WHEN FEBRUARY ROLLS AROUND, we think of Valentine’s Day—a time for love. Did you know that Saint Valentine is an Orthodox saint? Here is Saint Valentine’s story.

Let me introduce myself. My name is Valentine. I lived in Rome during the third century. That was long, long ago! At that time, Rome was ruled by an emperor named Claudius. I didn’t like Emperor Claudius, and I wasn’t the only one! A lot of people shared my feelings.

Claudius wanted to have a big army. He expected men to volunteer to join. Many men just did not want to fight in wars. They did not want to leave their wives and families. As you might have guessed, not many men signed up. This made Claudius furious. So what happened? He had a crazy idea. He thought that if men were not married, they would not mind joining the army. So Claudius decided not to allow any more marriages. Young people thought his new law was cruel. I thought it was preposterous! I certainly wasn’t going to support that law!

Did I mention that I was a priest? One of my favorite activities was to marry couples. Even after Emperor Claudius passed his law, I kept on performing marriage ceremonies—secretly, of course. It was really quite exciting. Imagine a small candlelit room with only the bride and groom and myself. We would whisper the words of the ceremony, listening all the while for the steps of soldiers.

One night, we did hear footsteps. It was scary! Thank goodness the couple I was marrying escaped in time. I was caught. (Not quite as light on my feet as I used to be, I guess.) I was thrown in jail and told that my punishment was death.

I tried to stay cheerful. And do you know what? Wonderful things happened. Many young people came to the jail to visit me. They threw flowers and notes up to my window. They wanted me to know that they, too, believed in love.

One of these young people was the daughter of the prison guard. Her father allowed her to visit me in the cell. Sometimes we would sit and talk for hours. She helped me to keep my spirits up. She agreed that I did the right thing by ignoring the Emperor and going ahead with the secret marriages. On the day I was to die, I left my friend a little note thanking her for her friendship and loyalty. I signed it, “Love from your Valentine.”

I believe that note started the custom of exchanging love messages on Valentine’s Day. It was written on the day I died, February 14, 269 A.D. Now, every year on this day, people remember. But most importantly, they think about love and friendship. And when they think of Emperor Claudius, they remember how he tried to stand in the way of love, and they laugh—because they know that love can’t be beaten!

Our Greek ancestors had three words for love: agape, eros, and philia. Agape is the love of family, philia is the love of friendship, and eros is the love expressed in marriage. We have Saint Paul’s Biblical definition of love in I Corinthians 13:4-13:

Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends; as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophecy is imperfect; but when the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall

(Continued on page 5)
CLERGY
Rev. Protopresbyter Konstantinos A. Pavlakos, Proistamenos 571-213-1109 cell, 703-239-2627 home frcostas@stkchurch.com
Rev. Protopresbyter Theodore H. Chelpon 571-262-9555 cell, 703-823-4541 home avassilopoulos@stkchurch.com
Rev. Fr. Christodoulos Wallace 703-836-7863 home

STAFF
John Vlachos, Chief Financial Officer 703-671-1515 jvlachos@cox.net
Anna Vassilopoulos, Assistant Financial Officer 703-671-1515 avassilopoulos@stkchurch.com
Sophia Tsangali, Secretary/Teacher 703-671-1515 sttsangali@stkchurch.com
Roberto Medina-Valdez, Maintenance Supervisor 703-671-1515
Theodors Theocharis, Information Technology 703-671-1515 ttheoch@stkchurch.com

PARISH COUNCIL

CHURCH MINISTRIES
Adult Bible Study (Tuesdays) Bill Polizos 571-434-7790 polizos@att.com
Adult Bible Study (Saturdays) Gregory McKinney 571-338-6929 dintym@hotmail.com
Adult Catechetical (Sunday) School Bill Polizos 571-434-7790 polizos@att.com
Youth Catechetical (Sunday) School Christian Demeter, Principal 703-534-5669 cdemeter@excite.com
Greek School Sophia Tsangali, Principal 703-671-5820 sttsangali@stkchurch.com
Greek School Auxiliary Elena Lagos, President 703-241-1176 pedakia@aol.com
Journey to Orthodoxy Elena Ziu 703-825-7245 Dogwood_Academy@cox.net
PAIDEIA Bilingual Preschool Marilena Tsirigotakis, Director 703-671-7715 marilena@gopaideia.org

Acolyte Captains
AHHEA #370 (Mt. Vernon) George K. Eliades, President 703-383-0073 geliades@verizon.net
AHHEA #438 (P. Derzis) Vasilis Fotopoulos, President 703-723-6229 fuhuaxi@gmail.com
Audit Committee Jim Stoucker, Chairman 703-690-1050 jstoucker@aol.com
Bookstore Christopher and Frances Kalavritinos 703-671-1515
Book Club Christina Vazquez 703-723-7424 czvmail@aol.com
Choir TBD
Daughters of Penelope Helle #283 Lynn Francis, President 703-978-4370 elfran@cox.net
DOXA Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos 703-239-2627 przpauline@stkchurch.com
GOYA (ages 13-18) Dimi Kosmakos, President 703-451-0978 d.kosmakos@gmail.com
GRACE Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos, Advisor 703-239-2627 przpauline@stkchurch.com
HOPE (ages 7 and under) Maria Papageorgiou 703-631-9430 kalexis76@gmail.com
JOY (ages 8-12) Tina Papamichael, Director 703-536-4711 athenat02@verizon.net
Missions and Outreach Dr. John Demakis 703-319-1610 jgd11@erols.com
Nursery Martha Lemondes 703-599-1386 marthalemondes@aol.com
Philoptochos Andrea Ballard, President 703-250-5419 andreaballard1@verizon.net
PSalters James Loizou, Protopsaltis 703-356-8220 dimitri14@verizon.net
Safeeway Rewards Elvira Garnett 703-425-3675 villa45@hotmail.com
Stewardship Pierre Tavoularis, Co-Chairman 703-573-6235 Pierros@cox.net
Website Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos 703-239-2627 przpauline@stkchurch.com
YAL Helen Spanos, President 703-801-5289 haspanos87@yahoo.com
Dear Saint Katherine Family,

I pray this finds you all well and easing back into the post-holiday routine. The holidays came (and went) so quickly that before we knew it the Valentine cards and candy were in the stores! When we feel rushed and harried by the pace of life, we can always rely on two of the constants in our lives—our faith and our Church. Participating in the Divine Liturgy with our Church family renews us and gives us strength. On Christmas Day, I came to church for the Liturgy. It was cold and snowy and I was tired. I ran into our GOYAnS and their parents who were returning from distributing food and gifts to the homeless in DC. Rather than stay home, they chose to be of service to others as their faith teaches them. Their happiness was wonderful to observe—a true Christmas gift for all!

Our religious and language education schools are busy again instructing our youth. February 6 is Godparent Sunday and I always look forward to meeting all the godparents. It is a wonderful opportunity to worship together and be a strong Orthodox presence in the lives of our children. The Greek School’s Apokreatiko Glendi is Saturday, February 26. This is our school’s main fundraiser and we need everyone’s support to make it a success.

The new playground is in place for the enjoyment of our children. Many thanks to our Philoptochos for their generous donation which allowed for the construction of the playground. Thank you also to the many generous families and the Paideia Preschool and Greek School for their support of this project. Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the Playground Committee, led by Chris Christou, for their hard work and dedication.

Thank you to those of you who fulfilled your 2010 Stewardship pledges and completed your 2011 pledge cards. As you well know, we depend greatly on your stewardship. The pledge you make is not only a financial gesture but one that shows your spiritual support of our Church and her ministries. In addition, we need to hear from you about how we are meeting your needs. We have to work together!

Yours in Christ’s service,

Daphne Papamichael

FR. COSTA, on behalf of the entire Saint Katherine Community, wishes to thank Captain and Mrs. James Ballard for their generous donation which brought us into the 21st century. This includes, but is not limited to, new computers for the entire staff, updated software, new servers, and routers.

CHURCH DUTY ROSTER

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Throughout the month of February, our upper grades (7th through 9th grades) will spend half of each class period learning about Orthodox Church music. We are most fortunate to have Ms. Antonia Chelpon help our youth focus on the music that is such a vital part of our Orthodox Church services.

On February 6, all of our classes will focus on Godparent Sunday. On that day, we are hopeful that those Godparents who can come to our Catechetical (Sunday) School with their Godchild will do so. We would like for the Godparent(s) to meet their Godchild’s Catechetical School teacher and attend Divine Liturgy with their Godchild. During the Catechetical School hour (9:30am-10:30am), Godparents can first meet their Godchild’s teacher and then attend the Adult Bible Study. We will have available a person to take a photo of any Godparent who wishes to have a picture snapped with his/her Godchild.

During this month of February, we shall endeavor to encourage as many of our young people as possible to participate in the 2011 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival. During our local program, the Catechetical School students, grades 1 through 12, will not only hear the presentations of our contestants but will also add to the event with short class contributions. Mr. Ray Vazquez, Chair-person, is overseeing our local Church program. Mr. Vazquez will schedule a special tutoring program, so stay tuned to announcements in the DOXA, and the Sunday Bulletin. Any student or parent who wishes to receive detailed information or ask questions about the Oratorical Festival may contact Mr. Vazquez, Mr. Christian Deme-ter, the Catechetical School Director, or Ms. Sophia Tsan-gali, Principal of the Greek School.

We are all looking forward to this month of February. There is much to learn about God and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and there are many exciting activities that will take place.

CATECHETICAL (SUNDAY) SCHOOL

ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

WE ARE COMING UPON Oratorical Festival time again. The dates have not been finalized for this year’s festival, however information regarding topics have been posted on the Archdioce-se website and have been passed out to students in the Catechetical School. If your son or daughter is interested in expressing their faith and representing Saint Katherine in the parish, and, hopefully, re-gional and/or national levels, please send a note to Rayvazquez1@aol.com. I will arrange to provide the information. An Oratorical Festival Orientation Meeting will be scheduled in February for all those who are interested in participating.

—Ray Vazquez

GMU OCF

GMU OCF will meet on Tuesday, February 15, 11:00am-1:00pm and Friday, February 25, 3:00pm-5:00pm

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

REGISTRATION FOR VACATION BIBLE CAMP (VBC) 2011 has begun! Applications will be made available in the church and they will be passed out to students in Catechetical (Sunday) School and Greek School. This year’s theme is Come and See: Do You See What I See? Students will spend a week studying the iconography in our church and working on various projects and crafts. VBC will begin on Monday, June 27 and end on Friday, July 1. If you are interested in signing up your child, please do so as soon as possible as there are a limited number of seats. Registration will close when the seats have been filled. Once you receive an application, please mail it along with the $20 registration fee to Christina Z. Vazquez at 21337 Thimbleweed Court, Ashburn, VA 20147. You will receive a confirmation e-mail noting that your child has been regis-tered. If you do not receive an e-mail within a week of sending your application, please contact Christina at czvmail@aol.com or 703-723-7424. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact either Christina or Daphne Papamichael at cyprusd@aol.com.

PAIDEIA BILINGUAL PRESCHOOL

LAST MONTH WE HAD OUR ANNUAL FAMILY FUN NIGHT. Wonderful food, combined with dancing, prizes, games, and cutting of the Vasilopita, made it an evening to re-member. You can visit our Facebook page to view pictures of the event. I would like to send a special thanks to Mrs. Kelly Alexis and Mrs. Maria Georges for organizing the event, as well as to the parents whose assistance was invaluable. I also wanted to express our gratitude and appreci-ation to the various restaurants that donated food, the Achilles Band for the music, and most importantly to all the members of our Church Community who attended or purchased raffle tickets in support of our Preschool.

This month, we are celebrating APOKRIES! Apokries marks the last week before Lent begins for Easter. In the Greek tradition, we celebrate by dressing up in costumes. Our children are making face masks and decorating the classroom with confetti to prepare for our party. In addition to the Music Class with Kyria Gilda on Thursdays, Computer Day on Wednesdays, and Religion with Father Ted on Fridays, we have just started a “Creative Move-ment Class” every Tuesday. The Paideia staff and parents thank Mrs. Shelby Tombras, a professional dance instruc-tor, for offering to teach our children. We are grateful that Mrs. Tombras has joined our school family! We look for-ward to February’s exciting activities and we are hopeful that the month will prove fruitful for our little ones in learning about our language, culture, and faith.

Please remember that the Paideia Preschool will be closed on February 21 for the Presidents’ Day Holiday.

~Marilena Tsirigotakis, Director
GOYA (ages 13-18)

GOYA PASSSED THE TRAYS and served in the food line at our Church Community Breakfast on Sunday, February 9. GOYA fed approximately 150 homeless people at Bailey’s Crossroads Homeless Shelter in February. One parent stated, “It was a very humbling, eye-opening experience.” Thank you to Mrs. Evdoxia Mitchell, Mr. Dino Papaminas, and Presv. Pauline for preparing and delivering the meal.

GOYA plans to have a dance in the Meletis Charuhas Center on Saturday, February 12, 8:00pm to 11:00pm. Look to the Sunday bulletin for updates.

Gus Moshos will read the Epistle during the second liturgy on Sunday, February 13. GOYAns will pass the trays during and after the second liturgy as well.

GOYA will participate in the Saint Nicholas, Baltimore Basketball Tournament, Saturday and Sunday, February 26 and 27.

GOYA will travel to Hellenic College/Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology with Fr. Costa from March 4 through 6. Please e-mail przpauline@stkchuch.com if you are interested in this trip. All teenagers of our community are invited.

We will have a contest for the design of our 2011 basketball tournament t-shirt. All submissions are due on or before Monday, March 14. You may work together or individually. This is a great opportunity for you to show your imagination and talent. Please look to your e-mails for further information.

We will have a GOYA Parents’ Meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 7:00pm in the board room. This meeting will concentrate on our GOYA Tournament on April 30 and May 1. All parents are strongly encouraged to help with our tournament in some capacity.

(Continued from page 1)

We are commanded, in the Divine Liturgy, to “…love one another, that we may with one mind confess.” As Christ said, love became the most important mark of those who truly followed Him, “By this shall all men know that yeur are my disciples, if you have love to one another” (John 13:35). Christ told His disciples if they love one another that people who live in the darkness of sin and error will understand that you are His disciples. He told them that love will distinguish from all other people.

Truly, that which the ancient world lacked was not wisdom, rhetoric, arts, or sciences, but spiritual love—a love which could stretch its wings to embrace all people—an infinite and universal love, wide like the sky and deep like the sea; a love which would have the Cross of Christ as its yardstick, for before this measure of love, every other means of measuring it are small indeed. Christ, raised on the Cross, calls His disciples, the faithful of all ages, to love as He Himself loves.

Another who praised love was Christ’s disciple, John the Evangelist. It is said of this Apostle that when he became too old to preach to his Christians as he once did, would go to the gatherings and, instead of preaching, would simply say, “Children, love one another.” He would always say these words at the meetings and when asked why he repeated these same words over and over, he answered that the one who loves keeps all the commandments of the Lord. Therefore, “Let us love one another, that we may with one mind confess.”

I look forward to seeing you in the place where we, all together, receive and share God’s love—Church!

Yours in Christ’s service,

Thr. Costa
ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΚΟΣΜΟΣ
Σοφία Δ. Βασιλίδη

Το θέμα που ακολουθεί είναι μεγάλης σημασίας, γιατί αναφέρεται σε προβλήματα που δημιουργούνται για τους χριστιανούς από την ζωή τους στην κοινωνία. Προβλήματα, των οποίων η καλή ή η κακή τοποθέτηση και λύση τους παίζουν σημαντικό ρόλο στην ζωή εν γένει ζωή τους.

Στην A’ επιτοιχία του Ιούλιου, 2:15-17, διαβάζουμε τα εξής: «...μη αγαπάτε τον κόσμο μηδέν τον κόσμο. Εάν τις αγαπάτε τον κόσμο, ούκ έστων την αγάπη του πατρός εν αυτός. Όταν παίνει τον κόσμο, η επιθυμία της σαρκοκος και η επιθυμία των οφθαλμών και η αλαζονεία του βίου, ούκ έστων εκ του πατρός, ἀλλ’ εκ τού κόσμου εστί. Και τον κόσμος παράγεται και η επιθυμία αυτού. Ο δε ποιόν το θέλημα του Θεού μένει εἰς τον αἰώναν. Δεν χρειάζεται εδώ, γιατί κατανύονται εύκολα. Διάγνωσε εδώ ότι ο κόσμος είναι αντίθετος. Διαφημίζει τον άγιο πόνου, μεγάλης στις αρχές της αμαρτίας είναι. Σε μεγάλης στις αρχές της σωτηρίας είναι. Είναι ενός κόσμου, ο οποίος απευθύνεται ως σε έναν θείο επιθυμούν να είναι χριστιανοί.

Τα λόγια αυτά ζητεί ο Θεός ένα εξοικεσάρημα, μία μόνη αγάπη, ή σε Αυτόν ή στον κόσμο. «Οι δύναμες διαφέρουν κόσμος...» (Ματθαίου 6:24). Δηλαδή δεν πρέπει να μας συνεπαιρνεί εν το θέλημα του Θεού. Οι άνθρωποι δηλαδή θα ζουν μόνος κατον τον κόσμο, ούκ έστων την αγάπη του πατρός. Τα λόγια αυτά είναι ενός κόσμου, ο οποίος απευθύνεται σε έναν θείο επιθυμούν να είναι χριστιανοί.

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ
ΠΕΡΙΔΡΟΜΗ ΚΙ ΟΛΑΣ ΟΛΟΚΛΗΡΩΣ ΜΗΝΑΣ ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΚΑΙΝΟΥΡΓΙΟ ΧΡΟΝΟ. Εμείς όμως, εδώ στο Ελληνικό Σχολείο, δεν χάνουμε καθόλου χρόνο. Εφαρμόζουμε πιστά αυτό που εφημορίζαν και οι αρχαίοι, ένδοξη πρόγονος μας, «Φείδου χρόνων!» Έτσι, με την κανονικά χρηματικά προσπαθείμε πώς να αξιοποιήσουμε όσο γίνεται καλύτερα και αποτελεσματικότερα τον χρόνο μας. Και συγκεκριμένα, για τους Ελληνο-αμερικανούς μαθητές μας, αυτό που μας ενδιαφέρει πιο πολύ είναι αυτή την ιδιαίτερητή του Ελληνικού Σχολείου. Δηλαδή να αξιοποιούμε τον χρόνο μας διαβάζοντας και μαθαίνοντας τα Ελληνικά μας, με ευφυή πάντα διάθεση, είτε βρισκόμαστε στην αίθουσα διδασκαλίας είτε όταν διαβάζουμε στο σπίτι. Γι’ αυτό λοιπόν, ας κάνουμε καθόλου το κάθε λεπτό του Ελληνικού μας Σχολείου.

Τον Φεβρουάριο δίνουμε έμφαση στο Αποκριτικό Γλέντι. Θα είναι χαρά μας να σας δούμε όλους το Σάββατο 26 Φεβρουαρίου στις 5:00 μ.μ. μέχρι 11:00 μ.μ. στο Κοινοτικό μας Κέντρο. Ερχόμαστε στο Αποκριτικό Γλέντι, παράλληλα με την γυρηγορία, που όλοι μας έχουμε ανάγκη, μετά από το γεγονός, καθημερινού πρόγραμμα της δουλείας μας. Βοηθούμε και τα ιδία μας τα παιδιά, ενεργοποιώντας το Ελληνικό Σχολείο και τα προγράμματά του, διαδοχικά έτσι την Ελληνική μας γλώσσα, παράδοση και πολιτισμό. Βοηθούμε την ιδιαίτερη την Εκκλησία, γιατί τα παιδιά που εμείς σήμερα πλαδώνουμε με Ελληνικό και Ορθοδοξία, θα είναι οι αρχαίοι οικογενειάρχες, ανταξία, τακτικά και ενεργά μέλη της Εκκλησίας.

Σας περιμένουμε...

Οι εξετάσεις της Ελληνομαθέας θα γίνουν στις 11 και 12 Μαΐου και της Αρχιεπισκοπής τον Ιούνιο. Οι εγγράφοι των διαγωνισμών της Ελληνομαθείας θα γίνουν από τη Φεβρουάριο της 21 Μαρτίου. Περισσότερες πληροφορίες για τους διαγωνισμούς στο επόμενο τεύχος της ΔΟΣΙΑ και στο γραφείο της Εκκλησίας.

ΓREEK SCHOOL

ΟN E MONTH OF THE New Year has already passed. But we in our Greek School have not lose any time. We faithfully follow the advice of our ancient glorious ancestors, “Use the time wisely!” We try in the New Year to make good and effective use of our time. Specifically, for our Greek American students what interests us most is that our School is special, and to make use of our time by learning the Greek language in class and home, with a pleasant mood always. Because of this, let’s make good use of each moment of our Greek School.

In the month of February we will give emphasis to the Apokreatiko Glendi. It will be a great joy to see all of you on Saturday, February 26, 5:00pm to 11:00pm in the Cultural Center. By coming to the Apokreatiko Glendi in addition to being entertained, which all of us need because of our heavy daily work schedules, we will support our children, the Greek School and its programs, thus perpetuating our Greek language, tradition, and culture. We help our
MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

**OCMC Short-Term Mission Teams for 2011.**
The OCMC has released their places and dates for short term teams in 2011. The January DOXA had all the dates and places. This is a wonderful way of dedicating a part of your life to spreading the Gospel of our Lord. If you are not sure about going on a mission team or would like to learn more about the mission experience, contact the people listed below who have gone on a mission trip.

Antonia Chelpon at (achelpon@aol.com)
Korinna Garbis (kgarbis@gmail.com)
Irene and Taso Sakkas (irenesakkas@gmail.com)

Also, following the Friday Salutation Services, we will have presentations from several of our people who have gone on short-term teams. See the schedule in the next section.

**Mission Presentations following Salutation Services**
The Mission and Outreach committee will feature a speaker on missions immediately after the Salutation Services (Heretismoi). These will primarily include experiences of our Saint Katherine parishioners who went on mission trips in 2010.

- March 11 Dr. John Demakis on Why Missions?
- March 18 Korinna Garbis on South Korea Trip
- March 25 Taso and Irene Sakkos on Tanzania Trip
- April 1 Antonia Chelpon on Guatemala Trip

**Lenten Retreat on March 19**
On Saturday, March 19, Saint Katherine will present a special Lenten Retreat. The main speaker will be Dr. Kyriakos Markides from the University of Maine. Dr. Markides is the author of two very well-received books: *Mountain of Silence* and *Gifts of the Desert*. There will also be a children’s program. Please save the date. More information will be available in a future issue of DOXA.

Guatemala Mission Trip
Fr. Costa, along with a Saint Katherine team, will be returning to the Hogar Rafael Ayau Orphanage in Guatemala City on November 3-10, 2011. If you missed out on previous teams and would like to participate this year, please contact Antonia Chelpon at 703-258-5437. Although it is important to have some returning team members on the team, priority will be given to new member applications. Team projects will likely be painting or light construction. The team will fill up quickly, so please do not delay. Don’t miss out on this exciting and fulfilling experience.

Food for the Homeless Shelter
On January 11, 2011 our GOYA served food for 150 people at the Bailey’s Crossroads Homeless Shelter. One parent stated, “It was a very humbling, eye-opening experience.” The Daughters of Penelope will serve on February 22 and the parish council will serve in March. We encourage all organizations at Saint Katherine to take a month. Last year, we covered 10 months. We hope to cover all 12 months in 2011. If your organization is interested in participating, please contact Dr. John Demakis (jgd11@erols.com) for more information.

Clothing and Toiletries Collection for the Homeless
We continue to collect clothing and toiletries for men and women at the Bailey’s Crossroads Homeless Shelter. Clothes may be new or used, but must be clean. Toiletries should be unopened. The shelter informed us that, with the cold weather, the shelter is especially short of men’s and women’s coats, gloves, and scarves. There is a collection receptacle in the foyer of the Meletis Charuhas Center. Please continue to be generous to those less fortunate.

...the King will say to those at his right hand, “Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?” And the King will answer them, “Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.” (Matthew 25:31-40)

**JOURNEY TO ORTHODOXY**
**(AN INTRODUCTORY CLASS TO ORTHODOXY)**
Our community began another 6-week Journey to Orthodoxy class on Sunday, January 16. The class is offered as an introduction to Orthodoxy for those interest in the Orthodox faith. While covering the fundamental teachings of the Church, the class will also offer an open environment to address any questions and concerns one might have about joining the Orthodox Christian Church. Those interested in attending the class are welcome to contact Elena Ziu at Dogwood_Academy@cox.net. The class meets on Sundays, 9:30am-10:30am, in Founders’ Hall.
YOU DON’T SAY

When trying to console someone who has suffered the recent loss of a loved one, it is best to try to avoid some of the stock comments that we have heard time and again at wakes and funerals. Yes, there may be some comfort in hearing the worn-out condolences that have been around forever, but in truth, some folks might be disturbed by the trite utterances.

Some of the assurances that those grieving might not be particularly receptive to are:

She’s in a better place. Even if the bereaved is a believer in an afterlife, she or he is not thinking of the heavenly sphere early in their loss, but, rather, of the here and now. That’s where they are—on earth and without this special person in their life.

It was for the best. Who says? The best would be if the person were still alive. There is nothing good about loss.

It gets better with time. This may prove true in time, but the recently bereaved is caught in a very real and painful present. He or she would rather not hear about promised relief because it isn’t even imaginable to them in the immediacy of their suffering.

She had a good life. Yes, but that doesn’t erase the pain of their loss.

Keep a stiff upper lip. If someone has lost someone dear to them, they have a lot of grief work to do. Advising the bereaved to feign strength when they should be allowing themselves to feel the depth of their pain can be harmful. Just don’t advise them to be strong before they’ve completed their grief journey, which can last as long as the individual needs it to.

So, what would be helpful to say to the grief-stricken? Since many need to talk, you could say, “I don’t know what to say, but I can listen if you would like to talk.” Also welcome is a truly sincere “I’m so sorry about your loss.” If you follow this with an offer to help, be specific with your offer, such as, “I will bring supper to your home this Friday night” or “Let me go to the grocery for you this Saturday.”

Since we truly cannot imagine another’s pain, the sympathy statement of “I cannot imagine how you are feeling at this moment” usually strikes the listener as authentic. It can also serve as a springboard for the person to talk about their feelings, which is almost always helpful.

In general, follow your heart when you try to console someone who has suffered a loss. Your heart knows the words to reach another’s heart.

Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church offers grief support: GRACE (Grief Recovery: Accepting, Coping, and Evolving). If you are having a difficult time after the loss of a loved one, please call Fr. Costa Pavliakos at 703-671-1515. Thanks to Maria Papageorgiou for starting and continuing this ministry.
<table>
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td><strong>6 Sunday of the Canaanite Woman</strong>&lt;br&gt;(Godparent Sunday)&lt;br&gt;8:00am Divine Liturgy&lt;br&gt;9:30am Orthros and Catechetical School&lt;br&gt;10:30am Divine Liturgy</td>
<td><strong>7 Lent Begins (Clean Monday/Καθαρά Δευτέρα)</strong>&lt;br&gt;8&lt;br&gt;Adult Greek School&lt;br&gt;6:00pm Introductory II&lt;br&gt;7:30pm Introductory I&lt;br&gt;7:30pm Adult Bible Study&lt;br&gt;6pm GOYA Girls’ Practice&lt;br&gt;7:00pm GOYA Parents Meeting (B-Ball Tournament)&lt;br&gt;7:30pm GOYA Boys’ Practice</td>
<td><strong>14</strong>&lt;br&gt;7:00pm YAL Δευτέρα (sandwich-making for the homeless)&lt;br&gt;15&lt;br&gt;11:00am GMU OCF Adult Greek School&lt;br&gt;6:00pm Introductory II&lt;br&gt;7:30pm Introductory I&lt;br&gt;6pm GOYA Girls’ Practice&lt;br&gt;7:30pm GOYA Boys’ Practice&lt;br&gt;7:00pm Missions Meeting&lt;br&gt;7:30pm Adult Bible Study</td>
<td><strong>2 Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple</strong>&lt;br&gt;9:00am Orthros&lt;br&gt;10:00am Divine Liturgy&lt;br&gt;7pm Parish Council Mtg.&lt;br&gt;7:00pm AHEPA B-Ball</td>
<td><strong>3</strong>&lt;br&gt;Adult Greek School&lt;br&gt;6:00pm Intermediate&lt;br&gt;7:30pm Advanced</td>
<td><strong>10 Haralambos the Great Martyr</strong>&lt;br&gt;9:00am Orthros&lt;br&gt;10:00am Divine Liturgy</td>
<td><strong>11</strong>&lt;br&gt;5:00pm Greek School&lt;br&gt;12:00 Seniors’ Valentine’s Day Luncheon&lt;br&gt;Adult Greek School&lt;br&gt;6:00pm Intermediate&lt;br&gt;7:30pm Advanced</td>
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<td><strong>13 Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee</strong>&lt;br&gt;Triodion Begins&lt;br&gt;No Fasting This Week&lt;br&gt;8:00am Divine Liturgy&lt;br&gt;9:30am Orthros and Catechetical School&lt;br&gt;10:30am Divine Liturgy</td>
<td><strong>21 Presidents’ Day Office Closed</strong></td>
<td><strong>22</strong>&lt;br&gt;Adult Greek School&lt;br&gt;6:00pm Introductory II&lt;br&gt;7:30pm Introductory I&lt;br&gt;6pm GOYA Girls’ Practice&lt;br&gt;7:30pm GOYA Boys’ Practice&lt;br&gt;7:30pm Adult Bible Study</td>
<td><strong>20 Sunday of the Prodigal Son</strong>&lt;br&gt;8:00am Divine Liturgy&lt;br&gt;9:30am Orthros and Catechetical School&lt;br&gt;10:30am Divine Liturgy&lt;br&gt;12:00pm DOP</td>
<td><strong>23</strong>&lt;br&gt;10:30am Women’s Book Club&lt;br&gt;7:00pm AHEPA B-Ball</td>
<td><strong>17</strong>&lt;br&gt;Adult Greek School&lt;br&gt;6:00pm Intermediate&lt;br&gt;7:30pm Advanced</td>
<td><strong>18</strong>&lt;br&gt;5:00pm Greek School</td>
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<td><strong>27 Meatfare Sunday</strong>&lt;br&gt;Judgment Sunday&lt;br&gt;8:00am Divine Liturgy&lt;br&gt;9:30am Orthros and Catechetical School&lt;br&gt;10:30am Divine Liturgy</td>
<td><strong>28</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong>&lt;br&gt;Adult Greek School&lt;br&gt;6:00pm Intermediate&lt;br&gt;7:30pm Advanced</td>
<td><strong>26 1st Saturday of Souls</strong>&lt;br&gt;9:00am Orthros&lt;br&gt;10:00 Divine Liturgy&lt;br&gt;St. Nicholas, Baltimore, Tournament&lt;br&gt;9:30am Greek School Adult Bible Study following Divine Liturgy&lt;br&gt;5pm Apokreatiko Glendi</td>
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<td><strong>25</strong>&lt;br&gt;3:00pm GMU OCF&lt;br&gt;5:00pm Greek School</td>
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PHILOPTOCHOS

WE HOPE YOU ARE STAYING WARM and healthy this winter.

The annual Valentine’s Day Luncheon for our seniors will be held on Thursday, February 10 at noon. Please call Irene Kavros at 703-971-7455 or Chris Eskinzes at 703-978-3061 by February 6 if you plan to attend. As always, volunteers are needed to prepare and serve the meal. If you can help, please call Andrea Ballard at 703-250-5419. Any help is welcome and appreciated.

Our National Philoptochos commitments for this month are for the Autism Assistance Fund and St. Photios Shrine:

**Autism Assistance Fund.** This fund heightens awareness of autism and provides assistance and support to persons within the autism spectrum.

**St. Photios Shrine.** This fund provides for the preservation of the first National Shrine of Orthodoxy in America.

Please send your 2011 Philoptochos stewardship to Saint Katherine Philoptochos, 3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church, VA 22041. Please mail your stewardship by March 1, 2011 so that we may publish an updated member directory. We ask that you be generous with your stewardship this year and, if possible, consider giving a minimum suggested stewardship commitment of $40, as more than half of each member stewardship is sent to National Philoptochos and our Metropolis Philoptochos.

We are reaching out to all women 18 years old and older to invite, to embrace and involve them in all our philanthropic endeavors. Our members are our greatest resource. We need your talents and skills.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELope

HELLE CHAPTER MEMBERS began the new year last month by having a healthy lunch and learning stretching exercises which relieve stress and improve overall fitness.

In continuing our focus on health and in recognition of Heart Health Month, we are sponsoring an event with AHEPA #438 to bring greater awareness about heart disease and stroke. The Saint Katherine Community is invited to join the Daughters and Ahepans for presentations by medical professionals on February 5 in Founders’ Hall. A light breakfast will be available between 8:00am and 9:00am. During that time, a registered nurse will conduct blood pressure checks for those who are interested. The speakers will begin their presentations at 9:00am. In addition to a physician, nurse practitioner, certified CPR trainer, and speech pathologist, a representative of the Fairfax County Health Department’s Office of Emergency Preparedness will also speak about being prepared for possible public health emergencies. Please plan to attend this informative health symposium to assess our risks and determine if lifestyle changes are needed.

Helle Chapter continually welcomes new members. If you have thought about joining the Daughters but haven’t yet done so, this is the time. An initiation meeting will be held on Sunday, February 20 for any prospective members. The meeting will be held in the conference room of the Meletis Charuhas Cultural Center after the second liturgy. Please contact Lynn Francis at 703-978-4370 for more information and a membership application.

Looking ahead, please save the date for the mid-year district conference in Richmond on Saturday, March 5. We will arrange carpools for members who are interested in attending the one-day conference.

Have a happy February!

BOOKSTORE

**Featured book of the month.** The Mountain of Silence: A search for Orthodox Spirituality by Kyriacos C. Markides. (Professor Markides will be the featured speaker at the Saint Katherine Lenten Retreat on March 19, 2011.) An expert in Christian mysticism, Markides travels to a monastery high in the Trodos Mountains of Cyprus and offers a fascinating look at the Greek Orthodox approach to spirituality. Using an engaging combination of dialogues, reflections, conversations, and history, Markides follows Father Maximos, one of Mount Athos’s monks, around Cyprus as they discuss Orthodox spirituality in depth.

BOOK CLUB

WE CONTINUE TO READ Encountering Women of Faith: Saint Catherine’s Vision Collection, Volume 1, edited by Kyriaki Karidoyanes Fitzgerald. The Book Club will examine the lives of nine female saints. We will meet on Wednesdays, February 9 and 23 at 10:30am. Please contact Christina Vazquez at czvmail@aol.com. If you would like to join the discussion.

**Stewardship 2011**

Saint Katherine Philoptochos
3149 Glen Carlyn Rd.
Falls Church, VA 22041

Please send by March 1, 2011

Name __________________________________________
Address ________________________________________
City, State Zip __________________________________
Home Phone ____________________________________
Cell Phone _____________________________________
E-mail Address _________________________________
Amount of Stewardship ___________________________
Check Number __________________________________

Thank you!
ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Who is Jesus?

“In the beginning was the Word…” From its opening, John’s Gospel asserts itself as an eyewitness account of God revealing Himself to humanity through the saving work of Jesus. To combat those who disputed the apostolic witness to Christ’s divinity, the early Church relied heavily on John. The goal of our discussion is to understand and embrace the loving vision of Christ described in John’s Gospel and crystallized in the Nicene Creed.

What is It?
It’s not a lecture series, but a prayerful discussion among interested people. All adults and older teens are welcome.

What is Required in Order to Participate?
Simply show up with a copy of The Orthodox Study Bible, available at the church bookstore. No one is required to speak up during the discussion; listeners are always a blessing to the group. In order to get the most out of the weekly meetings, we do encourage participants to spend 10 minutes or so daily at home reading and reflecting on that week’s text.

When?
Two sessions are available to meet your needs:

Tuesday night sessions (7:30pm to 8:45pm), led by Bill Polizos and Bill Porter, through March 1.

Saturday morning sessions, led by Gregory McKinney.
February 5, 12, and 19 (9:45am to 11:00am) and following liturgy on February 26 and March 5.

The classes will run for seven weeks total. The same scripture will be covered in both classes during the same week.

Where?
The boardroom on the lower level of the Meletis Charhuas Center.

SAFEWAY

SAFEWAY BENEFITS for Saint Katherine is an ongoing project. Every time you use your red Safeway card, up to 3 percent of your purchase is donated to Saint Katherine—if Saint Katherine is designated for the benefit. All we need is your Safeway card number, full name, address, telephone number, and e-mail. You may put the information in the basket on Sundays, mail it to church, or call Elvira Garnett at 703-425-3675. Elvira will take care of the rest.

PASTORAL VISITS

It is the family’s responsibility to contact Fr. Costa when a pastoral visit is desired. Because of the HIPAA Privacy Rule, hospitals and nursing homes will not give a list of Orthodox patients to our clergy. Please call Fr. Costa at 703-671-1515 (church), 571-213-1109 (cell), or 703-239-2627 (home) to arrange for a hospital or nursing home visit. Advise him of shut-ins as well, please.

(Continued from page 6, column 1)

κόσμο αποτελεί κρίσιμο σημείο στη ζωή μας. Προσοχή λοιπόν στην κοινωνική μας ζωή, ειδικότερα προσοχή οι νέοι με τις διάφορες προσκλήσεις, όπως, προσκλήσεις χορόν, πάρτι, clubs, συνεδρίων, διαδραστικών (όταν δεν γίνεται σωστή η χρήση του) και τότες άλλον.

Η αδιάλλαξια αυτή μας τοποθετεί σε κατώτερη μοίρα από τους άλλους; Ασφαλώς όχι! Αντίθετα μας τοποθετεί ψηλά, γιατί δεν μιμούμαστον τον κόσμο, επειδή αγαπάμε τον Χριστό και προσπαθούμε να κάνουμε άλλο, όταν μας ζητεί και είμαστε συνεπείς σε όσα πιστεύουμε. Εννοείται ότι ένας συνεπής άνθρωπος είναι κάτι πολύ σπουδαίο και σημαντικό.

Μήπως όμως με την αδιάλλαξια φεύγουμε μακριά από τους άλλους ανθρώπους; Όχι, βέβαια! Δεν βγαίνουμε από τον κόσμο, γιατί, για να βγούμε από τον κόσμο, σημαίνει να αφήσουμε αδιάφορο τον κόσμο να βαδίζει στην καταστροφή. Εμείς όμως αντίθετα, με όλα όσα γράφαμε, γινόμαστε οδηγοί του κόσμου προς χαρά και ευτυχία που εμείς ήδη έχουμε βρει. Εργαζόμαστε για τον κόσμο και μην μενεί στο σκοτάδι.

Σε γενικές γραμμές, με όλα όσα εκθέσαμε στο θέμα αυτό, πρέπει να αγγίζουμε την καρδιά του ανθρώπου, ειδικότερα του νέου, τονίζοντας την χαρά και την ευτυχία που βρίσκουν οι χριστιανοί στον κόσμο του Χριστού. Όπως, χαρά προσευχής, εκκλησιασμού, δράσης, χριστιανικής συντροφίας, φιλανθρωπίας, και τόσα άλλα. Ακόμη, ότι ο Χριστός ως άξωνα είναι η πρώτη και η μεγάλη!

Γι’ αυτό λοιπόν, αδιάλλακτο με τον κόσμο, κατεξοχήντες πάντα την μεγάλη αγάπη του Χριστού προς όλους μας.

(Αποκ. 3:15-16)

(Continued from page 6, column 2)

Church, because these children, who today are learning Hellenism and Orthodoxy, will be tomorrow’s heads of families, worthy, regular, and active members of the Church. We will be waiting for you....

The Ellinomathia tests will take place on May 11 and 12 and the Archdiocese tests in June. Registration of the Ellinomathia tests will take place from February 1 to March 21. More information on the tests will be in the next issue of the DOXA and in the Church Office.

Important Dates to Remember in February
February 5 Teachers’ Meeting, 1:30pm
February 26 Apokreatiko Glendi, 5:00pm to 11:00pm
Below is the final list of the 776 families and individuals who participated in the 2010 Saint Katherine Stewardship Program and contributed $471,293.00. Thank you for responding to the needs of our Church.

Page 15 of this newsletter has our 2011 stewardship form. If you have not yet sent a pledge, please fill out the form and send it to the office as soon as possible. Alternatively, if you wish, you may pledge online today at www.saint-katherines.org/onlinedonations.html. Our Church and community depend on your stewardship commitment.

By now you should have received the report for year 2010, with most of your charitable contributions. It does not include special projects. If you have any questions, please contact Anna Vassilopoulos at avassilopoulos@stkchurch.com or 703-661-1515.
If you are interested in having a nursery during the second (or only) liturgy on ATTENTION ALL PARENTS OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS! (Continued from page 12)
SATURDAY OF SOULS (ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ)

SATURDAY OF SOULS (OR PSYCHOSAVVATON) is a day set aside for commemoration of the dead. There are several Saturdays of Souls in the ecclesiastical year. The Saturday of Souls is observed on the two Saturdays before Great Lent begins, the Saturday after Great Lent begins, and the Saturday before Pentecost. This year, the dates for the Saturdays of Souls are February 26, March 5, March 12, and June 11. Saturday is a traditional day for prayer for the dead because Christ lay dead in the Tomb on Saturday.

A Divine Liturgy is celebrated on each Saturday of Souls. For this liturgy, we prepare a piece of paper, make a cross at the top of it and write the names of family members and friends who have fallen asleep in the Lord. This paper is given to the priest who will read all the names and pray for these souls during the Liturgy and the memorial service. (You may use the form below.)

Koliva, boiled wheat, is brought to church for the memorial service. The koliva is placed on a table in front of the icon of Christ on the iconostasion (icon screen). A wheat seed, which does not look alive, when planted in the ground, becomes a living plant. This is symbolic of those beloved departed who have died in the hope of resurrection, in accordance with the words of Saint Paul, “So also is the resurrection of the dead…it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body (I Corinthians 15:42, 44).

With the Saints give rest, O Christ, to the soul of Your servant, where there is no pain, nor sorrow, nor suffering, but life everlasting. Among the spirits of the righteous perfected in faith, give rest, O Savior, to the soul of Your servant. Bestow upon it the blessed life which is from You, O loving One.

A MEMORIAL PRAYER ON THE SATURDAYS OF SOULS
ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΝ
February 26, March 5, and March 12

We are called to pray for those who have fallen asleep in the Lord on the Saturdays of Souls (February 26, March 5, and March 12). Please take time to prepare a list of deceased loved ones for whom you wish the priests to pray.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Become a 2011 Steward of Saint Katherine Today!

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 e-mail address: __________________________________________________________________________________

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

$____________ γιά το έτος 2011

Ημερομηνία (σημερινή): _____________

Όνομα: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Διεύθυνση: ________________________________________________________________________________

Πόλη, Νομός, Ταχ. Κώδικας: __________________________________________________________________

Τηλέφωνο και Διεύθυνση e-mail: ____________________________________________________________________________

Abraham Lincoln’s Life in Music, a performance program by Elizabeth Smith Brownstein and MSG Laura Knutson, will be presented on February 5, 2011, 4:00pm, in the Meletis Charuhas Cultural Center.

This free concert is open to the public.
ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
Please expedite. Dated material.

**SUNDAY SERVICES**
8:00am Divine Liturgy
9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy

**CATECHETICAL (SUNDAY) SCHOOL CLASSES**
9:30am Nursery - 12th Grade
9:30am Adult (in board room of M/C Center)
9:30am Journey to Orthodoxy (in Founders’ Hall)

**WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY**
7:30pm Tuesdays
9:45am* Saturdays (*after liturgy on February 26)

**WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB**
10:30am Wednesdays, February 9 and 23

**WEEKDAY SERVICES IN FEBRUARY**
9:00am Orthros
10:00am Divine Liturgy
02, Wednesday  Presentation of our Lord in the Temple
10, Thursday  Haralambos the Martyr
26, Saturday  1st Saturday of Souls*

*Please complete the form on page 12 with the names of deceased loved ones for whom you wish the priests to pray.

Fr. Costa will lead a trip to Hellenic College/Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts (just outside of Boston) from March 4 through March 6. We will visit the school and go to the famous Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Seminarians will give us a tour of the campus, lead us in discussion, and spend time with us. We will visit Holy Transfiguration Monastery, too. ALL TEENAGERS OF OUR COMMUNITY ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. Parents are also welcome, but the teenagers have priority. This is a perfect time to retreat from our everyday lives because it falls right before Great Lent begins with Clean Monday on March 7. Fr. Costa will provide a letter to your school so that your absence will be excused. Please e-mail Presv. Pauline at przpauline@stkchurch.com if you are interested in this trip.