LEAN ON ME

*Lean on Me.* Do you know this song? The lyrics are a reminder for me of the role that saints can play in our lives, if we ask them.

Sometimes in our lives we all have pain
We all have sorrow
But if we are wise
We know that there’s always tomorrow

Lean on me, when you’re not strong
And I’ll be your friend
I’ll help you carry on
For it won’t be long
‘Til I’m gonna need
Somebody to lean on

Please swallow your pride
If I have things you need to borrow
For no one can fill those of your needs
That you won’t let show

You just call on me brother, when you need a hand
We all need somebody to lean on
I just might have a problem that you’ll understand
We all need somebody to lean on

Lean on me, when you’re not strong
And I’ll be your friend
I’ll help you carry on
For it won’t be long
‘Til I’m gonna need
Somebody to lean on

You just call on me brother, when you need a hand
We all need somebody to lean on
I just might have a problem that you’ll understand
We all need somebody to lean on

If there is a load you have to bear
That you can’t carry
I’m right up the road
I’ll share your load

(Continued on page 15)
## CLERGY

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Protopresbyter Konstantinos A. Pavlakos, Proistamenos</td>
<td>703-213-1109, 703-239-2627</td>
<td><a href="mailto:frcostas@stkchurch.com">frcostas@stkchurch.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. Presbyter Nikolas S. Delavaris, Assistant Priest</td>
<td>614-378-8242</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fznikolas@stkchurch.com">fznikolas@stkchurch.com</a></td>
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## STAFF

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bookkeeper</td>
<td>Lisa Mikhailovsky</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fcm387@gmail.com">fcm387@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Secretary/Teacher</td>
<td>Sophia Tsangali</td>
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## 2020 PARISH COUNCIL

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>President, Ray Vazquez</td>
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<td>703-728-7091</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rvazquez@stkchurch.com">rvazquez@stkchurch.com</a></td>
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<td>Vice President, Mark Cherpes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary, Bill Polizos</td>
<td>571-434-7790</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer, George Moratis</td>
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<td>703-774-6180</td>
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## SCHOOLS AND STUDIES

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<tr>
<td>Bible Study (English)</td>
<td>Bill Polizos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bible Study (Weekday)</td>
<td>Ioannis Gkigkitzis, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catechetical (Sunday) School, Youth</td>
<td>Christina Vazquez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journey to Orthodoxy</td>
<td>James Jatras</td>
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## MINISTRIES

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<tr>
<td>AHEPA #438 (P. Derzis)</td>
<td>Michael Parrish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bookstore</td>
<td>George Vassilopoulos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Club (Saint Genevieve)</td>
<td>Georgia McKinney, Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Review</td>
<td>Victoria Cherpes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daughters of Penelope Helle #283</td>
<td>Maria Tikoff Vargas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fellowship of Saint Ephraim (Addiction)</td>
<td>Rev. Nikolaos Delaveris</td>
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<td>GOYA (7th-12th grades)</td>
<td>President TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greek Dance (Byzantio)</td>
<td>Aris and Anna Yortzidis, Instructors</td>
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<td>Greek School PTA</td>
<td>Andri Orphanides, President</td>
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<td>Hellenic Education Center</td>
<td>Greek School and Paideia preschool</td>
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<td>HOPE (ages 7 and under)</td>
<td>Doris Mentis, Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>JOY (ages 8-12)</td>
<td>Vaita Bousbouras, Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Listserv (email list)</td>
<td>Pres. Pauline Pavlakos, Administrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missions and Outreach</td>
<td>Dr. John Demakis, Chairman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moms, Pops &amp; Tots (up to age 4)</td>
<td>Irene Sakkas</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCF (College Ministry)</td>
<td>Zack Long</td>
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<td>Paideia</td>
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<td>Philoptochos</td>
<td>Mary Varlas</td>
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<td>Stewardship</td>
<td>Andrea Ballard</td>
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<td>Website</td>
<td>Pres. Pauline Pavlakos, Webmaster</td>
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<td>YAL (Young Adult League)</td>
<td>Faye (Fotini) Anson</td>
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I HOPE THIS MONTH’S *DOXA* finds you and your family healthy. I pray for the health and recovery of those suffering from the Corona Virus and for those on the front lines helping combat this horrible pandemic.

It has been many months since we have been living with a pandemic and, while I would like to say that we are turning a corner, all indications from across the world is this pandemic will continue and will likely be worse as we approach flu season. It is this reality that forces us to adjust to a new normal.

The Parish Council, working together with Father Costa and Father Nikolas, has established a series of internal controls and practices to keep our church operating in compliance with CDC guidelines and the Virginia requirements. I want to thank all of our parishioners who have cooperated with these requirements, worn their mask during liturgy, signed up for services in advance, volunteered to help us cover weekday services, supported the church financially, maintained the church’s various missions to support the local community, and prayed for the health and safety of our community.

We miss you. We miss celebrating the liturgy together. We miss gathering after church and enjoying cookies prepared by our beloved Philoptochos, while we have coffee and catch up. I miss seeing the kids running through the hall and jumping off the stage as they get an opportunity to see their friends and play. These are hard times.

However, we are adapting. Our Greek School is open under the CDC guidelines. We have our adult catechetical class online. We have a wonderful new youth Bible study weekly. We are taking our Sunday School virtually. We have a wonderful new youth Bible study weekly. We are having missions meetings virtually. I hope soon we will be able to announce plans for a drive-through fundraiser in lieu of our fall festival. All of these adjustments demonstrate the resiliency of our community.

Despite all of the challenges, our church continues to thrive. We recently were able to replace multiple broken air conditioning units in the Meletis Charuhas Center that have improved the comfort of our buildings and the ventilation necessary to allow us to open the Greek School.

The dollar a day program has been growing and, in addition to stewardship, the financial gap has been narrowed. Additional participation in both of these programs have the potential to establish a new normal—enabling us to meet the financial obligations of our church without having to rent our halls or conduct festivals to pay our bills. If you have not committed to the dollar a day program or completed your stewardship for 2020, I urge you to do so—it is not too late. We need 100% participation from the community. We have the opportunity to create a new normal where are festivals are done to fund missions and good works instead of plugging large holes in our budget. Please consider how you can help contribute to this new normal.

I have served on the Parish Council for over 7 years, and these past two years as President. On any given year, this is a hard job. No Parish Council in the history of our Saint Katherine, has had to manage through a pandemic such as COVID-19. We are learning every day how to adapt and make the best of the current circumstances. We do not have all the answers and, therefore, I ask for your ideas. Please reach out to me or any member of the Parish Council with ideas or concerns. We are here to serve you and make the best of this new normal we have.

Thank you and keep us in your prayers.

In Christ,

Ray Vazquez, President
Saint Katherine Parish Council
GOYA (13-18 year olds)
ON OCTOBER 17TH, our GOYAns, led by Fr. Nikolas, spent the day with nature on our very first Creation Hike. Meditations and exploring God’s created beauty was an unforgettable experience.

We have kicked off our Holiday fundraiser http://www.giftitforward.com. Use Code STKATHVA001. Get your holiday decorating and gift giving done with us! We have teamed up with a small family farm and will be selling wreaths and various other holiday decor. Proceeds of this will be allocated to a special project for the church that will be determined later.

GOYAns have purchased 50 wreaths for our Annual Memorial Service on December 12 at 10:00am. If you would like us to honor your loved one by placing a wreath on their marker at National Cemetery, please go to this link, https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/VancoVer3.vps?apver3=wWsk24ZWJSTZKsGd1RMKJg0BDvsSG3V1WQCJFNNxD8uipkiY7J1DavDsozUE7KG0nFx2NSo8LdUkGpUGJuF396vBrNxsRsrgurW5Gsi1cu4vaXHubq5Z7ap5JvmpEr4c4ZeYHCKCZhESjGNQmZ5B-6dx0oi1tCB5bb9wP0oCfxSu68=&&ver=3. Scroll down to GOYA section, Donate $35, list WREATH/FAMILY MEMBER NAME in Memo Section. We only have 50, so please reserve early.

Update on Homeless Christmas Project. We received two VERY generous donations from Sherwin Williams Paint Company and the Conlon Family to help us purchase items for the bags. We are grateful and thankful for their support. Shout out to the STK Ladies Philoptocho for once again stepping up to help our community. We have already begun the procurement of items. Wanna help? Reach out to us!

CATECHETICAL (SUNDAY) SCHOOL
WE CONTINUE OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL virtually. Please make sure that you have signed up your student(s) using the Google Form link https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13VZGK-Ny7FR5Ods_Su1R2xS-JFR4P6Els4dL1mecoWUk/edit. You will receive weekly emails with the lessons, which are also available on the Sunday School page under the “Ministries” tab on our church website (http://saint-katherines.org/ministries/schools_studies_and_book_clubs/youth-catechetical-sunday-school). If you have any questions, please reach out to our Christina Vazquez, our director, at czvmail2@gmail.com.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
IN THIS TIME OF SOCIAL DISTANCING, let us continue our weekly Adult Bible Study class online. We are currently studying The Book of Revelation. Join us each Thursday evening from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. If you are not already on Bill Polizos’ invitation list, please send your email address to bp3175@att.com so that you will receive invitations to the Zoom classes.

ADULT CATECHETICAL LESSONS (ACL)
PLEASE TAKE NOTE of the new Zoom meeting times for our Adult Catechetical Lessons:

Philokalia: Saturdays at 11:00am
Book of Revelation: Saturdays at 3:00pm

Join the Zoom meeting at https://zoom.us/j/8252477604
Meeting ID: 825 247 7604 | Password: 916443

HELLENIC EDUCATION CENTER
REGISTRATION FOR GREEK SCHOOL is still available. Please visit https://www.stkhec.org/Page/24 for the Greek School enrollment form and payment information. Please feel free to contact us at hec-administration@stkchurch.com with any questions.

We are still in search of a Director for our Paideia program. We would like to open the program as soon as possible for our community families. If you or anyone you know is interested in applying, there are several positions to be filled for the schools. Please review job postings by visiting https://www.stkhec.org/Page/2903.

ST. GENEVIEVE BOOK CLUB
ST. GENEVIEVE BOOK CLUB will be back! Please look to future issues of the DOXA for updates on meetings and readings.
FROM THE DESK OF FR. NIKOLAS

Title: A Betrayal of Trust
Subtitle: From the Life of Saint George Karslidis
(Commemorated November 4th)

One morning, a farmer from Sipsa, a town close to the city of Drama in Greece, was getting ready to pour fertilizer in his fields. However, he was urgently called into court as a witness. Thus the farmer asked his trusted fellow villager to help him out. Instead of helping the farmer, the villager spread the fertilizer in his own fields, without anyone noticing him.

After some time, when the farmer went to the monastery to receive Communion, the elder of the monastery, the eventual Saint George Karslidis, refused to give him Holy Communion, telling him that he must first repent of his sin and confess. Because the villager then pretended to not know of what sin he was supposed to confess, the Saint assured him that his field would not bear any fruit that year, even though it had received all of the farmer’s fertilizer. Instead, the fields of the farmer, who was wronged by his fellow villager, would bear a lot of fruit. And that is exactly how things turned out.

This short, albeit impressionable story, from Saint George’s life reveals to us one very important point for consideration. That is: The Charisms (spiritual gifts) of God are revealed only to those who serve Him (and certainly not themselves). Saint George’s life was one which was full of suffering. Despite this, he held close to the Lord. With every pain, Saint George drew nearer to God, instead of blaming the Lord for the trials he was made to endure. Because of Saint George’s extreme and steadfast Faith, he was granted the spiritual gift of clairvoyance. The fellow villager, on the other hand, seeking to serve himself (and betray his neighbor) not only is denied the spiritual gift of Communion, but further denies himself the opportunity to repent. In doing so, he is not only left starving spiritually, but as a reminder of his self-assumed position, is also starved physically. All of this is to say that if we are seeking a blessing, we should expect to put in some honest work.

GREEK SCHOOL
We have almost completed the second month of Greek School. We would like to quote a few words from the Holy Bible and specifically from the Old Testament, Wisdom Sirach, which will help us in our struggles, and which certifies that, “If you wish knowledge, then you know that the Lord is He who will give it to you (and not by yourself only you will acquire it) under the term that you will keep His commandments.” Obedience to the Lord’s commandments brings knowledge and wisdom to the student. It opens his mind and leads him to the acquirement of knowledge and in our case to Greek Orthodox knowledge. This year, our school, under the difficult circumstances of COVID-19, has reached a good number of students—children and adults. We are proud that we were able to open our school!

The schedule for November is as follows:
- November 14: Teachers’ Meeting, 1:30pm
- November 26-28: No Classes – Thanksgiving Break

SAINT KATHERINE ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD
You are invited to participate in the annual Christmas Card of our parish. Our Community Christmas Card brings us together as a family, expressing prayers and love to all of our brothers and sisters. This special community Christmas card will be mailed by the Church Office and your donation is only $25.00. (Please make checks payable to “Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church” and note “Christmas Card” on the memo line. Thank you.

Complete the form below and give it to a church usher or mail it to the Church Office by Monday, December 7. List your name(s), in English or Greek, as you want it (them) printed in the card.

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________________

Merry Christmas!
Archbishop Elpidophoros Lends Support to the OCMC. A recent communication from the Archbishop of the Greek Archdiocese of America expressed thanks to the OCMC for their generous work: “It is with much joy that I received and read your recent message informing me of the OCMC’s extraordinary assistance to our Christian brothers and sisters around the globe during this time of pandemic. Indeed, OCMC constitutes a source of great pride for the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops, as it further extends the international assistance we can provide to those in need, while simultaneously strengthening our fraternal bonds of unity and solidarity with our fellow brother hierarchs across the world. And it is precisely this manifestation of tangible Christian love, compassion and witness that we are called to live daily and to instill within those around us. And so, my dear Fr. Martin, (Rev. Martin Ritsi, Director of the OCMC) for this genuine desire to advance the mission of the Church throughout the oikoumene, I extend to you my deepest gratitude and appreciation, together with my wholehearted commendation and praise. Thanking you for your continued dedication and commitment, I extend to you and the entire OCMC family my archepiscopal blessings…”

OCMC Gets a New Development Director. After a nationwide search this summer, the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) appointed Dan Christopulos as Director of Development, who will be responsible for managing all aspects of fundraising and communication efforts at OCMC. Dan is not unknown to the Orthodox world or to OCMC. In fact, he was the first missionary sent by OCMC to East Africa in 1985. He is a native of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and has a long history with OCMC and service in the Orthodox Church. After graduating with a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology from the University of Wyoming, he attended Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, receiving a Masters of Divinity in 1983. Since 2001, Dan worked with International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) as Development Officer and a Development Director for six years. After 11 years in the development department, he continued on with IOCC to expand the work of the IOCC domestic program.

Support a Mission Priest (SAMP) Program. OCMC provides a subsidy to help these priests share the Faith, care for their communities, and provide for their families. For just $600 ($50 per month) churches, organizations, and people like you can support a priest serving in the mission field for an entire year by helping to subsidize a priest’s income. The SAMP program provides nearly 400 clergy in 16 countries the support they need to dedicate their time and energy to evangelize their flock in many villages, cities, and towns. Can you help support a mission priest? To provide your support for $600/year, contact the OCMC at: https://secure.ocmc.org/site/Donation2.

OCMC Missionary Deacon Thomas Emmanuel will visit our parish on Sunday, November 8. Dn. Emmanuel is a full-time OCMC missionary in Guatemala. He will return to Guatemala in January with his wife Elizabeth and new baby Vasili. Dn. Emmanuel has been to Saint Katherine several times, but this will be his first visit as a deacon.

OCMC Job Openings in St. Augustine, FL. OCMC is seeking to fill the positions of Finance Director and Recruitment Officer/Program Assistant to join the OCMC as part of the Senior Management team and head of our Finance Department as we change lives around the world.

OCMC Trek4Missions. The Trek4Missions raised over $135,000, far exceeding the original goal of $100,000.

FOCUS. The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve (FOCUS) recently announced that Kenny Kidd will be the new Director. Kenny has worked for the OCMC and has been to Saint Katherine several times in the last few years. FOCUS will give him new opportunities and hopefully we will be able to work with Kenny again. Our church has participated in several FOCUS projects in the past and we look forward to continuing that relationship. Some of our previous projects have included buying shoes for children in the DC area.

Zoom Meetings for Missions and Outreach Committee. We are pleased to announce that our Missions and Outreach Committee held its first Zoom meeting on Tuesday, October 13. This was our first meeting since March. We will continue our monthly meetings via Zoom. Please notify Dr. John Demakis at demakis9931@gmail.com, if you are interested in joining our Missions and Outreach Committee meetings. The next virtual meeting of our Missions and Outreach Committee is on Tuesday, November 17, 8:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Shelter Hygiene and Survival Kits. As reported in last month’s DOXA, Bailey’s Shelter has asked us to again provide 300 hygiene and survival kits. Each of our church organizations has been asked to provide specific items for the kits. We deliver them in early December.

Special Needs of the Shelter. The shelter has recently asked us if we could also provide men’s boxer briefs (small and medium), men’s socks (ankle), and basic shirts for men and women. If you would like to donate any of the above, please bring them to the Church Office during the week.

Food Pantry. In keeping with our Thanksgiving tradition of helping others in need, on Sunday, November 15 (10 days before Thanksgiving) please bring food items to the front of our church for donations to the Food Pantry located at Columbia Baptist Church. We will have volunteers there to collect the items. Please make sure the items are packaged appropriately (not easily torn). Items can include: canned fruit (canned in fruit juice), canned meat (tuna, chicken, salmon), peanut butter, canned tomatoes, canned corn, meal soup, canned beans, pasta sauce, pasta, macaroni and cheese, cereal, and oatmeal. Some special holiday items are pancake mix, pancake syrup and brownie mix.

Diaper Drive. On Sunday, December 6 (Saint Nicholas Day), we will have a special collection of diapers for two food pantries in the immediate area. Please bring all sizes of disposable diapers in their original packaging (but no pull ups) to the front of the church for collection and delivery. Food pantries have identified this as a tremendous benefit for the mothers and working families who receive emergency assistance.
THE MARTYRDOM OF ST. MAKARIY GNEUSHEV, BISHOP OF OREL AND SEVSK
Submitted by Vitali Kopylov

Orel is a city located approximately 200 miles south of Moscow. It was also famous for its literary heritage, as N. Leskov wrote: that “Orel reared on its shallow waters more Russian men of letters than any other Russian city.” I remember Orel of 1960’s-70’s, with its neat, green streets and plazas, good-natured residents, and feisty, noisy, and somewhat rowdy youngsters. It’s the city of my adolescence and youth, where I graduated from high school and got my first college degree. There I started going, or better say, furiously sneaking to the church, usually at dusk, so nobody could notice me. At that time, in Orel, with its 300,000 Russian residents, there were just four Orthodox churches, though it was not too bad. In other cities of the same size, there were usually no more than two. Eventually, I was also baptized there, but, again, secretly. While living in Orel, I met some very spiritually strong and pious Orthodox Christians, both clergy and laity, who upheld their faith through many excruciating tribulations. However, I knew very little about people who stood up for their faith and their country during the crucial 1917 Revolution and the Civil War that changed Russian destiny for the upcoming seventy years and even longer.

(Continued on page 8)
Only much later, when the archives were finally opened both to residents and online visitors, I found the names of some of those heroes and martyrs. One of them was St. Hieromartyr Makariy Gneushev, Bishop of Orel and Sevsk.

Bishop Makariy was born in 1858, in Simbirsk Gubernia (today Ulyanovsk). Upon graduation from Orthodox Seminary, he started his liturgical stewardship first as a deacon than as a priest. He proved himself as a wonderful pastor, dean, missionary, preacher, later as an igumenos of a prominent monastery, and eventually he was consecrated bishop. He was also very active in social life, supporting and cherishing traditional Russian values and standing up against nihilism, anarchy, and against Bolsheviks and their revolution. His stint in Orel diocese in 1917 was very short, just three months; after that he was assigned to Riga and then to Vyazma dioceses where he was martyred. However, he went down in the history of the Russian Orthodox Church as the Bishop of Orel and Sevsk.

Bishop Makariy Gneushev was arrested by ChK ("Chrezvychainaya Komissiya, the name of political police of the Bolshevik Government) in Vyazma and charged with resistance to the soviet authorities. It’s interesting to note that when his apartment was searched, the ChK detectives found just two binoculars, one lunette d’approche, and voluminous correspondence. That’s it; no money and no valuables. At questioning he testified that since 1917 he had never been involved in anti-government discussions or plots, for it was forbidden by church regulations. At that time, the bishop was ill and physically very feeble. His family members, numerous parishioners, and numerous ordinary residents of Vyazma begged the authorities to release him and let him live on the monastery premises, but in vain.

He was just placed in the local hospital so that they enable him physically to stand the trial and sentence. However, later the authorities decided not to wait long. He was discharged from the hospital on September 1918, arrested and sentenced to death. Unfortunately, there are no official records or documents about his execution, and his martyrdom would’ve been long unknown, but it was revealed in a very unusual way. This is what the Protopresbyter Michael Polsky wrote in his book The New Russian Martyrs, published abroad, in 1949, and this is what one of the doctors from Smolensk hospital told him: “It happened in the fall, in 1920’s. We received a new patient. It was a peasant from Smolensk Oblast, who was demobilized from the Red Army because of evident tuberculosis symptoms in his lungs. The guy turned 35, was married, had two kids, and the family was doing well. The female doctor, who was in charge at that time, cheered him up and assured him that he will be OK, the more so he was comparatively young, and the hospital was able to provide adequate nutrition and medical services. Two weeks later, he had a second appointment with the same doctor; however, instead of improvement his symptoms got worse. (For the entire text of this article, please visit http://saintkatherines.org/about_us/resources_and_links/the-martyrdom-of-st.-makariy-gneushev-bishop-of-orel-and-sevsk.)
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<td>1 5th Sunday of Luke</td>
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<td>9:00am Orthros</td>
<td>5pm Youth Conv. Greek</td>
<td>7pm Adult Beg. II Greek</td>
<td>7pm Adult Int. II Greek</td>
<td>5:00pm Greek School</td>
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<td>10:00am Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>7pm Adult Beg. II Greek</td>
<td>7:00pm Paraklesis to the Holy Trinity in Defense from the Pandemic</td>
<td>7:00pm Adult Bible Study via Zoom</td>
<td>11am ACL-Philokalia</td>
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<td>7pm Teenage Bible Study via Zoom</td>
<td>3pm ACL-Book of Revelation</td>
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<td>5:00pm Greek School</td>
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<td>Daylight Saving Time ends</td>
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<td>8 7th Sunday of Luke</td>
<td>9:00am Orthros</td>
<td>10:00am Divine Liturgy</td>
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<td>1:00pm DOP Meeting via Zoom</td>
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<td>5:00pm Vespers for Saint Nektarios, 8704 Hampton Valley Road Emmitsburg, MD 21727</td>
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<td>5:00pm Greek School</td>
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<td>15 8th Sunday of Luke</td>
<td>16 Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist</td>
<td>9:00am Orthros</td>
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<td>Nativity Fast Begins</td>
<td>10:00am Divine Liturgy</td>
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<td>10am Missions Food Drive</td>
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<td>10:00am Philoptochos Curbside Bake Sale</td>
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<td>12pm Philoptochos Meeting (In-person and Zoom)</td>
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<td>22 9th Sunday of Luke</td>
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<td>24 5pm Youth Conv. Greek</td>
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<td>9:00am Orthros</td>
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<td>7pm Vespers for Katherine the Great Martyr</td>
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<td>29 13th Sunday of Luke</td>
<td>30 Andrew the Great Martyr</td>
<td>9:00am Orthros</td>
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<td>9:00am Orthros</td>
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<td>Please check the online calendar, <a href="http://saint-katherines.org/calendar">http://saint-katherines.org/calendar</a>, for the most current information.</td>
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GREETINGS to our Philoptochos sisters and parishioners.

This fall is very different than any other. Even though we have had a board meeting and a general/Zoom meeting so far, nothing feels the same. In spite of the ongoing social distancing standards everyone is adhering to, we held two curbside pick-up bake sales. November is traditionally the busiest month of the year for Philoptochos from bake sales to church events. Thankfully, we are moving forward with our bake sale and will make up with due time our annual gatherings in celebration of Saint Katherine and our seniors. I certainly miss our dream baking team and our Sunday coffee hour. In my heart, I believe that our current situation will soon be a memory and we will once again gather as we did prior to COVID-19. Help us continue working towards fulfilling our missions. Now, more than ever, your donations are necessary.

The Thanksgiving Bake Sale will take place on Sunday, November 15, 10:00am to 11:30am as curbside pick-up only. All orders must be received and prepaid by November 12th. Please order your holiday desserts and savory food items. A flyer is on page 8 of this publication, the church website, and the Saint Katherine Ladies Philoptochos Facebook page. The Thanksgiving and Christmas Curbside Bake Sales will allow us to continue our work.

I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

THE NEW TEMPORARY NORMAL IS “Zoom, Zoom Zoom” again! I would like to emphasize this is a temporary solution until COVID-19 is under control, so do not get used to it. We cannot thank Brother Nick Papadis, who made his Zoom account available to the Chapter, enough. Of course, there is no substitute for meeting in person and being able to socialize at the end of the meeting, but at least we were able to accomplish our goals and even managed to agree on couple of things.

I am much exited to announce the Chapter now has an active website thanks again to brother Nick Papadis. The web address is www.ahepa438.org. Please log in and take a look. Keep in mind it is a work in progress and due to the situation we gave priority and finalized the “Store” so you can browse the ornaments we have for sale and upon choosing one, two, or more you can now pay online. Your selection will be shipped to your address via USPS for a small fee.

In time the website will include a history of our Chapter, list our philanthropies, provide a forum for our members, announce future events, and of course you will be able to pay your dues online.

(Cont’d from previous column)

Also in the store you will able to purchase tickets for the very sought after “Gus Moshos” Christmas raffle. As always, only 150 tickets will be sold with 50 percent of the sales going to seven lucky winners. With the price per ticket being $100.00 it comes to $7,500.00 divided as follows: First prize $5,000.00; second prize $1,500.00 with 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th prizes at $200.00 each.

The drawing of the Raffle will take place on Tuesday, December 22 in the Chapter’s Office with the Chapter’s officers and few members in attendance and it will be taped and broadcasted. The names of the winners will be posted in the January DOXA.

Next Zoom Chapter meeting is scheduled for Tuesday November 10 at 8:00pm.

Stay safe, wear a face mask and keep your distance.
BOOK REVIEW
Gregory McKinney


So first, a confession: I needed a short book for this month’s review as I waited too close to the deadline for my article. So, at 76 pages (with 24 more pages of black and white illustrations), Orthodox Iconography fit the need. It had been recommended to me some time back, but was languishing on the shelf. All I can say now is, “Wow, better late than never!”

Need a book for homeschooling the upper grades? Need an “easy” yet deep book to give to someone who doesn’t “get” Orthodox icons? Need a book simply to provide a solid foundation for your own understanding of icons within the Church? Cavarnos serves it up.

For instance, with this introductory statement, “The art of authentic iconography is eminently deliberate, clear, precise, simple, objective, universal, spiritual” (p. 41), Cavarnos leads us through a section expanding on those themes, including his thoughts on the beauty and liturgical use of icons, all of which then leads man into humility and towards theosis (our deification.)

The function of the icon in this regard is based on the principle that we become like that which we habitually contemplate. True icons focus the distracted, dispersed soul of man on spiritual perfection, on the divine. By dwelling steadily and lovingly on such perfection, we come to partake of it more and more (p. 33).

Throughout, Cavarnos offers us his personal reflections, as well an appreciation of the 20th century Greek iconographer Photios Kontoglou. Cavarnos rightly regards him as one of those responsible for the relatively recent recovery of the traditional creative and spiritual ethos around the icon and a return to the appreciation of the traditional Byzantine style of iconography. The book’s illustrations show icons of the same theme by ancient artists side-by-side with those of Kontoglou, demonstrating the latter’s embrace of the classical look and motifs.

Keeping with the introductory nature of the book, the appendices include authoritative statements regarding icons of St. John Damascene and the Seventh Ecumenical Synod, as well as a primer on the artistic techniques involved in creating icons as frescoes, panel paintings, and mosaics.

Orthodox Iconography provides everything needed to have a grounded and profound understanding of the place of icons within the Church and as instruments of our salvation.

Now inasmuch as icons teach us, remind us, lift us up to the prototypes, and arouse us to emulate the sacred persons and deeds depicted, they help us ‘brighten’ the divine image within us, they aid us in uncovering and developing the beauty of holiness. In other words, they help man attain likeness to God (p. 47).

Constantine Cavarnos was Harvard educated, culminating in a Doctorate in Philosophy. In addition to a teaching career, he wrote nearly one hundred books on philosophy, theology, and the fine arts. Near the end of his life, he was tonsured a monk at St. Anthony’s Monastery in Arizona and reposed in 2011.

Happy Thanksgiving
Remembering the goodness of God

Weekday Liturgies (9am Orthros/10am Liturgy)
November 13 John Chrysostom
November 16 Matthew the Evangelist
November 21 Entrance of the Theotokos
November 25 Katherine the Great Martyr
November 30 Andrew the Great Martyr

Paraklesis to the Holy Trinity in Defense from the Pandemic
Tuesdays, November 3, 10, 17 | 7:00pm

Vespers for the Great Martyr Saint Katherine
November 24 7:00pm

Please note that Vespers and Divine Liturgy for Nektarios the wonderworker will be held at Saint Nektarios Monastery, 8704 Hampton Valley Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727
November 8 5:00pm Vespers
November 9 9:00am Divine Liturgy

Daylight Saving Time Ends This Sunday

Don’t forget to set your clocks back
STEWARDSHIP: A Time for Every Purpose Under Heaven

During the month of November, we honor our veterans who have served the country in war and peace and we thank them for their sacrifices. We also celebrate Saint Katherine and Thanksgiving Day, a holiday that is all about gratitude.

Thank you to those who have contributed to the extra dollar a day campaign and to those who continue to support Saint Katherine through stewardship or through donations. We encourage you to make your stewardship pledge for 2020 if you have not yet done so.

Yours in Christ’s service,
Andrea Ballard
andreballard1@verizon.net

Shown below is a list of families and individuals who participated in the 2020 Saint Katherine Stewardship Program through October 21, 2020. Thank you for responding to the needs of our church. Please contact Lisa Mikhailovsky at accounting@stkchurch.com or 703-671-1515 x106 with any questions.
We encourage all parishioners to donate $1 more a day!
REGISTRY

**Baptisms**
Nicholas (October 4)
son of Paul and Olga Stefanou
Godparent: George Petalas

Achilles Derrick Christian (October 10)
son of Donald and Cristina Cardoso
Godparent: Christina Patrianakos

Chloe Sophia (October 25)
daughter of Gregory and Leah Price
Godparent: Patricia Locke

Congratulations!

**Chrismations**
George Jano Carlson (October 25)
son of Myron Carlson+ and Laura Ford
Sponsor: James Jatras

**Weddings**
Lina Lucia Ruggirello
and
Ivan Franklin Danzig (October 6)
Koumbaroi: Ray Vazquez and Mercene Valases

Argyro C. Kosmakos
and
Michael Ryan Major (October 11)
Koumbaros: Dimitrios Kosmakos

Congratulations!

**Funerals**
Garyfalo Psoras (September 24)
Georgia Deliannis (October 13)
Athanasios “Tommy” Sokos (October 14)
Helen Tsutras (October 16)
Constantinos “Gus” Svolis (October 20)
Nick Frank Stames (October 24)

May their memories be eternal.

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**A TASTE OF GREECE**

sponsored by St. Katherine Church

Sunday, December 6
12pm-4pm

Online pre-order/pre-paid event
Pick up in the circular drive

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**FAIRFAX REALTY**

Constantine Mavromatakis
Realtor - Licensed in Virginia
(571) 344-3834 - Cell
(703) 766-2710 - Office
ecmfairfaxrealty@gmail.com
1130 Fairfax Blvd, Suite 105, Fairfax, VA

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**Demetry Pikrallidas**

AV Rated Attorney
Premiere Legal Ability and Ethical Standards,
The Highest Legal Rating Possible

Complete Business Formation/Representation
Serious Injury
Traffic and Criminal
Domestic Relations
Wills, Trusts

Case Handled in Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax,
Prince William, Loudon, and District of Columbia

703-267-2600 |
If you just call me (call me)
If you need a friend (call me)
call me uh huh (call me) if you need a friend (call me)
If you ever need a friend (call me)
Call me (call me) call me (call me) call me
(Call me) call me (call me) if you need a friend
(Call me) call me (call me) call me (call me)
call me (call me) call me (call me)

I usually try to challenge you to put our faith into action at the end of every sermon or message. We are always inspired by the words of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded in the Bible. We also have the Saints to call upon and lean on for inspiration, seek guidance on how to be followers of the Word, and, most of all, for their intercession.

This month, on the 25th, we will all celebrate the commemoration of our Patron Saint Katherine. Have you called out to her for help? I do—every day. That is the reason the song *Lean on Me* triggers in my soul the desire to lean on her, to be a friend. Below is a little bit about her life so that we may know who she is and what she did:

According to the traditional narrative, Katherine was the daughter of Constus, the governor of Alexandria during the reign of the emperor Maximian (286–305). From a young age she devoted herself to study. A vision of the Virgin Mary and the Child Jesus persuaded her to become a Christian. When the persecutions began under Maxentius, she went to the emperor and rebuked him for his cruelty. The emperor summoned 50 of the best pagan philosophers and orators to dispute with her, hoping that they would refute her pro-Christian arguments, but Katherine won the debate. Several of her adversaries, conquered by her eloquence, declared themselves Christians and were at once put to death.

Katherine was then scourged and imprisoned. She was scourged so cruelly and for so long that her whole body was covered with wounds, from which the blood flowed in streams. Spectators wept with pity, but Katherine stood with her eyes raised to heaven, without giving a sign of suffering or fear. Maxentius ordered her to be imprisoned without food, so she would starve to death. During the confinement, angels tended her wounds with salve. Katherine was fed daily by a dove from Heaven and Christ also visited her, encouraging her to fight bravely and promised her the crown of everlasting glory.

During her imprisonment more than 200 people came to see her, including Maxentius’ wife, Valeria Maximilla. All converted to Christianity and were subsequently martyred. Twelve days later, when the dungeon was opened, a bright light and fragrant perfume filled it and Katherine came forth even more radiant and beautiful.

Upon the failure of Maxentius to make Katherine yield by way of torture, he tried to win the beautiful and wise princess over by proposing marriage. Katherine refused, declaring that her spouse was Jesus Christ, to whom she had consecrated her virginity.

The furious emperor condemned Katherine to death on a spiked breaking wheel, but, at her touch, it shattered. Maxentius ordered her to be beheaded. Katherine herself ordered the execution to commence. A milk-like substance rather than blood flowed from her neck.

It is imperative that we sing her Apolitikon, by memory, at every liturgy:

*Let us praise and extol the all-lauded Bride of Christ,* the Protectress of Sinai, divine Saint Katherine,* as the one who gives aid and her assistance to us;* for she brilliantly suppressed the impious orators,* with the sword of the Spirit.* And being crowned as a martyr,* she asks that all receive the great mercy.

Our challenge is thus, to praise her and exalt her. To pray that, as she protects Sinai, she will ask the Lord that we be protected. We ask her to aid us in our church, to do God’s will, and allow all of us to support this church. We pray that Saint Katherine shows us the way to not be distracted by impious people and become weak in our faith. We pray that our soul is filled with the Holy Spirit that leads us to victory in our salvation. We will proclaim that she inspires us to the point that we can call her friend.

By her prayers and intercession, let us celebrate our Patron Saint.

Chronia polla,

*Fr. Costa*