήτη μας εκείνη η θεϊκή, η αγγελική, η πιο γλυκειά αρμονία «Λόγος εν ουρανού και γης ο Κτίστης εγεννήθηκε στη γη, μεσ’ στης νύχτας τη σημ’ Ας χαρεί κάθε πιστός, εγεννήθη ο Χριστός»!

«Τ’ ουρανού και γης ο Κτίστης
gεννήθηκε στη γη, μεσ’ στης νύχτας τη σημ’
Ας χαρεί κάθε πιστός, εγεννήθη ο Χριστός!»

(Continued from page 5, column 1)
The Saint Katherine Nursery is located on the lower level of the church. This space is available to parents with young children who need a place to take a break with their babies and toddlers and for moms who want to nurse. Children must be supervised at all times.