THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION of the Theotokos is celebrated on August 15. The Feast commemorates the repose (dormition - *kimisis*) or “falling-asleep” of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord. The Feast also commemorates the translation or assumption into heaven of the body of the Theotokos.

The Holy Scriptures tell us that when our Lord was dying on the Cross, He saw His mother and His disciple John and said to the Virgin Mary, “Woman, behold your son!” and to John, “Behold your mother!” (John 19:25-27). From that hour, the Apostle took care of the Theotokos in his own home.

Along with the biblical reference in Acts 1:14 that confirms that the Theotokos was with the Holy Apostles on the day of Pentecost, the tradition of the Church holds that she remained in the home of the Apostle John in Jerusalem, continuing a ministry in word and deed. At the time of her death, the disciples of our Lord who were preaching throughout the world returned to Jerusalem to see the Theotokos. Except for the Apostle Thomas, all of them including the Apostle Paul were gathered together at her bedside. At the moment of her death, Jesus Christ himself descended and carried her soul into heaven.

Following her repose, the body of the Theotokos was taken in procession and laid in a tomb near the Garden of Gethsemane. When the Apostle Thomas arrived three days after her repose and desired to see her body, the tomb was found to be empty. The bodily assumption of the Theotokos was confirmed by the message of an angel and by her appearance to the Apostles.

The commemoration of the Dormition of the Theotokos and the preparation for the Feast begin on August 1 with a period of fasting. A strict fast is followed on most of the days (no meat, dairy, oil, or wine), with the exceptions of fish on the Feast of the Transfiguration (August 6) and the day of the Dormition. Oil and wine are allowed on Saturdays and Sundays. This year, before the feast on Wednesday (August 7) and Fridays (August 2 and 9), we celebrate the Paraklesis services—services of supplication and prayer for the intercessions of the Theotokos.


This great Feast of the Church and the icon celebrate a fundamental teaching of our faith—the Resurrection of the body. In the case of the Theotokos, this has been accomplished by the divine will of God. Thus, this Feast is a feast of hope, hope in

(Continued on page 7)
CLERGY
Rev. Protopresbyter Konstantinos A. Pavlakos, Proistamenos  cell 571-213-1109, home 703-239-2627  frcostas@stkchurch.com

STAFF
Bookkeeper  Lori Nelson  703-671-1515  lnelson@stkchurch.com
Choir Director  John Slanta  703-307-0142  slanta@verizon.net
Hellenic Education Center Director  Presv. Eleni Alexopouloou  703-671-7715  ealexopouloou@stkchurch.com
Maintenance Supervisor  Roberto Medina  703-671-1515  rmedina@stkchurch.com
Protopsalti  Nick Mpras  703-560-7714
Secretary/Teacher  Sophia Tsangali  703-671-1515  sttsangali@stkchurch.com

PARISH COUNCIL
President, Ray Vazquez  703-728-7091  rayvazquez1@aol.com
Vice President, Craig Thomas  703-532-3168  mmilipipp@verizon.net
Secretary, Bill Polizos  571-434-7790  bp3175@att.com
Treasurer, George Moratis  703-774-6180  gmoratis@aol.com

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Mark Cherpes  703-281-1198  markcherpes@yahoo.com
Dr. John Demakis  703-319-1610  demakis9931@gmail.com
Harry Karageorge  703-241-8222  hkarageorge@verizon.net
Jimmy Kontzamanys  703-898-8748  jkontzaman@aol.com

SCHOOLS AND STUDIES
Bible Study (English)  Bill Polizos  571-434-7790  bp3175@att.com
Bible Study (Greek)  Ioannis Gkigkitzis, Ph.D.  igkigkitzis@nvcc.edu
Catechetical (Sunday) School, Youth TBD
Journey to Orthodoxy  James Jatras  jjm@globalstrategicpr.com

MINISTRIES
Acolytes TBD
AHHEPA #438 (P. Derzis)  Greg Hoffman  571-205-9564  gc.hoffman@gmail.com
Bookstore  Georgia McKinney, Manager  703-437-9218  dintym123@gmail.com
Book Club (Saint Genevieve)  Ioannis Gkigkitzis, Ph.D.  igkigkitzis@nvcc.edu
Book Review  Nina Ziu  n.ziu@icloud.com
Daughters of Penelope Helle #283  Barbara Kolos  703-250-7486  bklts@aol.com
GOYA (7th-12th grades)  Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church
Greek Dance (Byzantio)  Arits and Anna Yortzidis, Instructors  757-218-6991
Greek School Auxiliary  TBD
Paideia  Mary Liasos  703-671-7715  mdlianos@aol.com
Hellenic Education Center  Greek School and Paideia Preschool  703-671-7715  http://www.stkhc.org
HOPE (ages 7 and under)  Doris Mentis, Coordinator  doris@alumini.virginia.edu
HOPE (ages 8-12)  Vaita Bousbouras, Coordinator  vsbousbouras@yahoo.com
Listserv (email list)  Presv. Pauline Pavlakos, Administrador  703-239-2627  prpzpauline@stkchurch.com
Missions and Outreach  Dr. John Demakis, Chairman  703-319-1610  demakis9931@gmail.com
Moms, Pops & Tots (up to age 4)  Irene Sakkas  703-338-8823  irenesakkas@gmail.com
OCF (College Ministry)  Christina Makhlouf, Student Leader  cmakhlou@msounlive.gmu.edu
Philoptochos  Mary Varlas  703-965-4161  mary.varlas@yahoo.com
Stewardship  Andrea Ballard  703-250-5419  andrebardall@verizon.net
Website  Presv. Pauline Pavlakos, Webmaster  703-239-2627  prpzpauline@stkchurch.com
YAL (Young Adult League)  Faye (Fotini) Anson  fanson38@yahoo.com
Youth Choir  Nina Ziu  n.ziu@icloud.com
FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK all of the volunteers and donors that supported our Spring Festival this year. Without your help, this incredible undertaking could not be done. This Spring Festival was one of our most successful festivals in the past several years. We were blessed with beautiful weather and great support from our community. I was truly humbled by the amount of dedication from our volunteers—many who did double/triple shifts, came back to help more after a long day, and who took time off of work to support the church. We are in the process of evaluating how we can improve our Festival. If you have ideas or comments, please feel free to send them to me via email.

As I am writing this month’s article, I know many of you are either getting ready for or are on vacation. I pray that all of your travels are safe and that you enjoy the time off. The summer months can be rather slow here at the church. Before you pack and go, don’t forget to drop your stewardship check in the mail. Our expenses at the church do not go down during the summer months, but our cash flow does. If you get a chance and can mail your stewardship in, that will help us maintain a positive cash flow during the summer.

Your servant in Christ,
Ray Vazquez
President, Parish Council

ALL AROUND THE TOWN
by Joanna Bose

WAR TRILOGY

War Trilogy, filmed by Roberto Rossellini when Italy was occupied by the Nazis, is an incredible testimonial to the dedication of the director, who collaborated on the script with Federico Fellini and Sergio Amidei, to get onto the screen images that would narrate with visual intensity the horrors the people of Italy suffered at the hands of the Germans.

The first film, Roma, città aperta (Open City) released in 1945, is widely regarded as the most important film in Italian cinema history. The irony of the title derives from the fact that Rome, as of August 14, 1943, was totally controlled by German martial law. The penalty for harboring Allied escapees or even for owning a radio transmitter, was death.

The original intention was to make a documentary on the life of Don Morosini, a partisan priest who had been executed by the Nazis a short time earlier. The story is simple: Manfredi, one of the heads of the Italian Resistance, enlists the help of a priest and another partisan friend, to keep him hidden from the Germans. Manfredi is betrayed by a girlfriend and is subsequently caught, along with Don Pietro the priest. The lines are drawn. It is the incomparable Anna Magnani, the fiancée of the third partisan, Francesco, who makes the choice between good and bad very clear. Her resistance to the evil forces emanates from her whole person in each scene. Her sense of defiance and courage are very moving. Needless to say, the resistance perseveres.

In the second film, Paisan, (1946) Rossellini uses different episodes to show how the Allies assisted the Italians in their struggle. These also show with compassion how difficult the wartime “reality” was. What was considered inhuman was what one was expected to endure: just as Manfredi was tortured by the cruelest methods all partisans were made examples of in the most inhuman and shocking ways.

The cruelty and sense of helplessness in the face of the tyrannical, brutal forces of the enemy aroused even in the youngest children a determination to overcome and resist the powers that overwhelmed them. The young boys who come to watch the firing squad shoot Don Pietro, all whistle a partisan song very loudly as the squad hesitates.

(Continued on page 10)
GOYA

Congratulations to the new GOYA officers for the 2019-2020 year: President Iliana Tzafolias, 1st VP Anna Moratis, 2nd VP Stratis Bohle, Recording Secretary Peter Stathis, Corresponding Secretary Kate Cherpes, Treasurer Maria Karageorge, Historians Maria Papas and Mia Tzafolias, Social Coordinator Evi Euripides, Asst. Social Coordinator Yianni Koukides, and Sergeant at Arms Stephano Stathis! The next GOYA meeting will be in September. Upcoming events: Camp Good Shepherd (July 7-13) and Mission Trip to Tennessee (July 12-14). Please email SaintKatherineGOYA@aol.com with questions regarding GOYA events! Have a great summer!

BOOKSTORE

SUMMER TIME IS READING TIME and we have just the right book for you whether you spend your vacation at the beach or in the mountains. Consider taking along the book The Sayings of the Desert Fathers to read while you are lying on the sand. It contains inspirational stories and expressions from the Church Fathers and Mothers in easily understandable short chapters. For your trip to the mountains, think about picking up The Mountain of Silence, which tells about one man’s search for deeper Orthodox spirituality on Cyprus. Do your children have summer reading requirements? Have them look at The Royal Monastic, a moving story about a Romanian princess who gave up a life of luxury to serve Christ.

CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD - VA, JULY 7-13

Who: Teenagers who have completed 5th grade

What: Faith, Fellowship, and Fun—daily church services, Orthodox Life sessions, relay races, rope swings, climbing wall, daily pool time, canoing, campfires, athletics, games, trivia night, and more!

Where: Camp Piankatank (camppiankatank.com)
1586 Stampers Bay Road, Hartfield, VA

Cost: TBD by the Metropolis of New Jersey (approximately $550 which includes food, lodging, and activities)

REGISTRY

Baptisms

Μαρία - Ciara (June 1)
daughter of Solomon and Belesy Brook
Godparent: Lili Halie

Ιωάννης - Jackson Nicholas (June 1)
son of Jonathan and Alexis Tonda
Godparent: Constance Calandrino

Antonios (June 2)
son of Spiros and Olga Fotelargias
Godparents: Konstantinos and Elena Papastergiou

George William (June 22)
son of William and Cristin Grigos
Godparents: Hercules and Alexandra Grigos

Sophia Mary (June 22)
daughter of William and Cristin Grigos
Godparents: Mark and Stephanie Abbott

Ava Grace (June 29)
daughter of Thomas and Nicole Rooney
Godparent: Helen Spanos

Congratulations!

Weddings

Alissa A. Iatridis and
Luis F. Morande (June 15)
Koumbaroi: Martha and George Metevelis

Joanna A. Newton and
Eric J. White (June 22)
Koumbara: Olympia Carranza

Congratulations!

Funeral

Michael Orfanos (June 6)

May his memory be eternal.
PAIDEIA PRESCHOOL

Our Community’s Festival was a lot of fun! THANK YOU to all our families who worked in the kitchen, the coffee stand, the grill, and the HEC booth. It is a time for all to come together to support our church!

Highlights from Life in Paideia. A worm discovered on the playground and an upside down tricycle turned into a space vehicle!

Our Paideia graduation was on June 19. We had a great program with the Demetra and Persefone play, joining the Oceans of Fun dramatization, and Small Triangle Fish inspiring us about how each “fish” is unique in the big wide ocean.

To learn more about us, visit the school during our open house days or contact us to schedule an appointment at ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com or 703-671-7715. You may visit our new and updated website and read about the thematic units in our Paideia newsletter at www.stkhec.org.

GREEK SCHOOL

The Διαβάζω Δυνατά/Read Aloud 2019 campaign was very successful as students read for 11 weeks. We had 17 guests read to them and we reached a record number of 76 titles. This activity inspired our program for the end of year celebration!

ELLINOMATHEIA 2019

The Ellinomathea exams took place in May with 117 students participating. The results will be made available mid-July to mid-August on the website of the Center for the Greek language. Students need to know the Center number 10027 (Saint Katherine Examination Center) and their personal candidate number to access the information.

GREEK LANGUAGE CLASSES FOR YOUNG AND OLDER…!

Join our outstanding Greek language program for a great learning experience. We offer classes from pre-K to adults. Our excellent teaching staff, using student-centered activities, make each student’s experience unique! This year we offer Ellinomatheia classes up to Γ1 level!

Our students benefit by receiving language credits which they may add to their High School transcript as well as expand their horizons by learning about the Greek literature, history, geography, and culture.

Please email ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com or call 703-671-7715 to schedule an appointment and/or enroll in a class.

CLASSES OFFERED FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

Youth
Tuesday, Conversational, 5:00pm-6:30pm (grades K-8)
Friday, 5:00-7:00 (grades PreK-8)
Saturday, 9:30am-1:30pm (grades PreK-8)

**New class to be offered for 3-4 year olds**

Adults
Tuesday, Beginners I, 5:00pm-7:00pm
Beginners II, 7:00pm-9:00pm
Thursday, Intermediate, 7:00pm-9:00pm
Friday, Conversational Adult, 5:00pm-7:00pm
**Kenya Update.** The consecration of the new Saint Katherine Church in Kabuli, Kenya is set for June 23, 2019. Fr. Costa has been invited to take part in the consecration of the church by the Patriarch of Alexandria. Fr. Costa will be accompanied by Mary Van Mullekom and Effie Wingate. Fr. Costa is taking many beautiful gifts for the altar of the new church. Our mission committee is donating $3,000.00 for the purchase of three new tents that Bishop Neophyto requested for special meetings and events in his Diocese.

**OCMC Annual Benefit Dinner.** As reported in last month’s *DOXA*, our OCMC benefit dinner was our largest to date. About 170 people attended and we raised about $20,000 dollars. As this issue of the *DOXA* goes to print, funds are still coming in. At the recent OCMC Board meeting, Dr. John Demakis and Betty Slanta (both OCMC board members) presented the check to Fr. Martin Ritsi, the director of the OCMC. Fr. Martin thanked our community and held us up as an example of what other board members should be doing.

**OCMC Annual Board Meeting.** The annual OCMC Board Meeting took place May 20-22 in St. Augustine, Florida. Executive Director Fr. Martin Ritsi outlined the OCMC’s donor-directed projects which include: building missionary housing in Guatemala; building churches in Uganda and Indonesia; caring for orphans in Albania, Kenya, Guatemala, India, Madagascar, and Mexico; providing seminary support in Alaska and Kenya; well-digging in Kenya and Uganda; and sponsoring the funeral of Bishop Athanasius of Kenya (January 2019).

Missionary Director Deacon James outlined streamlined long-term missionary recruitment and training procedures as OCMC continues to send missionaries worldwide.

Thomas and Elizabeth Manuel, new OCMC missionaries to southern Mexico and Guatemala, who were Skyped into the meeting, are studying Spanish in Mexico. They shared experiences at Pascha to give the board a look at missionary life.

During 2018, the OCMC:
+ Sent 22 short-term mission teams to 10 countries and ministered to nearly 7,000 people.
+ Supported 30 long-term missionaries in 9 countries: teaching in schools and seminaries, leading youth groups, providing substance abuse counseling, translating liturgical texts to local languages, and teaching the faith.
+ Administered 21 philanthropic projects to provide homes for orphans, healthcare, and opportunities for self-support in eight countries.
+ Supported 375 Orthodox clergy in 16 countries who minister and create new communities.
+ Supported Orthodox Seminaries and Theological schools to train priests, catechists, and future Church leaders.

**Diaper Drive.** The semi-annual Diaper Drive was held April 21 for the MaRiH Center in Alexandria. The center offers confidential emergency pregnancy services, providing care for mothers including infant clothing, diapers, friendly warm smiles, and care for new mothers. Twelve cartons of diapers were collected. Our next collection will be December 8 coinciding with Saint Nicholas Day.

**John and Betty Slanta Going to Alaska.** Our choir director John Slanta and his wife Betty (a board member of the OCMC) will be heading to Alaska on a short-term OCMC team. They will be stationed in Pilot Station Alaska Wilderness Youth Camp in July 2019. They will teach music and liturgics, do crafts, and have Bible studies. This is a wonderful mission. Please support them financially by visiting [https://www.ocmc.org/donate/donate.aspx?DonationType=MissionTeam&FundId=2299&AppId=5995](https://www.ocmc.org/donate/donate.aspx?DonationType=MissionTeam&FundId=2299&AppId=5995) for more information.

**Helping the Homeless in Appalachia.** Our Missions and Outreach Committee will once again travel to Kingsport, Tennessee. The dates are June 27-29 and July 11-13. Twenty percent (20%) of the people in Kingsport live in poverty. Our members will help complete a Day Care Center in Kingsport. We will be the guests of the local Greek Orthodox community. If interested, contact Dr. John Demakis at demakis9931@gmail.com.

**HOMELESS SHELTER**

**Dinner at the Shelter.** Our Mission Committee served dinner at the homeless shelter on Tuesday, June 18.

**Volunteer Coordinator for the Homeless Shelter.** At our most recent Mission Committee meeting, June 11, the new volunteer coordinator for the Homeless Shelter, Leo Patri- cian, joined us to introduce himself and to thank us for all the work we have done for the shelter. He also brought a list of items needed when shelter residents leave to go to a new home. The list includes: can openers, queen-size sheet sets, pillows, pots and pans, and shoes (both nice shoes for interviews and functional shoes for on the job).

**Survival Kits.** We are starting our collection of items for the hygiene and survival kits for the shelter. Each church organization will receive a letter with the special needs.
Resurrection and life eternal. Like those who gathered around the body of the Virgin Mary, we gather around our departed loved ones and commend their souls into the hands of Christ. As we remember those who have reposed in the faith before us and have passed on into the communion of the Saints, we prepare ourselves to one day be received into the new life of the age to come. We also affirm through this Feast as we journey toward our heavenly abode that the Mother of God intercedes for us. Through Christ, she has become the mother of all of the children of God, embracing us with divine love.

Wishing you a wonderful summer, I am

Yours in Christ’s service,

A. Costa
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*Please check the online calendar, http://saint-katherines.org/calendar, for the most current information.*
### AUGUST 2019

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|        |        |         |           | 1 *Dormition Fast Begins*  
7:30pm Bible Study | 2  
7:00pm Paraklesis | 3 |  
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| 4      | 5      | 6       | 7         |          | 8      | 9        | 10       |
| 7th Sunday of Matthew  
9:00am Orthros  
10:00am Divine Liturgy  
5:30pm Adlt Greek Dance | Vacation Bible Camp  
10am-2pm | *Holy Transfiguration*  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
Vacation Bible Camp  
10am-2pm | 7:00pm Paraklesis |          | 7:30pm Bible Study | 7:00pm Paraklesis |          |
| 11     | 12     | 13      | 14        | 15       | 16     | 17       |
| 8th Sunday of Matthew  
9:00am Orthros  
10:00am Divine Liturgy  
5:30pm Adlt Greek Dance | 7:30pm Deuteri Deutera |          | 7:00pm Great Vespers | *Dormition of the Theotokos*  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
(Office Closed) |          |          |          |
| 18     | 19     | 20      | 21        | 22       | 23     | 24       |
| 9th Sunday of Matthew  
9:00am Orthros  
10:00am Divine Liturgy  
5:30pm Adlt Greek Dance |          |          |          | 7:30pm Bible Study |          |          |
| 25     | 26     | 27      | 28        | 29       | 30     | 31       |
| 10th Sunday of Matthew  
9:00am Orthrosx  
10:00am Divine Liturgy  
5:30pm Adlt Greek Dance |          | 7:30pm Parish Council |          | *Beheading of Saint John the Baptist*  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
7:30pm Bible Study |          |          |

*Please check the online calendar, [http://saint-katherines.org/calendar](http://saint-katherines.org/calendar), for the most current information.*
PHILOPTOCHOS by Mary K. Varlas

DEAR SISTERS IN CHRIST, Summer is here. After an extremely busy year we are ready to take a much needed and well-deserved break. Before we completely break for the summer season, our newly elected Board Members will be sworn in on June 23. So many thanks go to Kathy Cavallo, Nicole Christacos, and Mary Smaradgis for all their contributions and hard work during their years of service on the Board. We wish to welcome the new additions to the Board: Nia Vroustouris, Paulette Hatfield, Marge Schwarz, and Linda Jouvanis. Congratulations to all these ladies.

Our Annual Spring Luncheon was a great success. Thanks to Pete and Despina Pagonis for their warm hospitality, wonderful meal, and great service. Thanks to all volunteers of our Spring Festival. Everyone did such an amazing job. To the ladies that wish to renew their stewardship for 2019, please mail your check to our church address. Make checks payable to Saint Katherine Ladies Philoptochos. We are hoping to increase our membership with new members of all ages.

Enjoy your summer, stay in good health, and we will see you in church throughout the summer.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE by Barbara Koltos

DEAR SISTERS AND FRIENDS, I am proud to present our new slate of officers for 2019-2020: President Maria Vargas, Vice President Patricia Leto, Recording Secretary Sandy Caparell, Corresponding Secretary Kelly Gull, Treasurer Maria Wills, and Warden Daphne Papamichael. I wish them a prosperous and successful year.

Helle Chapter has been very fortunate this year to have so many sisters and friends who worked together to make this a record year in the history of our chapter. It was with respect and pride that we had a visit on June 2 with Mr. George Karatzia, the coordinator of the AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors, and Retired Colonel Mark Gatanas who accepted a check from our District Governor of the Daughters of Penelope, Lynn Francis. She presented our chapter’s $15,000 check for the training of a dog to help a wounded warrior. We had naming rights to this dog which we called “Ellie” in honor of our chapter. One year from now we will share pictures of our dog and of the warrior with whom she will be placed. This was a remarkable occasion and I was impressed with the passion and ardor of George Karatzia. We look forward to hearing from him again soon.

Congratulations to graduating senior and Saint Katherine parishioner, Peyton Moore, who received Helle Chapter’s Scholarship Award of $1,500 presented at the Washington Metropolitan Area AHEPA/DOP Scholarship Awards program on May 19. We also congratulate Christina and Anna Korkos, who received Helle Chapter’s 2019 Hellenism Award presented at Saint Katherine’s Greek School graduation on June 1.

I would like to thank everyone for making my presidency these past two years a worthwhile and rewarding experience. The Daughters of Penelope is a great organization and it is a pleasure to be part of such wonderful group.

I wish everyone a great summer vacation full of joy and sunshine.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED SAINT KATHERINE HAVE A VERY SUCCESSFUL FESTIVAL!

The final installment, titled Germany, Year Zero (1948) takes place in Berlin after the Germans’ defeat. Everything is destroyed; bombed out buildings are the landscape.

A young 13-year-old boy looks for work digging graves. He is the very personification of Germany. Trying hard to subsist on the ration cards the family receives, his father has sent him out to work. Just a kid, he listens and does things without thinking. When he does the unthinkable, he cannot live with himself any longer.

What was so compelling for me in watching these 3 films back to back, seeing so many images of war and suffering, was how it helped me to better understand how my parents felt. They must have felt the same degree of helplessness knowing that their loved ones were in constant danger and feeling absolute despair at not being able to do anything except wait for news and pray. Rossellini has brilliantly documented the history of that time in three excellent films that give a very real sense of what went on.
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR GRADUATES, whether listed below or not. We are very proud of your achievements! High School graduates, please look for the local OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship) chapter on your college campus. College graduates, look for a Young Adult group wherever you go to church. Don’t be a stranger. Come back and visit!

Daphne Jeweler, daughter of Jim and Moira Jeweler, graduated from Thomas Edison High School and will attend the University of Mary Washington (UMW). She earned the Girl Scouts Bronze and Silver awards, was Edison academy student of the quarter (criminal justice), served as varsity baseball manager, served as JV field hockey manager, and earned the community service chord (recognized for exceeding the required forty hours).

Sophia Maria Silis, daughter of Drs. Manny and Christina Silis, graduated from St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School in Alexandria. She will be attending Virginia Tech in Blacksburg in the Fall. Sophia has participated in many clubs and sports and has contributed greatly to the community as a whole. We are very proud of her accomplishments and are excited to see what the future holds.

Zoe Jeweler, daughter of Jim and Moira Jeweler, graduated from Thomas Edison High School and will attend Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). She was a member of the Edison a capella performers, Edison chamber orchestra, National Honor Society, animal welfare club, and earned AB honor role distinction all four years.

Peter Christopher Kalavritinos, son of Christopher and Frances Kalavritinos, graduated from the School of Visual and Performing Arts at George Mason University with a B.A. in Music and a minor in Jazz Studies. Among his musical accomplishments as a lead guitarist, Peter embarked on an East-Coast tour in 2018 with the highly regarded DC ethnic-jazz band, Black Masala. He has also played at many local venues, including Howard University’s Lincoln Theatre and Merriweather Post Pavilion. Peter currently works as a leasing agent for Gates-Hudson & Associates, a Washington-area real estate services company.

Dirk Odysseus Stassinos, son of Odysseus (Steve) and Monique, graduated from South Lakes High School and will major in Business at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He was 2nd Team All Region twice and co-captain of the 2019 Virginia 6A State Champion (soccer). Dirk was a Fairfax County FBLA Champion and 3rd in the State, and was also awarded the AHEPA/Daughter’s of Penelope “Papayianne/Garnet Memorial” Award.

Evangelia (Lia) Riris, daughter of Mary Smaragdis and Haris Riris graduated from Washington-Lee High School with honors. She will attend Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond in the fall.

James Odysseus Stassinos, son of Odysseus (Steve) and Monique, graduated from Virginia Tech, with a BA in Geography and minor in Geographic Information Science. He made the Dean’s list several times, studied abroad in Athens (AHEPA program) and Barcelona, and worked during his education for VT dining services. James was also a member of the Pi Lambda Phi fraternity. Future plans are to work in his field.

Michael Sheldon, son of Ms. Tina Papamichael, graduated from St. Andrew’s Episcopal School in June. Michael will attend Temple University with plans to study Electrical Engineering.

Nina Ziu, daughter of John and Elena Ziu, completed her homeschool education and will attend Virginia Tech to study Engineering. Nina plans to pursue research in structural engineering and acoustics. She served the Saint Katherine community as a choir member, youth choir director, and supporter of the Kairos Prison Ministry. Nina also was a Venture Crew member within the Boy Scouts of America, holding leadership positions at the unit and council levels.

Congratulations, graduates!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!
JULY CHURCH DUTY ROSTER

**July 7, 2019**

- H. Karageorge, Captain
- Tony Alexis
- Andrea Ballard
- Hon. Manuel Capsalis
- Dr. Domenic Carr

**July 14, 2019**

- Stelios Moshou, Captain
- Costas Mavromatakis
- George Moratis
- George Moshos
- Bill Polizos

**July 21, 2019**

- Andrea Ballard, Captain
- Tony Alexis
- Hon. Manuel Capsalis
- Dr. Domenic Carr
- Mark Cherpes

**July 28, 2019**

- Bill Polizos, Captain
- George Moratis
- George Moshos
- Chris Snear

AUGUST CHURCH DUTY ROSTER

**August 4, 2019**

- Dr. Domenic Carr, Captain
- Tony Alexis
- Andrea Ballard
- Hon. Manuel Capsalis
- Mark Cherpes

**August 11, 2019**

- Effie Sarantis, Captain
- Costas Mavromatakis
- George Moratis
- George Moshos
- Bill Polizos

**August 18, 2019**

- Dr. John Demakis
- Tony Alexis
- Andrea Ballars
- Hon. Manuel Capsalis

**August 25, 2019**

- Craig Thomas, Captain
- Costas Mavromatakis
- George Moratis
- Stelios Moshou
- George Moshos

BOOK REVIEW

**BOOK FOR TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS**


In an extraordinary conclusion to this trilogy, the author tells the story of the desperate Christian effort to keep their Faith alive in a time of treason and persecution.

Jurian, now an exile of the Roman Empire, travels northward with his friends Constanitus (Saint Constantine) and Menas (Saint Christopher), bringing his sword, Excalibur, to its home in Britannia. He and his companions learn more about the ever-growing threat to Christians under Emperor Diocletian. Aikaterina (Saint Katherine) has returned to Alexandria and Sabra has gone to Myra to seek the help of Nikolaus (Saint Nicholas). Despite their efforts to return to normal, the girls find themselves in constant fear and intrigue. There is a sense of both loss and adventure in their lives:

Jurien met Agapius’s eye, and by the stricken look on his friend’s face, it seemed that the reality of Julian’s exile had suddenly dawned on him as well. Jurian jerked his gaze away, seeking a glimpse of the bustling wharf behind his friend. The stench of raw and salted fish mingled with the rich savory smells of roasting spiced meats and the hushing breeze carried the noise of barter and trade from the brightly-canopied stands. Jurian gripped the ship’s rail as if to steady himself, his heart burning. This might be the last chance he ever had to touch Roman soil.

While the book offers a fictional account of the lives of these saints, it also demonstrates how we as Christians are asked to treat those who are against us. In the book, when asked if he had any last words for the man who betrayed him, a leader of the church of Cyrene says, “I forgive you, my son. I pray one day… you may forgive yourself.” This is the attitude with which we are called to treat our enemies. All of the characters who face death forgive their captors, thinking not of themselves but of those who are left behind. The courage with which Christians of Rome face their death with grace and love was remarkable. As demonstrated by Jurian’s arch-rival, even the Romans were staggered to see Christians accept their death with peace. We are not called to seek revenge, as one of the heroes tries, but rather to love our enemies despite their ways.

Readers will find that it is indeed possible for church literature to read like a thrilling story. The author captures all the elements of a good mystery novel, but also accurately portrays the book’s era. While some elements of the story may exaggerate the facts, and includes fictional interpretations of the saints’ lives, I believe the author has done well in illustrating their characters. If you don’t like to read, this book may very well change your mind. I found it nearly impossible to put down after I had begun. This trilogy is excellent for readers of any age, most especially the youth.

~ Nina Ziu
Do you need a place for your baptismal reception, wedding reception, anniversary party or other event?

Dates are still available for our church halls—Chelpon (small) or Meletis Charuhas (large). Why not rent one of them?

There's plenty of free parking!

Contact Sophia at 703-671-1515 or stsangali@stkchurch.com.

AHEPA DOP METROPOLITAN AREA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The forty-ninth year of the Metropolitan Area Scholarship Program and Awards Banquet proved to be highly successful in promoting our Hellenic Heritage as we honored academic achievement by our graduating seniors in our community. It was hosted by AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope Area Chapters. We were honored by Sophia Pelekasis who gave us a beautiful rendition of our National Anthems as well as Dr. Sam Pappas and Christina Vasilatou, Head of the Consular Office Embassy of Greece, as our guest speakers promoting our Heritage.

We are proud to report that since the 1970 inception of this Scholarship Program, over 1,600 area student scholars have been publicly recognized and awarded an impressive sum of over a $1,000,000! This year’s Scholarship Program alone awarded 34 area graduates with $45,500 in scholarships. We believe this unique event has no parallel throughout the national AHEPA organization!

At this year’s prestigious AHEPA and DOP Program, the following student scholars from Saint Katherine were honored:

- Panayiotis Alexopoulos  Gus D. Moshos Memorial Award
- Alexander C. Chelpon    DOP Hermione Chapter 11 Memorial Scholarship Award
- Maria P. Euripides       Peter Derzis Chapter 438 Award
- Sofia Maggio             George & Effy Garbis Dental Award
- Daphne A. Jeweler        Col. & Mrs Nicholas P. Vamvakias Award and American Iron Works – Savopoulos Family Award
- Zoe M. Jeweler           Philoptohos Society of St. Sophia Award and Epirotic Society Award
- Peyton G. Moore          DOP Helle Chapter 283 Award
- Dirk Odysseus Stassinios Maria Papayianne and John R. Garnett Memorial Award

Recognition of their achievement has been made possible by the steadfast support of generous members of the local Greek community. We hope that we can count on the Greek Community in the coming years to help make the Scholarship Endowment Fund self-sustaining. We can do this by making contributions payable to “AHEPA Endowment Fund” and mailed c/o AHEPA 438 at Saint Katherine. In addition, one may also contribute towards Memorial Scholarships for their loved ones. Call 703-281-0843 for details.

On behalf of the AHEPA Awards Committee and the Washington, DC Area AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope Chapters, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the student scholars, all contributors, and participants for making this unique event so successful. If you have any questions, please contact me at antovi@verizon.net or 703-281-0843.

Angelo Toutsi, AHEPA 438
Chairman, Endowment Fund
### Stewards of the Faith: All Things are Possible to the One Who Believes in Christ

The Stewardship Program is the way for everyone to belong. We are expected to make an honest and sincere contribution to the sacred ministry of the Church. No matter one’s income, so long as one gives as an expression of faith and love, the work of Christ’s Church will grow and prevail.

~ Andrea Ballard
andreaballard1@verizon.net

Shown below is a list of families and individuals who participated in the 2019 Saint Katherine Stewardship Program through May 31, 2019. Thank you for responding to the needs of our church.

If you have not yet submitted your 2019 pledge, please do so as soon as possible. Your Church and community depend on your stewardship commitment.

Any questions? Please contact Lori Nelson at lnelson@stkchurch.com or 703-671-1515.

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(Continued on page 15)
from East Carolina University. He produces 88-93 mph fastballs and his best pitch is his curveball. (Continued from page 14)