I ENCOURAGE YOU TO BE SUCCESSFUL AND THANKFUL. We are entering the season of Thanksgiving and preparation for the great celebration of the Nativity of our Lord. The Church also has to be successful. I asked myself and you probably wonder, “What is the measure of success—for us and our Church?”

The first thing I thought of are the words of Saint Paul to the Corinthians, “The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:7-8).

In the modern world, a man is thought to be successful in terms of his objective accomplishments. If he has acquired wealth, fame, power, or privilege, he is considered accomplished and worthy of emulation. Today it is the sports figure and the movie star who are held up as role models, not the teacher. It is the mogul and the tycoon who are lionized, not the nurse or policeman.

But in the Gospel of Christ, we are reminded that God’s judgments are quite different, and that the success or failure of each of us, as we stand before the dreaded judgment seat, will not be determined by the size of our bank account or the extent of our fame. Rather, we shall be judged by the standard of whether in life we reached “to the very height of Christ’s full stature” (Ephesians 4:13). This sobering revelation should inspire us to be concerned about the kind of people we are; after all, we will not be judged by the standard of the worst among us, but rather of the best. And if we call ourselves followers of Jesus Christ, we have an added incentive to live as we should.

Jesus exemplified, through every moment of his life, the way each of us should act—with great kindness, gentleness, and thoughtfulness. The Gospel witnesses His compassion to the sick—when the leper exclaimed that Jesus could make him well if He wanted to, Jesus answered “I do want to” and the man was made clean (Mark 1:40-42). It tells us of His gentleness toward the spiritually needy through His words to us, “Come to me all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28), and of His kindness toward children, “He took the children in His arms, placed His hands on each of them, and blessed them” (Mark 10:13-16). The Gospel speaks to each of Christ’s self-sacrifice to the lost “the Son of Man did not come to be served; He came to serve others and to give His life to redeem many people” (Mark 10:45).

While it is true that each believer needs to attain spiritual maturity, there must be corporate spiritual maturation as well. Why? Because a community that is growing spiritually fosters individual spiritual growth, even as an individual who matures in spiritual thinking and living inspires similar development in the community. The higher reaches of Christian living are realized in relationship, not in isolation. The fullness of the body is attained in the spiritual growth of the members who constitute it.

(Continued on page 4, column 2)
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey
Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

www.saint-katherines.org
3149 Glen Carlyn Road
Falls Church, VA 22041
703-671-1515 phone
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November begins and ends with celebrations of Thanksgiving in our community. We begin the month with our annual Dinner Gala celebrating our blessings and honoring those whose service to the Church has been inspirational and exemplary. We conclude the month by enjoying our traditional Thanksgiving feasts and religious observances of our beloved patron, Saint Katherine. It is further noteworthy that we also emphasize our stewardship commitment to our Church for the coming year during this time and I’d like to offer some personal thoughts on stewardship and conclude with some information on enhancements which we hope many of you will find useful.

I begin with what I consider to be the quintessential definition of stewardship. “Stewardship is a spiritual expression of faith whose primary purpose is to promote spiritual growth—a growth in Grace and a more fully developed faith leading ultimately to our salvation.”

These words serve as the basis of my understanding of stewardship and have never failed to sustain me. The spiritual expression of faith is clear and concise and can take many forms, traditionally viewed as one’s gifts of time, talent, and treasures. Beyond this however, is the charge to those in positions of responsibility to provide a loving environment that helps foster the understanding of true Christian stewardship in thought, deed, and act.

The basis for this loving environment begins with our Proistamenos who devotedly tends to his flock and their needs while guiding our efforts in service to our Lord. I believe our Catechetical and HEC teaching staff also play pivotal roles by ensuring our religious education programs continue to serve the needs of parishioners of all ages. The multiple and vibrant ministries of our community are absolutely essential because they provide parishioners multiple and diverse opportunities to further engage in the life of our community. (It is a constant source of joy and inspiration to observe the deep satisfaction our parishioners derive from participation in our ministries—a true measure of the success of our stewardship programs.) Your Parish Council also plays a role in this process by managing resources and directing projects and programs that contribute to the healthy, loving environment that further sustains our community. To that end, and in addition to supporting and providing for our ministries and educational programs, we also provide infrastructural support to further enable stewardship in our community. As you can see therefore, all of us—including our leadership, educators, and parishioners—have laid a compelling foundation for that loving environment which further promotes all aspects of our stewardship program.

In response to many requests, we have been asked to develop new ways to express our stewardship through easier and more convenient giving options. After extensive research, we are pleased to announce the introduction (by the end of November) of new electronic options for making regular offerings that will enable you to go to our church website at any time and create a profile that gives you access to log on to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view and print your online donation history. Our website giving options will be updated enabling contributions to be debited automatically from your checking or savings account (or processed using your credit or debit card). Additionally, e-mails are automatically sent to you whenever a donation/payment is made using the link on our website. This new capability will also offer convenience for you and provide much needed donation consistency for our parish. For example, if you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis. As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office.

Finally, perhaps the most visible new enhancement will be our new Kiosk, to be located in the Church Narthex, which facilitates giving by means of a small, portable unit that can be easily used for stewardship payment and offerings at services or special events. Since cash or checks are not convenient for some, we anticipate this is will provide an easy, convenient way for parishioners and visitors to contribute weekly offerings or to donate to special appeals, among other things.

When you scan this barcode-like “QR code” image with a smartphone’s QR decoder, it will instantly connect you to the mobile version of our community’s web page. Try it yourself! To individuals who are familiar with QR codes, it will provide a quick and easy way to access your web page without having to type out a long web address and locate our link. For those not technically inclined, our website is always accessible by conventional means.

I close by asking all of you to reflect for a moment on the many blessings we enjoy individually and collectively. I ask that as you contemplate stewardship and your personal blessings, please also consider those afforded you as a member of our Saint Katherine family. Most often, we stress the importance of stewardship of the great gifts of God’s material world, but which of God’s gifts is greater than family? So in this context, I humbly ask your generous consideration of
CATECHETICAL (SUNDAY) SCHOOL
In the spirit of thanksgiving, we would like to thank all of our Sunday School teachers for their dedication in getting the school year off to a great start! Please mark the following on your calendars.

Annual Christmas Pageant. Rehearsal is scheduled for Sunday, December 4 during the Sunday School hour and the pageant performance is set for Sunday, December 11! We will hand out sign-up forms on October 30, so that parents can talk with their children about the part they wish to play in the pageant. We will collect these forms on November 13.

Bailey’s Crossroads Homeless Shelter. Starting November 6, we will collect travel-size soaps and washcloths. All collections are due by November 20. Please help us with this ongoing service to our homeless!

Church Youth Duty Sunday. Eleni Zervos is the Youth Church Duty Captain and Epistle Reader on November 20. We need three other students to help.

No Sunday School on November 27. Sunday School classes will not be held on November 27, as it is Thanksgiving weekend. Enjoy the turkey!

BYZANTIO GREEK DANCE
The Byzantino Greek Dance and Cultural Arts Program offers Greek folk dance lessons for grades Kindergarten and up. New dancer enrollment continues! Dance practice for school-age dancers is on Tuesdays, 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Meletis Charuhas Hall. Adult dance practice is held on Sundays, 6:00pm-7:30pm, in Founders’ Hall.

GOYA (saint-katherines.org/ministries/groups/goya)
GOYA will have a short meeting immediately following liturgy on Sunday, November 6. GOYAns (players and non-players) have been invited to participate in the basketball tournaments listed below. New uniforms have been ordered and will arrive soon.

- November 12-13 Annunciation, Norfolk
- November 19-20 Annunciation, Baltimore
- January 21-22 SS. Constantine and Helen, Richmond

Mark your calendars for the GOYA Christmas Party, December 4, at the home of Stratis and Niko Bohle. Details forthcoming.

All teenagers of our community are encouraged to join GOYA. Please email GOYA_St_Katherine@msn.com with any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

BOOKSTORE
This month we are featuring some wonderful books that we hope will help our children better understand the feasts we celebrate in November. For our youngest readers, we have a soft-bound watercolor book on the Presentation of the Theotokos to the Temple. For slightly older readers we are spotlighting a hard-bound book, with a bonus DVD, on Saint Katherine.

Not to forget our adult readers, we offer a book on the life and history of Constantine the Great, the first Roman emperor to claim conversion to Christianity and who called the first Council of Nicaea. It is a fascinating story!

As always, stop in and let us know if there are special icons or books you would like us to carry. Be on the lookout for new Christmas merchandise!

CHURCH MUSIC PROGRAM
In 1961, after the petition for our parish charter was approved by the Archdiocese, intermittent Vesper Services began before the name of Saint Katherine or a permanent building even existed. They were officiated by various visiting priests and our protopsaltis, James Loizou, was at the psaltirion. After the arrival of Fr. Theodore Chepilon and his family in 1962, Presvytera Dora became the first choir director with early rehearsals in the Chepilons’ living room. Irene Zeygolas Burton, who has been singing in the choir for 68 years, was at that very first meeting. Through the years, the members of the Saint Katherine choir have continued to lift their voices to God and today consist of almost 40 voices from all walks of life including Presvyteres and government workers to doctors and teens. They give of their time and talent every week for most of the year, often serving in other positions of leadership at the same time—from Parish Council members to Philoptochos members to AHEPA presidents.

Our choir is a member of the Metropolis of New Jersey Federation of Church Musicians with four of its board members singing in our choir. Over the years, we have hosted four church music conferences and many workshops and regional rehearsals. Our choir director, Nick Kyrus, is a regular guest conductor for Federation Conferences all over the Archdiocese and John Doulis passionately leads the music program for the Sunday School children.

(Continued from page 1)

On the 13th of November we will have Stewardship Sunday and the celebration of Saint John Chrysostom. I believe that we are maturing in our faith and the measure of our faith will be reflected with the financial commitment we make to the ministry of our growing church community.

God’s blessings,

Fr. Costa
Paideia Preschool students in action . . . What a blessing to have them!!!

From the Greek School field trip to the National Geographic exhibit . . . Keeping in touch with a great heritage!

From the Hellenic Education Center teachers seminar in Cherry Hill, New Jersey and the conference at American University in DC on community-based heritage language programs in the United States.

Please contact the HEC director (ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com or 703-671-7715), for information on any HEC program or an open house date.

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING
REMEMBERING THE GOODNESS OF GOD
A Tiny Step Away from Deepest Faith: A Teenager’s Search for Meaning

A Tiny Step Away from Deepest Faith: A Teenager’s Search for Meaning is the autobiography of a teenage girl’s journey to the Orthodox Church. Born Jewish, Corbman writes of her very personal struggles in middle and high school to find a faith in which she belonged.

She wrote this book a year after converting to Orthodoxy as a junior in high school. Her description of the ridicule directed towards Christianity in schools is shockingly accurate and many young people can relate to Marjorie’s story.

In truth, her story is fascinating. She describes her uncontrollable desire to immerse herself in the works of Christ, the Saints, and the Church as a unique calling that miraculously came to her during her most painful year. Even when peers began to tease her for taking interest in an “archaic religion,” she stood strong. She expresses her past fully, pouring out her emotions and regrets to the reader. Corbman emphasizes that man strives to be in a community and longs for tradition, observing that no philosophy based on the self has ever brought peace or happiness, rather the opposite—a stream of adolescent suicides, drugs, and hatred among peers.

The author displays excellent vocabulary and writing skill. However, she tends to overuse anecdotes and can be gallingly repetitive when discussing her past experiences with other religions.

High school students and young adults who love their faith and wish to read of the miracles that God performs for those of their own age would enjoy this book. However, this is not a book that provides a deeper understanding of the Orthodox Church. This is strictly the story of a young woman’s conversion experience and offers no theological explanations as to why certain traditions are held and respected. It is a good read for those who wish to see Christianity through the eyes of a contemporary who was non-Christian and even experimented with atheism and paganism before discovering the True Faith.

~ Nina Ziu, Reviewer
REGISTRY

Baptisms
Evangeline (October 8)
daughter of Richard Shafer and Mary Gibson
Godparent: Frances Vavloukis

Oceana Alexandra (October 15)
daughter of Ali Tatari and Athanasia A. Anagnostou
Godparents: Chris and Cynthia Schuck

Demetrios Bruno (October 15)
son of Bruno De Megalhaes Cardoso and Hope Demetriou
Godparents: Petros Demetrios Demetriou and
Lambros Demetrios Demetriou

Maria Elena (October 16)
daughter of Lambros M. Magiafas and Elena Crudu
Godparents: Spyridon and Argyroula Gioldasis

Eliana Mussie (October 22)
daughter of Mussie Tesfamichael and Hana Gedamu
Godparent: Dena Contompasis

Nikolas (October 22)
son of Peter and Amy Marie Markatos
Godparents: Harry and Eleni Karageorge

Funerals
Sapfo S. Spada (October 11)
Despina Foster (October 12)
May their memory be eternal.

Congratulations!

Christmation
Elizabeth Ann “Lisa” Diapoulis (October 2)
daughter of Alan Hutchison and
Elizabeth Ann Trembly
Sponsor: Margo Buda

Weddings
Kelly Elaine Bellomy
and
Konstantinos “Dino” Panagopoulos (October 6)
Koumbaros: Christos Panagopoulos

Elena Crudu
and
Lambros Michael Magiafas (October 16)
Koumbaroi: Thomas and Ioanna Tsianakas

Kelsey Paige Kouri
and
Anthony L. Kontos (October 29)
Koumbaros: Demetrios Elefantis

Congratulations!

Congratulations!

(Continued from page 3)
our community in the coming year.

On behalf of our Parish Council, I wish each of you continued health, happiness and prosperity in service to our community and our Lord.

Your servant in Christ,

[Signature]
President, Parish Council
Saint Katherine Ladies Philoptochos
THANKSGIVING BAKE SALE
November 20th after Divine Liturgy

NAME____________________________
EMAIL___________________________
PHONE NO._______________________

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TO ORDER, PLEASE EMAIL LPBAKESALE@YAHOO.COM OR CALL MARY VARLAS AT 703-965-4161

PLEASE MAIL CHECKS TO:
SAINT KATHERINE LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS
ATTN: MARY VARLAS
3149 GLEN CARLYN ROAD
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041
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| 6                    | 7th Sunday of Luke  | 1  
Kosmas and Damianos  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30 am Divine Liturgy  
5pm Conversational Greek  
6:30pm Grk Folk Dance  
7pm Adult Conv. Greek | 2  
10:30am Women’s Book Club | 3  
7pm Adult Conv. Greek  
7:00pm Gentle Exercise  
7:30pm Choir | 4  
5:00pm Greek School  
5pm Adult Conv. Greek | 5  
9:30am Greek School |
|                      | 9:00am Orthros and   | 8  
Vespers for Saint Nektarios at Saint Nektarios Monastery in Emmitsburg, MD  
5pm Conversational Greek  
6:30pm Grk Folk Dance  
7pm Adult Conv. Greek | 9  
Nektarios the Wonder-worker  
10:00am Liturgy at Saint Nektarios in Monastery, Emmitsburg, MD  
6:30pm GOYA Practice  
7:30pm Missions | 10  
12:00pm Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon  
7pm Adult Conv. Greek  
7:00pm Gentle Exercise  
7:30pm Choir | 11  
Veterans’ Day  
5:00pm Greek School  
5pm Adult Conv. Greek | 12  
9:30am Greek School |
|                      | Catechetical School |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        | Anunciation, Norfolk Basketball Tournament through Sunday |
|                      | 10:00am Divine Liturgy |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | 12:00pm GOYA       |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | 6:00pm Saint        |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | Katherine Annual    |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | Dinner Gala        |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
| 13                   | 8th Sunday of Luke  | 14  
8th Sunday of Luke  
Stewardship Sunday  
9:00am Orthros and Catechetical School  
10:00am Divine Liturgy  
12:00pm GOYA  
6pm Adult Grk Flk Dance | 15  
5pm Conversational Greek  
6:30pm Grk Folk Dance  
7pm Adult Conv. Greek | 16  
Matthew the Apostle  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30 am Divine Liturgy  
6:30pm GOYA Practice  
7:30pm Parish Council | 17  
7pm Adult Conv. Greek  
7:00pm Gentle Exercise  
7:30pm Choir | 18  
5:00pm Greek School  
5pm Adult Conv. Greek | 19  
9:30am Greek School |
|                      | Stewardship Sunday  |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        | Anunciation, Baltimore Basketball Tournament through Sunday |
|                      | 9:00am Orthros and   |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | Catechetical School |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | 10:00am Divine Liturgy |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | 12:00pm DOP        |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | 6pm Adult Grk Flk Dance |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
| 20                   | 9th Sunday of Luke  | 21  
9th Sunday of Luke  
Stewardship Sunday  
9:00am Orthros and Catechetical School  
10:00am Divine Liturgy  
Philoctochos Bake Sale  
Youth Church Duty  
6pm Adult Grk Flk Dance | 22  
5pm Conversational Greek  
6:30pm Grk Folk Dance  
7pm Adult Conv. Greek | 23  
24  
Thanksgiving Day  
(Office Closed) | 25  
Katherine the Great Martyr  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
**Reception Following**  
(Office Closed) | 26  
9:30am Greek School |
|                      | 9:00am Orthros      |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | 10:00am Divine Liturgy |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | 6pm Adult Grk Flk Dance |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
| 21                   | Entrance of the     | 28  
13th Sunday of Luke  
9:00am Orthros  
10:00am Divine Liturgy  
6pm Adult Grk Flk Dance | 29  
5pm Conversational Greek  
6:30pm Grk Folk Dance  
7pm Adult Conv. Greek | 30  
Andrew the First Called Apostle  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
6:30pm GOYA Practice | 27  
13th Sunday of Luke  
9:00am Orthros  
10:00am Divine Liturgy  
6pm Adult Grk Flk Dance | 28  
7:30pm Sons Practice | 29  
5pm Conversational Greek  
6:30pm Grk Folk Dance  
7pm Adult Conv. Greek |
|                      | Theotokos           |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | 9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
7:30pm Sons Practice |                                                                            |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
| 22                   | 5pm Conversational  |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
|                      | Greek               |                                                                        |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
| 23                   | 24  
Thanksgiving Day  
(Office Closed) |                                                                            |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
| 24                   | 25  
Katherine the Great Martyr  
9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
**Reception Following**  
(Office Closed) |                                                                            |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |
| 25                   | 26  
9:30am Greek School |                                                                            |                                                                            |                                                                     |                                                                        |                                                                          |

Please check the online calendar, [http://saint-katherines.org/calendar](http://saint-katherines.org/calendar), for the most current information.
PHILOPTOCHOS (by Eleni Kanakos, President)

TIME IS PASSING BY SO QUICKLY, and the holidays are almost here. Philoptochos will be hosting its annual Thanksgiving Luncheon for the seniors of our parish Thursday, November 10, 12:00pm-3:00pm, in the Meletis Charuhas Hall. Contact Mary Drakoulis (marydrak3@gmail.com or 703-273-4159) for reservations. All seniors are welcome!

As we prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday, we also celebrate the feastday of our Patron Saint—Katherine the Great Martyr—on Friday, November 25. The Ladies of Philoptochos will sponsor a feastday celebration reception after the Divine Liturgy on November 25. (Vespers will not be celebrated on Thursday evening because of the Thanksgiving holiday). Kindly bring a dish to share (mini sandwiches, dips, desserts, etc). Diane Argerson is chairing the festivities surrounding this celebration, so please contact her (703-759-3781 or dionysia6@yahoo.com) to let her know what you will donate. Please keep in mind that we will be in the midst of the Christmas fast so all dishes should be meatless.

Our Thanksgiving Bake Sale is Sunday, November 20, after the Divine Liturgy. You can place orders in advance by contacting Mary Varlas (LPbakesale@yahoo.com or 703-965-4161).

Our Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington on Saturday, December 10, from 11:00am-3:00pm. The address is 1700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington. The donation ticket prices are $50 for adults, $20 for children 12 years old and under. Spouses and friends are welcome! For your reservations, call Chrysoula Pappas at 703-827-5435 or Trish Kapsidelis at 703-356-5905. The reservation deadline is December 1.

Please remember to send in your 2016 Philoptochos stewardship if you haven’t already done so. We appreciate your generosity and support.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE (by Karen Polizos, President)

ON BEHALF OF THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE and Saint Katherine Philoptochos, thank you to everyone who supported our warm clothing drive to collect jackets and hoodies for Alternative House (Fairfax County) and Homestretch (Falls Church). Your donations will help keep many children and adults warm in the cold months ahead. In addition to our warm clothing drive, Helle Chapter Sisters voted to make a donation to Britepaths (formerly Our Daily Bread), to support their Complete the Circle FOODRaiser in preparation of feeding struggling families during the holiday season.

The Daughters of Penelope will celebrate its 87th anniversary with Sister Chapters, Hermione 11 and Arion 298, at our Founder’s Day Luncheon on Saturday, November 12 at Alfo’s Restaurant. In December, Helle Chapter Sisters will celebrate the Blessings of Christmas at a luncheon on Saturday, December 3, at Cedar Knoll Restaurant in Alexandria.

Our next monthly meeting is Sunday, November 13, immediately after Liturgy/coffee hour. From all of our Sisters in Helle Chapter, we wish our Saint Katherine community a happy and safe Thanksgiving Holiday!

SAINT KATHERINE LIVE!

Did you know that we have a live feed from our church? Relatives and friends from far away can watch a sacrament. If you are sick and cannot make it to a service, you can still participate. Sign in to the church website, saintkatherines.org, and click on the red “Saint Katherine Live!” button in the right-hand column.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND FASHION SHOW, DECEMBER 10, 11am

Army Navy Country Club, 1700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington
Donation: $50 | Children 12 and Under: $20
Reservation Deadline: December 1

Raffle and Door Prizes | Fashions by Bloomingdales

For reservation information, contact
Chrysoula Pappas 703-827-5435 or Trish Kapsidelis 703-356-5905

Mail checks, payable to, Saint Katherine Philoptochos, along with your name and contact information to Chrysoula Pappas, 7716 Fallstaff Road, McLean, VA 22102

Hosted by Saint Katherine Philoptochos. All proceeds to benefit Philoptochos charities.
OCMC Developmental Officer Visit. On Wednesday evening, October 5, we were honored to have Kenny Kidd, a Developmental Officer of the OCMC visit Saint Katherine. Kenny came to share the many countries and mission outreach of the OCMC with us. Kenny especially impressed us when he described how he was converted to Orthodox Christianity and how this has changed his life. In the process he described beautifully what it means to be an Orthodox Christian. Thank you Kenny!!

Monumental Missions Walks. On a beautiful Saturday morning, October 15, 2016, our Missions and Outreach Committee held its fourth annual Monumental Mission Walk. Participants were from Saint Katherine and several other Orthodox Churches in the DC area. This year’s walk took place on the eastern end of the National Mall. It started at 9:00am with a prayer led by Fr. Costa and had stops at 1) Disabled American Veterans Memorial, 2) U.S. Botanical Garden, 3) Ulysses S. Grant Memorial, 4) Our Capitol Building, 5) Peace Monument, 6) National Gallery of Art East Building, 7) National Archives, and 8) National Sculpture Garden. Our tent was set up near the American Indian Museum just west of the Capitol Building. Our tent was a source of interest to many passersby who stopped to admire the icons and posters from the OCMC and pictures of missions to Africa, Guatemala, and other places. Proceeds from this year’s walk will be shared between the OCMC, the Food Pantry, and the Culmore Clinic. Eleni Porter was the Chairperson of this popular event. Thanks to all who participated and made this year’s “Walk” a success.

OCAMPR Conference, November 3-5. The Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology and Religion (OCAMPR) will hold its annual meeting at our seminary in Brookline, MA, November 3-5. The topic will be “Pain and Suffering.” Visit OCAMPR.org for more information.

Food Pantry. Our latest Food Pantry collection was held Sunday, October 16. It was again coordinated by Rebecca Rouvelas and Marilyn Rouvelas. We again, passed the 1,188 pounds of food collected. Some children of our Sunday School (Alexandra and Michael Sarris, Lucas and Demetrios Solomos, Buddy and Zoe Gould, Eleni and Emanuel Rouvelas helped transport the food, check expiration dates, and shelve it on the shelves. We do this important ministry to carry out our Lord’s directive to “feed the hungry.”

Culmore Clinic Retreat and Five-Year Anniversary, November 10. Saint Katherine has partnered with the Culmore Clinic for more than 10 years. However, on Thursday morning, November 10, 7:30am-9:00am, they will celebrate their five-year anniversary at Columbia Baptist Church. Breakfast will be served and tours of the clinic will be given. The Culmore Clinic treats those without health insurance. The clinic is supported by several faith based organizations in the Bailey’s Crossroads area, including Saint Katherine. Please come and see what wonderful things are being done. In order to RSVP, please go to www.culmoreclinic.org/Big5. Fr. Costa is on their Advisory Board and Dr. John Demakis is on their Executive Board.

Bailey’s Crossroads Homeless Shelter. We will again assemble over 250 hygiene and survival kits for the homeless shelter. Each organization of the church has been informed of the item(s) they need to provide. The items are all due on Sunday, November 20. Please be sure to have the items available by that time. The Sunday School children will assemble the kits together in early December and then deliver them to the shelter. These kits are greatly appreciated by the shelter and the homeless.

Lemonade Missionaries Follow Up. In our last article we highlighted our “Lemonade Missionaries”—the two young Georgeadis girls who opened a lemonade stand to raise money for the children of Kenya. This article was sent to the OCMC and they have sent it out nationally. Way to go girls!!!
FESTIVAL THANK YOU
Thank you to all for a wonderful job during our 2016 Fall Festival. Our festivals are successful, sometimes in spite of the weather, because of all of you. These successes could not be accomplished without your amazing help. Thank you for working as a team and putting Saint Katherine first! We are very blessed to have you as part of our Church family. Thank you for your continued support and Happy Thanksgiving! — Andrea Ballard

WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB
We met twice in October but it is not too late to join the club. We are discussing On the Providence of God by Saint John Chrysostom. Each chapter is unique and stands alone, therefore it is not necessary to read them sequentially and new members can pick up at any point. The message in the book is about ways to hold on to our spiritual strength—a timely message that is as relevant today as it was in the 4th century. This month’s meeting will be on Wednesday, November 2 from 10:30am to noon. Please contact Despina Raizes (2draizes@gmail.com or 703-216-8176) for more information.

ALL AROUND THE TOWN
Joanna Bose

THE ENDURING LEGACY OF EL GRECO
The Center for Hellenic Studies was the venue for an interesting presentation recently by Marina Lambraki-Plaka, the Director of the Greek National Gallery and a highly acclaimed authority on El Greco.
Professor Lambraki-Plaka posited that El Greco’s legacy and his continued popularity amongst all Greeks has something to do with him being the only Renaissance person to have come out of Greece. He left for Italy in 1567 before the arrival there of the Ottomans.
The argument has been made by literary figures such as Odysseas Elytis, that the occupation and disruption by the Ottomans in Greece in 1453, meant that even though Greek thought and achievements had essentially engendered the Renaissance in Europe, Greece itself was suppressed and deprived of taking part in the movement. And he claims that our Renaissance would’ve been very different from what took place in Europe.
What Elytis calls “ελληνικοτιτα”, which he defines as a way of looking at things, a particular “Greek” way, can be seen very much in evidence in the work of El Greco. What he brought with him from Crete- his Byzantine training in icon painting- and then, by adapting and mastering the techniques of the masters he adored, those of the high Renaissance, this made it possible for him to develop a unique style that comprised all that was intrinsically part of Byzantine traditions, but also Mannerist techniques.
In fact, El Greco was very much beholden to his Renaissance influences and in the painting titled Christ Cleansing the Temple (1570) he inserts in the bottom corner of the painting the faces of his four masters: Titian, Michelangelo, Clovio and Raphael. He acknowledged his debt of gratitude to these masters while placing himself directly behind them.
In the final slide presentation, The Burial of Count Orgaz was analyzed in detail. This huge painting, split into two halves with the heavens, Jesus, the Madonna and John the Baptist all painted in the elongated ethereal style saintly figures were portrayed, and on the bottom- the terrestrial part- the nobility that he often painted in portraiture, clergy and simple folk. This row of earthly inhabitants is marked by a down-to-earth grounded quality. They look out at us the observer.
“This is where El Greco sets before us, in a highly compressed form the wisdom he has brought to his art, his knowledge, his expertise, his composite imagination and his expressive power. It is the living encyclopedia of his art without ceasing to be a masterpiece with organic continuity and entelechy” (Lambraki-Plaka, El Greco-The Greek).
If “ελληνικοτιτα” means, as Elytis says he tried to portray in his writing, a way of looking at things and feeling about them, a particularly Greek way which is informed by the Greek spirit and sensibility, then El Greco was not only a Renaissance Greek man but the true embodiment and representative of all that is Greek.
SHOWN BELOW is a list of families and individuals who participated in the 2016 Saint Katherine's Stewardship Program through September 30, 2016. Thank you for responding to the needs of our church.

If you have not yet submitted your 2016 pledge, please complete the stewardship form on page 8 and return it to the Church 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.

Any questions? Please contact Lori Nelson at inelson@stkchurch.com or 703-671-1515.
2016 STEWARDSHIP FORM

If you have not yet made a stewardship commitment to your church for the year 2016, please take a moment and do so now.

I (my family) pledge(s) $_______ of financial stewardship to Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church.

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

City, State, Zip: ______________________________________

Thank you!
Why don’t YOU advertise in the DOXA? Contact Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos at przpauline@stkchurch.com or 703-239-2627.

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in celebration of our Parish
and honoring
John Agnos
and
Pierre Tavoularis

Hilton McLean Tysons Corner
7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, VA 22102

Sunday, November 6, 2016
6:00pm Silent Auction and Reception
7:00pm Dinner
Music by Achilleas

Dinner Gala Committee
Nick Larigakis, Co-Chair
Bill Polizos
Georgea Polizos

Maria Wills, Co-Chair
Jim Stoucker
Mary Varlas

For further information, please contact Maria Wills (703-409-3041 or mwills28@verizon.net)