WE'RE GOING TO KENYA!

The Voice of God is broadcast in a myriad of ways. We are able to hear the Lord if we just listen. God did not speak to me like Moses, but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, he told the Israelites what he had been commanded (Exodus 34:34). The voice of God is communicated to us by others, sometimes in their words and often in their actions.

I was so personally touched by Bishop Neofitos of Kenya, his commitment to his flock, and the love and sincere care he has for those who are in need. During the last three years that I have known him, he has never asked for anything for himself. His focus is like that of the Good Shepherd. Saint Peter was asked, three times, by Jesus, “Do you love me?” Peter was distressed that Jesus asked him a third time and said, “Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you.” Jesus replied, “Feed my sheep” (John 21:17). Our parish has supported people going to Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Alaska, Albania, Appalachia, Africa, and another place I cannot recall at this moment. I never thought I would lead a team to Kenya. Kenya seemed so far away, so remote, a real third-world place. Well, here we are just a month away from 11 of us going to Kenya. The voice of God was heard by me and, also, Mary Van Mullekom, Fr. Christodoulos, Vivian Chelpon, Victoria Cherpes, Veronica De Meylant, Nicholas Dopuch, Eleni Porter, Despina and Peter Raizes, and Effie Wingate, and we responded to the invitation of Bishop Neofitos.

Why are we going to Kenya? God asked through the person of His dedicated servant and we are obedient to the word of God. We are going through outreach, education, and witness to share our faith with the children, brothers, and sisters of Kenya. We are not only 11 people going, we are going with prayers, love, and support of our Saint Katherine community.

First I would like to ask for donations (see form below) and then I will share a letter from Bishop Neofitos. (There’s a surprise at the end.)

KENYA MISSION DONATIONS

- 2 Projectors ($550 each)
- 3 Laptops ($425 each)
- Over-the-counter meds ($500)
- School supplies ($400)
- Sports equipment ($300)
- Money to finish the church ($20,000)
- Other (amount $____)

Please make your check payable to “Saint Katherine Missions” or donate online. All donations are tax-deductible.

Your name and address: ____________________________________________________________

Your email and phone number: ____________________________________________________

Letter from Bishop Neofitos: Dear Father Costa, Blessings of the Lord. Work started yesterday after visiting the church site last week on Friday and Saturday. I spend all my time there assessing and looking into every detail.

(Continued on page 13)
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
703-671-1385 facsimile

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 Nick Kyrous 703-981-2526 nkkyrous@comcast.net
Hellenic Education Center Director Presv. Eleni Alexopoulou 703-671-7715 ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com
Maintenance Supervisor Roberto Medina 703-671-1515 rmedina@stkchurch.com
Protopsalti James Loizou 703-356-8220 dimitri14@verizon.net
Secretary/Teacher Sophia Tsangali 703-671-1515 stsangali@stkchurch.com
Youth Director/Pastoral Assistant Nick Junes 703-671-1515 njunes@stkchurch.com

PARISH COUNCIL
President, Jim Stoucker 703-690-1050 jstoucker@verizon.net
Vice President, Nick Larigakis 703-909-9078 nlarigakis@ahiworld.com
Secretary, Maria Vargas 703-812-0286 maria@chrisandmaria.com
Treasurer, Maria Wills 703-409-3041 mwills28@verizon.net

Tony Alexis 703-599-8608 tony@gopaideia.org
Mark Cherpes 703-281-1198 markcherpese@yahoo.com
Dr. John Demakis 703-319-1610 demakis9931@gmail.com
Chris Euripides 703-477-7101 ceuripides@gmail.com
Rosemary Filou 703-405-6212 rosemary@verizon.net

SCHOOLS AND STUDIES
Bible Study (Sundays) Bill Polizos 571-434-7790 polizos@att.com
Catechetical (Sunday) School, Youth Bill Porter 703-901-2404 weporter1@fcps.edu
Journey to Orthodoxy James Jatras jim@globalstrategicpr.com
Women’s Book Club Despina Raizes 703-216-8176 2draizes@gmail.com

MINISTRIES
Acolytes Joseph Pashiardis
AHEPA #438 (P. Derzis) Alan White 703-888-7666 winsomealan@aol.com
Bookstore Georgia McKinney, Manager 703-437-9218 dintym@gmail.com
Book Review Gregory McKinney, Contributor 571-338-6929 steward1310@gmail.com
Daughters of Penelope Helle #283 Barb Koltos 703-250-7486 bklt@aol.com
DOXA Presv. Pauline Pavlakos, Editor 703-239-2627 przpauline@stkchurch.com
Facebook Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church Gregory McKinney dintym@hotmail.com
GOYA (ages 13-18) TBD
GRACE Fr. Costa Pavlakos, Spiritual Advisor 703-671-1515 frcostas@stkchurch.com
Greek Dance Aris and Anna Yortzidis, Instructors 757-218-6991 greekdance dc@gmail.com
Greek School Auxiliary TBD
Paideia TBD
Hellenic Education Center Greek School and Paideia Preschool 703-671-7715 http://www.stkhec.org
HOPE (ages 7 and under) Doris Mentis, Coordinator doris@alumni.virginia.edu
JOY (ages 8-12) Vaitas Bousbouras, Coordinator vbsbourouas@yahoo.com
Listserv (email list) Presv. Pauline Pavlakos, Administrator 703-239-2627 przpauline@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) Fr. Costa Pavlakos, Spiritual Advisor 703-671-1515 frcostas@stkchurch.com
Philoptochos Mary Varlas 703-965-4161 mary.varlas@yahoo.com
Prison Ministry (Kairos) Dennis Garbis 202-437-7299 dgargaris@envdes.com
Website Presv. Pauline Pavlakos, Webmaster 703-239-2627 przpauline@stkchurch.com
YAL (Young Adult League) Faye (Fotini) Anson fanson38@yahoo.com
As summer comes to a close and we head into the homestretch of yet another blessed calendar year for our community, our thoughts turn to autumn, the advent of the ecclesiastical New Year, the start of another promising school year, and challenges yet to be met.

Toward the end of last year, we announced to our community a Capital Campaign project whose purpose is to substantially reduce and ultimately eliminate our community’s debt as well as provide funding for other critical capital and strategic improvements benefitting our church and its operations. To focus our campaign, considerable time and effort has been put into the development of a Statement of Need which will fully articulate our debt reduction, capital and strategic goals. During the month of September, we will release this document to the community with a view toward soliciting input from our parishioners. Our letter accompanying this document will provide more information. Until then, we ask for your prayers for our community’s success in this important endeavor and look forward to the feedback you will provide.

In the meantime, work continues in our community on many fronts. Our Vacation Bible Camp was enormously successful and we also held a two-week summer camp for our children that was well received and enjoyed by all who participated. Our Paideia Preschool continues to nourish our youth as we completed the second year of year-round operations. Our Missions and Outreach ministry marshalled a group of enthusiastic volunteers for this year’s Project Mexico and the results were both rewarding and gratifying for all who participated in fulfilling the Great Commission of Christ to go and “make disciples of all nations.” Work in this vital area will continue in October when Father Costa leads another group on a mission trip to Kenya in support of Bishop Neofitos and his ministries in Africa. Our physical plant continues to be upgraded and improved where possible. We have recently completed refinishing our gym floor and the results are stunning. Beautiful new railings were installed on the front entrance of our church and we are pleased at the overwhelming stream of compliments we have received. The largest project of the summer was also successfully completed with the installation of a much needed new roof at the base of the church dome. Finally, new carpeting was installed in the lower floor of our community center, benefitting our schools and students with an attractive, quieter, and easier to maintain learning environment.

Our Fall Festival will take place October 6–8. To those who have not participated in some time…come join us! Yes, it can be hectic and stressful at times, but on the other hand, it is a rewarding weekend for the entire family as we work shoulder to shoulder with fellow parishioners who step forward for one reason—the love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and of our Church. By having this festival, we are able to reach out to our local community in sharing our heritage and love of our Church. We are also supporting the various ministries and needs of our community along with giving back to those charities who depend on us. So, to those who have been away from the Festival scene for some time, we invite you back. Please call a friend, spouse, cousin, or koumbaro and join us! We need you…in fact, we all need one another. This is what the Church…and our community…are all about!

I’d like to conclude by asking all of you to save the date of Sunday, November 19 as we gather for our annual community dinner Gala at the McLean Hilton. We are very pleased to announce this year’s honorees are Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos and the Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter 438. Two finer examples of those who humbly and quietly work in our Lord’s vineyard for the support and improvement of our community and for the betterment of others would be difficult to find. We are delighted to honor their work in the community as examples for others to follow! Please make plans to join us for this very special evening.

I look forward to seeing all of you at many of the events that lie ahead. On behalf of our Parish Council, I wish all of you God’s blessings and much happiness.
FROM THE YOUTH OFFICE (Contact Nick Junes, njunes@stkchurch.com)

GREETINGS TO ALL!

I hope and pray you all have had pleasant summer. The fall marks a new season and new beginning both in society and in the Church. It is the time to begin our classes, sports, and activities in school and it marks the ecclesiastical New Year in the Church. Ralph Waldo Emerson writes, “Finish each day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day. You shall begin it serenely and with too high a spirit to be encumbered with your old nonsense.” Let us replace “day” with “season.” I hope this summer was a nice summer, but whatever the case, let us embrace a new beginning together this fall as brothers and sisters in Christ.

This is a great time to start new habits, break old ones, and to open ourselves up to new friends, interests, and experiences. Our Young Adult and Youth Ministries at Saint Katherine are the way to embrace our faith and experience the love and joy of Christ. It is increasingly important for all of us to establish ourselves as Orthodox Christians, to embrace our faith, and to allow our Lord to guide all aspects of ourselves and our lives.

GOYA is the ministry for youth in our church nationwide, and it isn’t GOYA without the “O.” It is the Greek Orthodox Youth of America, not the Greek Youth of America. I say this because many people, when they hear “GOYA,” solely associate it with basketball. Basketball is of course one aspect of our ministry, and it is wonderful, but GOYA is much more. GOYA is for all youth whether you want to play basketball or not. You are very welcome and invited. The only requirement (besides being in 7th grade and up), and the only thing that matters, is your desire to grow in faith and fellowship! With that being said, our GOYANs should also be GOYAn and not G-YANs. This means that we are called to be well-rounded youth. We are expected to participate in all aspects of church life including liturgy, Sunday School, community events, altar service, youth church duty, etc.

Our Young Adult and Youth Ministries are here to bring us closer to Christ. They are meant to be a vehicle for faith and fellowship. It is only together and in a community that we experience the art of salvation and I invite all to be a part of our beautiful ministries.

I sincerely look forward to this upcoming year! I want to thank all of the parents for all you do for your kids. I know our lives are busy, but Christ should be at the center of everything. Our church and faith are critical for our growth, health, and development as persons.

Get Involved! Please email Nick Junes with any questions, concerns, ideas, and general information for any and all youth and young adult activity.

Do Extra-Curricular Sports or Activities? Let Nick know your schedule because he would love to come out and support our youth in their various activities!

GOYA Basketball. Interested in playing GOYA basketball? Contact our coaches! Practices are Boys: 6:30-8:00pm Wednesdays and Girls: 6:30-8:00pm Thursdays. Contact email addresses are John Snyder, jcs0902@yahoo.com, for boys and Faye Kranis, fayekranis@aol.com, for girls.

Altar Boys. We will have Altar Boy Orientation on Sunday, September 17, immediately following Liturgy in the church. If you have a boy in first grade and up who wants to serve in the altar, please let Nick know! Due to numbers, we will split into groups. We welcome any boy (first grade and up) who wants to serve, but please keep in mind that serving in the altar is a privilege and it does require a sense of reverence and cooperation.

GOYA CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 23, Saturday, 8:45am-12:00pm: Service Saturday, SpendYourself Food Pantry Distribution at Columbia Baptist Church, 103 W Columbia Street, Falls Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 24, Sunday, 10am: Youth Church Duty Sunday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 24, Sunday: GOYA Meeting and Elections</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 24-Oct 1: Saint Nicholas, Baltimore Tournament</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YOUNG ADULT CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 23, Saturday, 8:45am-12:00pm: Service Saturday, SpendYourself Food Pantry Distribution at Columbia Baptist Church, 103 W Columbia Street, Falls Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 24, Sunday, 10am: Youth Church Duty Sunday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 24, Sunday: GOYA Meeting and Elections</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29, Saturday, 8:45am-12:00pm: Service Saturday, SpendYourself Food Pantry Distribution at Columbia Baptist Church, 103 W Columbia Street, Falls Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OCF (COLLEGE MINISTRY) CALENDAR:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 23, Saturday, 8:45am-12:00pm: Service Saturday, SpendYourself Food Pantry Distribution at Columbia Baptist Church, 103 W Columbia Street, Falls Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 24, Sunday, 10am: Youth Church Duty Sunday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 24, Sunday: GOYA Meeting and Elections</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29, Saturday, 8:45am-12:00pm: Service Saturday, SendYourself Food Pantry Distribution at Columbia Baptist Church, 103 W Columbia Street, Falls Church</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CATECHETICAL (SUNDAY) SCHOOL
OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 19:14). This is exactly our calling and objective here at Saint Katherine in providing an Orthodox Christian education through our Catechetical (Sunday) School program. We are fortunate that our Sunday School is offered at the same time as our adult classes, such as Journey to Orthodoxy (see page 13) and Adult Bible Study (see page 8). This allows everyone to participate in Orthodox education and then to worship together in the Divine Liturgy as a family.

Registration and a Teacher Meet & Greet will be available on September 3 and 10 after Liturgy in the Meletis-Charuhas Hall. On the first day of classes (September 17), students, parents, and teachers will meet in the Meletis-Charuhas Hall where we will pray promptly at 8:45am and introduce our teachers. Students will then follow their teachers to their classrooms. Parents are invited to visit their children’s classrooms, where they can meet the teachers and ask questions.

Our parents have been very responsive to our Sunday School program in the past and we very much look forward to another great year seeing our youth learn about our God and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as well as worshipping as a family in Church. It will truly be a joy to see all the children back in Sunday School. Parents, please bring your children regularly to both Sunday School and Church. Through both experiences, our children will be drawn closer to Christ and grow in Christian knowledge.

CATECHETICAL (SUNDAY) SCHOOL SCHEDULE
Sep 3/10 Registration and Meet & Greet
Sep 17 First Day of Classes (8:45am Prayer)
Sep 24 Youth Church Duty
Oct 8 No Classes (Church Festival)
Oct 22 Youth Church Duty
Nov 4-5 Saint Katherine Basketball Tournament
Nov 5 Youth Church Duty
Nov 26 No Classes (Thanksgiving)
Dec 3 Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal
Dec 10 Christmas Pageant
Dec 17 Youth Church Duty
Dec 24/31 No Classes
Jan 7 Classes Resume
Jan 21 Youth Church Duty
Feb 4 Godparent Sunday
Feb 11 Youth Church Duty
Feb 25 Sunday of Orthodoxy (Students bring icons)
Mar 4 Oratorical Festival (Grades 1-6)
Mar 11 Youth Church Duty
Mar 18 Oratorical Festival (Grades 7-12)
Mar 31 Saturday of Lazarus (Liturgy/Palm Folding)
Apr 1/8 No Classes (Palm Sunday/Pascha)
Apr 22 Youth Church Duty
May 13 Youth Church Duty
May 20 Commencement (after Divine Liturgy)
Jun 18–22 Vacation Bible Camp

HELENIC EDUCATION CENTER
Eleni Alexopoulou

HORRAY TO A WONDERFUL Paideia Preschool Summer Fun 2017! They enjoyed learning about Odysseus’ trip to Ithaki, making puppets, exploring the theme of the Olympic games, “fishing,” learning their colors, and blowing bubbles.

New to the Paideia Bilingual Preschool and HEC Greek Language Program? If you are new to the community and you are interested in enrolling your child to the Paideia Bilingual Preschool, please contact us for information. Although we enroll year-round, priority will be given to our current students’ siblings. Anyone else will be considered on the first-come first-served basis. Upon registration, you will be guaranteed a spot in the program. The 2017-2018 application/registration form may be downloaded from the HEC website, www.stkhec.org. Paideia Bilingual Preschool offers a safe and nurturing environment for children ages 20 months to 5 years old. Our staff is highly qualified with advanced degrees in the teaching of the Greek language through play-based activities and themes that excite the imagination of our young students from Aesop’s Fables, to Greek mythology, to the teaching of the Greek culture and traditions. The connections built through the religious activities inspire the children and their families to live out their faith and to acquire a wealth of knowledge about the Greek Orthodox church.

2017-2018 Greek Language Classes. For information on any HEC program or an open house date, please contact the HEC director at ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com or call at 703-671-7715. School begins on September 8 for the Friday 5:00pm-7:00pm classes and September 9 for the Saturday 9:30am-1:30pm classes. If your child is new to our program, a placement test is needed to help us identify the best class to match your child’s level of proficiency. Please make an appointment to arrange for the date and time for your child to take the test. Our curriculum is aligned with the ACTFL standards for teaching a language as a foreign and heritage language. The children are promoted on the individual progress they make as they transition from a lower to an upper level of proficiency. Students at the higher levels are prepared for the Virginia Credit-by-Exam assessment and Ellinomatheia Proficiency Exams.

Adult Classes. HEC offers a variety of Greek classes for adult students: Tuesday Beginners I class 5:00pm-7:00pm, Tuesday Beginners II class 7:00pm-9:00pm, Thursday Intermediate class 7:00pm-9:00pm, and Friday Conversational class 5:00pm-7:00pm.

We welcome new students and we encourage you to spread the word about the HEC programs to reach more families. With the support of our proistamenos, Fr. Costa Pavlakos, and the Parish Council of Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, we look forward to a great school year!

Καλή Σχολική Χρονιά!
BOOK REVIEW
Gregory McKinney


Vigen Guroian is my new favorite Orthodox author. (Yes, dear reader, you know how fickle I am with my affections.) I am giving these books as gifts to three cherished friends. The first is a colleague and supportive mentor who is again embracing her family that needs her and formally retiring, perhaps a bit earlier than she might have anticipated. The second is a young couple of character and intelligence, who recently married within the embrace of their extended families and the Church.

I’m not an avid gardener myself, nor are my friends. Why is it that I hope they will find the books as enriching as I do? Guroian provides one answer early on:

“The fruit of the garden is not restricted to what we eat. Every garden lends something more to the imagination – beauty. The beauty of a turnip garden maybe more homely than the beauty of a tulip garden, but there is beauty in it none the less. Every garden holds the potential of giving us a taste of paradise. Sometimes this comes as a grace that does not exact one’s personal labor, but somewhere someone has labored with the sweat of the brow to make the garden grow. There is no ecstasy without first agony. Jesus prayed in a garden and agonized there, watering it with his tears. His body, which was torn on the cross, was also buried in a garden. And three days after his crucifixion, the women who wept as he hung on the cross and anointed our Lord’s body returned to that garden to find that the seed which they had loving prepared for planting had already born a sweet and fragrant fruit. Every garden is an imitation of the garden which is Christ’s, that he himself tends in the hearts of those who welcome him in. (p. 15, Inheriting)

Guroian’s reflections on gardening and life are woven from his family’s history of cottage gardening, his sense of communion with earth, plants, and sky, and his deep appreciation of beauty, poetry, and Church. He lives in a rhythm marked by the seasons and the complimentary fasts and feasts of the Church year. He clearly knows that we are each placed in our own gardens, where God gives us for tending both ourselves and one another.

“We garden because we are created in the image of the Master Gardener … We garden in humility, with love of truth and beauty, love of the Beloved One himself, Paradise grows up around us. (p. 48, Fragrance)

These books will bless anyone who wants to live with his face turned toward the Light, to grow deep roots, and to bear fruit in the Spirit that benefits all God’s creatures great and small.

Vigen Guroian is Professor of Religious Studies in Orthodox Christianity at the University of Virginia.

(Continued on page 13)
REGISTRY

**Baptisms**
- Philip Spyros (July 2)
  son of Steven and Laura Maria Maratou Kolias
  Godparent: KfeoniKi Vlachou
- Warren Nikolas (July 2)
  son of Mark Alexander and Christina Marie Rigopoulos
  Godparent: Christos Damianou Mylonas
- Cody James (July 8)
  son of James Edward Liddic and Sherry Lynn Burke
  Godparents: Dennis and Denise Garbis
- Tatiana (July 23)
  daughter of James R. and Georgia Stash
  Godparents: Elio and Eugenia (Genie) Alfonso
- Timothy (July 23)
  son of Joseph and Wafa Tarazi
  Godparents: Wasim Farah and Martha Sotos
- Christian Nikolaev (July 24)
  son of Nikolay Bogomilov Markov and Ekaterina Mihalova Malinova
  Godparents: Iliana Koleva and Georgi Lagadinov
- Brett Taylor (August 9)
  son of Albert Carlson and Iliona Risko
  Godparent: George Stepanovich

**Chrismations**
- Meghan Ann Resky (June 30)
  daughter of Rhody A. and Maryann Resky
  Sponsor: Anastasia Zotou
- Helen Gebreselasse (July 30)
  daughter of Kidane and Almaz Gebreselasse
  Sponsor: Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos

**Weddings**
- Meghan Ann Resky and Jorgos Zoto (July 1)
  Koumbaroi: Anastasia Zotou and Peter Exis
- Alexandra Kathleen Powers and Dimitri Fineskos (July 1)
  Koumbaros: John Stefanias
- Alexa Maria Thomasberg and Cody James Liddic (July 9)
  Koumbara: Stephanie Dianne Leary

**Congratulations!**

**Funerals**
- Peter Kappatos (June 26)
- George Giannakopoulos (July 21 in Athens, Greece)
- Martin Gardner (August 3)
- Louis Courambis (August 4)

May their memory be eternal.

---

**Initiative to Include Modern Greek on the FCPS Credit Exam for World Languages.**
FCPS 7th-12th graders can obtain high school credit for knowledge of their native language. The exam is designed to assess students’ native language proficiency and enable them to earn one or two credits toward fulfilling the world languages requirement for the Advanced Studies Diploma. Currently, exams are offered for 26 world languages. Greek is not one of them. Saint Katherine Greek School is leading an initiative to include Modern Greek. Please send your phone number, email address, student’s name, grade, and school to pelekasisgreece@yahoo.com. Thank you for your assistance.
FESTIVAL VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NEEDED!

We are in need of a volunteer coordinator to recruit, schedule, and manage volunteers for the festivals. Don’t worry, you will not start from scratch. Previous information will be shared and guidance will be available. Please contact Andrea at andreaballard1@verizon.net, if interested. Thank you!

FALL 2017
October 6, 7, and 8
11am to 9pm daily

Adult Bible Studies Begin September 17

Who We Are and What We Believe: A Journey through the Orthodox Faith Guided by the Words of the Bible

This Year’s Topic: Christ is the Fulfillment of Scripture

Using colorful PowerPoint slide presentations, we will discuss how Scripture informs our Orthodox faith and Tradition.

What is the Bible? Who wrote it? What do we mean when we say it is the inspired word of God? How does this book from an ancient world speak to, and have relevance for, us today? What role did it play in the development of Orthodox Tradition? This year we will study and compare stories, writings, and characters of the Old and New Testaments to discover how they relate to each other. More specifically, we will seek to learn what the Old Testament tells us about the coming of Christ and therefore how the Old and New unite to express salvation history. Using the Book of Hebrews and other New Testament writings as a framework, we will examine how Christ fulfills the hopes, promises, and prefigurations found in the Old Testament and how this is relevant today to our Orthodox beliefs and to our salvation.

Classes are held every Sunday from 9:00am-10:00am, beginning September 17, on the lower level of the new hall. For questions, please contact Bill Polizos at 571-216-4077 or polizos@att.com.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 13th Sunday of Matthew</td>
<td>4 Labor Day (Office Closed)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6 6:30pm GOYA Boys’ Basketball Practice 7:00pm Kenya Meeting</td>
<td>7 11:00am Seniors Brunch 6:00pm Vespers at Nativity of the Theotokos, Fredericksburg 6:30pm GOYA Girls’ Basketball Practice</td>
<td>8 Nativity of the Theotokos 9:30am Orhtros 10:30am Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 13th Sunday of Matthew</td>
<td>9:00am Orhtros 10:00am Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>Catechetical (Sunday) School Registration</td>
<td>6:30pm GOYA Boys’ Basketball Practice 7:00pm Kenya Meeting</td>
<td>11 6:30pm DOP Pot Luck Dinner Meeting 7:30pm YAL Defteri Deftera 7:30pm Sons’ B-ball 8:00pm YAL B-Ball</td>
<td>9:30am Greek School 12:00pm YAL Fellowship with St. Sophia at Dupont Circle</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Sunday before the Holy Cross</td>
<td>9:00am Orhtros 10:00am Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>Catechetical (Sunday) School Registration 12:00pm Missions Breakfast</td>
<td>Adult Beg. I Greek 6:30pm GOYA Bible Study 6:30 Greek Dance K-8 7pm Adult Beg. II Greek 7:30pm Missions 8:00pm AHEPA Meeting and Cookout</td>
<td>12 5pm Adult Beg. I Greek 6:30pm GOYA Boys’ Basketball Practice</td>
<td>14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9:30am Orhtros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 6:30pm GOYA Girls’ Basketball Practice 7:00pm Adult Int. Greek 6:30pm YAL Forum 7:30pm Choir</td>
<td>15 5:00pm Greek School 5pm Adult Conv. Greek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Sunday after the Holy Cross</td>
<td>9:00am Orhtros and Catechetical School 10:00am Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>Altar Boy Orientation The ByzantTeens 12:00pm Philoptochos 6pm Adult Grk Flk Dance</td>
<td>18 7:30pm Sons’ B-ball 8:00pm YAL B-Ball</td>
<td>19 5pm Adult Beg. I Greek 6:30 Greek Dance K-8 7pm Adult Beg. II Greek</td>
<td>21 6:30pm GOYA Girls’ Basketball Practice 7:00pm Adult Int. Greek 7pm DC Greeks Young Professionals Happy Hour 7:30pm Choir</td>
<td>22 5:00pm Greek School 5pm Adult Conv. Greek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 1st Sunday of Luke</td>
<td>9:00am Orhtros and Catechetical School 10:00am Divine Liturgy</td>
<td>Youth Church Duty GOYA Meeting/Elections 6pm Adult Grk Flk Dance</td>
<td>25 7:30pm Sons’ B-ball 8:00pm YAL B-Ball</td>
<td>26 Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian 9:00am Orhtros 10:00am Divine Liturgy 5pm Adult Beg. I Greek 6pm GOYA Bible Study 6:30 Greek Dance K-8 7pm Adult Beg. II Greek</td>
<td>27 6:30pm GOYA Boys’ Basketball Practice</td>
<td>28 6:30pm GOYA Girls’ Basketball Practice 7:00pm Adult Int. Greek 7:30pm Choir</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please check the online calendar, [http://saint-katherines.org/calendar](http://saint-katherines.org/calendar), for the most current information.*
PHILOPTOCHOS (Mary Varlas, President)
I hope everyone had a pleasant summer. It’s been a wonderful year so far and I wish to thank all our Ladies Philoptochos for all their dedication and service. Without them and their tireless efforts we would not have been able to accomplish and reach the goals of charitable work that we have and strive to achieve even more in the future. It is with great pleasure that I also thank our newly elected board for nominating me as President for the next two years. I am honored to be working with such a wonderful new board: Patty Karounos, Tina Papamichael, Elvira Garnett, Kathy Cavallo, Lisa Christacos, Linda Moratis, Niki Tsakonas Bouloukos, Daphne Papamichael, Nicole Christacos, Demetra Vroustouris, Katherine Anatole Misleh, Tori DeSatinick Carr, Anastasia Kanakos Katsakos, Sophia Varlas Bohle, and Mary Smaragdis. I cannot forget to acknowledge our incredible and fabulous baking crew! It is my promise to all of you that I will serve our community and our Ladies Philoptochos with the utmost respect, care, and responsibility. Our former President, Eleni Kanakos, will continue her amazing works within our Ladies Philoptochos as Senior Advisor. Please join us for our September 17 meeting, following Liturgy, in the Board Room.

There are many philanthropic endeavors for which we participate in, not only within our own community, but, throughout our New Jersey Metropolis and our National Ladies Philoptochos. We are greatly committed to our community and to growing the stewardship of our chapter. Ladies of all ages, please join us! Everyone is welcome! Philanthropy is a lifetime commitment. We believe that philanthropy has no age limit. It is a way of life. It is what our Lord and Savior wished for all his children to express to one another continuously. Therefore, we hope that any woman aged 18+ will become a steward of this most prodigious organization. All new stewards may submit the minimum $50 stewardship to our Stewardship Chairperson, Patty Karounos, at 6842 Brimstone Lane, Fairfax Station, VA 22039. Please take into consideration when sending in your stewardship that $23 is dedicated to the New Jersey Metropolis and to the National Philoptochos organization. The remaining funds are placed within our chapter to continue all our philanthropic work, locally – nationally - internationally. This is also a reminder to our existing stewards to submit their 2017 stewardship.

I look forward to a healthy and productive 2017-2018.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELope (Barbara Koltos, President)
I look forward to a great new year for the Daughters and I appreciate the support and enthusiasm of all my sisters. Helle Chapter’s first monthly meeting begins with a potluck dinner on Monday evening, September 11, 6:30pm, in the Board Room. Please bring a light and easy dish, snack or sweet to share at 6:30pm with the meeting starting promptly at 7:00pm. This year the Daughters of Penelope will continue our annual jackets, hoodies, and sweatshirts drive to benefit Alternative House (Fairfax County) and Homestretch (Falls Church) from September 17 through October 29. We will deliver these items as they are collected, with final delivery by November 1. We are collecting children, teen, and adult sizes based on the needs and sizes we were given. Donated items should be new (preferred) or in perfect and clean condition. Bring your donation(s) to Saint Katherine on Sundays and please drop in collection box outside of the hall; if during the week or Saturday, please take to the church office. An electronic signup has been created by Kelly Gull, our corresponding secretary. All sizes needed will be listed on this web page for you to choose from, and there are very clear instructions on the signup page to select your donation(s) and where to bring your donation(s). The link for signup is: http://bit.ly/KeepWarm2017. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please make check payable to DOP-Helle 283 and mail to Karen Polizos, 903 Holly Creek Drive, Great Falls, VA 22066. We will purchase items for you to meet the sizes needed. Karen has graciously volunteered to chair this committee.

We had a successful board meeting at Maria Vargas’ house in Arlington and came up with an exciting agenda for the upcoming year. In September, we will have a potluck dinner meeting; in November, we are hosting the Founders’ luncheon at Alfo’s; in December, we will have our Christmas celebration; in February, we will have our Tastes of the Mediterranean; in April, we plan to host a brunch and fashion show to support homeless military women who are part of “Final Salute;” and, of course, in June, we will have our end of the year party.

Please, if you would like to join us or help in any capacity, do not hesitate to contact me or any of the Daughters. We welcome your company.

Saint Katherine Senior Choir. Welcome to Saint Katherine Choir! All members of the community are invited to join the choir. We are a dedicated group of stewards who sing the praises and responses in an antiphonal dialogue with the clergy during the Liturgy and on many holidays. If you are at least 13 years old, have a decent voice, and are willing to make the commitment, please consider this gift of time and talent. Our choir sings in Greek and English from western style notation in both 4-part western (SATB) and the traditional Byzantine styles. Knowledge of Greek is not necessary—it’ll come after a while. Our first singing Sunday will be for the Divine Liturgy on September 10, and regularly scheduled rehearsals will commence on Thursday, September 14, 7:30pm.

The ByzanTeens! Welcome to Saint Katherine’s new junior choir! If you are at least 10 years old and love to sing, you are invited to join The ByzanTeens. Besides learning to sing the responses of our Divine Liturgy, we will learn why we sing hymns, the history of our church music, as well as techniques in breathing and posture. The program will also include special guests and presentations. The first meeting of the ByzanTeens will be a 15-30 minute session for parents and children after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, September 17 in the large classroom of the Educational Building. Among other things, we will discuss what schedule works best for everyone.

Contact the choir director, Nick Kyrus at nbkyrus@comcast.net or 703-981-2526, for more information or if you have any questions.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELope (Barbara Koltos, President)
I look forward to a great new year for the Daughters and I appreciate the support and enthusiasm of all my sisters. Helle Chapter’s first monthly meeting begins with a potluck dinner on Monday evening, September 11, 6:30pm, in the Board Room. Please bring a light and easy dish, snack or sweet to share at 6:30pm with the meeting starting promptly at 7:00pm. This year the Daughters of Penelope will continue our annual jackets, hoodies, and sweatshirts drive to benefit Alternative House (Fairfax County) and Homestretch (Falls Church) from September 17 through October 29. We will deliver these items as they are collected, with final delivery by November 1. We are collecting children, teen, and adult sizes based on the needs and sizes we were given. Donated items should be new (preferred) or in perfect and clean condition. Bring your donation(s) to Saint Katherine on Sundays and please drop in collection box outside of the hall; if during the week or Saturday, please take to the church office. An electronic signup has been created by Kelly Gull, our corresponding secretary. All sizes needed will be listed on this web page for you to choose from, and there are very clear instructions on the signup page to select your donation(s) and where to bring your donation(s). The link for signup is: http://bit.ly/KeepWarm2017. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please make check payable to DOP-Helle 283 and mail to Karen Polizos, 903 Holly Creek Drive, Great Falls, VA 22066. We will purchase items for you to meet the sizes needed. Karen has graciously volunteered to chair this committee.

We had a successful board meeting at Maria Vargas’ house in Arlington and came up with an exciting agenda for the upcoming year. In September, we will have a potluck dinner meeting; in November, we are hosting the Founders’ luncheon at Alfo’s; in December, we will have our Christmas celebration; in February, we will have our Tastes of the Mediterranean; in April, we plan to host a brunch and fashion show to support homeless military women who are part of “Final Salute;” and, of course, in June, we will have our end of the year party.

Please, if you would like to join us or help in any capacity, do not hesitate to contact me or any of the Daughters. We welcome your company.

Saint Katherine Senior Choir. Welcome to Saint Katherine Choir! All members of the community are invited to join the choir. We are a dedicated group of stewards who sing the praises and responses in an antiphonal dialogue with the clergy during the Liturgy and on many holidays. If you are at least 13 years old, have a decent voice, and are willing to make the commitment, please consider this gift of time and talent. Our choir sings in Greek and English from western style notation in both 4-part western (SATB) and the traditional Byzantine styles. Knowledge of Greek is not necessary—it’ll come after a while. Our first singing Sunday will be for the Divine Liturgy on September 10, and regularly scheduled rehearsals will commence on Thursday, September 14, 7:30pm.

The ByzanTeens! Welcome to Saint Katherine’s new junior choir! If you are at least 10 years old and love to sing, you are invited to join The ByzanTeens. Besides learning to sing the responses of our Divine Liturgy, we will learn why we sing hymns, the history of our church music, as well as techniques in breathing and posture. The program will also include special guests and presentations. The first meeting of the ByzanTeens will be a 15-30 minute session for parents and children after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, September 17 in the large classroom of the Educational Building. Among other things, we will discuss what schedule works best for everyone.

Contact the choir director, Nick Kyrus at nbkyrus@comcast.net or 703-981-2526, for more information or if you have any questions.
MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19).

Project Mexico Trip. As this issue of DOXA goes to press, our Project Mexico group is preparing to leave on their mission trip to Tijuana, Mexico. This year, our group includes Bill, Niko, and Leon Porter, Nick Jones, Peter Pappas, Teddy Statopoulos, and Thanos and Michael Zuppas. We are also being joined by 3 people from a parish in Michigan, who will accompany us in our 15 passenger van as we carpool across the border! Thanks to the generous contribution of George and Helen Kontzias, and the many others who have contributed, the mission trip is fully funded. Our team will stay at the St. Innocence Orthodox Orphanage. While there, they will help build a home for a family in the area.

Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC). Medical mission volunteers needed: There are still open opportunities on three OCMC medical mission teams to Guatemala and Indonesia and youth outreach teams that will be traveling to Ghana and Kenya in the fall. If you or anyone you know would be interested in joining these vital efforts of the Church, please contact Andy Lekos (teams@ocmc.org or 904-829-5132 x140). Teams serve in the mission field for approximately two weeks and are a great way to impact the lives of people who are in great need around the world.

Culmore Clinic Board to Meet at Saint Katherine, September 20. On Wednesday, September 20, the Culmore Clinic will hold its quarterly Board meeting at Saint Katherine. The Culmore Clinic meets in the Baptist Church down the street from Saint Katherine. It is the only free clinic in the Falls Church area for those who have no health insurance. Fr. Costa is on the Advisory Board and Dr. John Demakis is on their Executive Board. The Clinic has recently expanded from one day a week to two days a week. Please keep the Culmore Clinic in your prayers.

Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology, and Religion (OCAMPR) Annual Meeting. OCAMPR will hold its annual meeting November 1-3 at the Ukrainian Village in Somerset, NJ. The topic is Resiliency: Body, Mind and Spirit. The main speaker will be his Eminence, Metropolitan Isaiah of the Metropolis of Denver. For more information, go to their website at OCAMPR.org.

BAILEY’S CROSSROADS HOMELESS SHELTER

Hygiene and Survival Kits Due November 19. We will again provide survival and hygiene kits for the shelter for the winter months. There are not enough beds in the shelter to house everyone during the winter months. They give each person a survival and hygiene kit and send them out to area sites that will allow them to sleep overnight. Each organization of our parish has been asked to contribute specified items for the kits. If you have not received a letter with your specific item, please email Dr. John Demakis at demakis9931@gmail.com. Thanks.

Feeding the Homeless. Our Missions Committee serves dinner at the shelter monthly. This month, we will serve on the 19th. If you would like to join us, please notify Dr. John Demakis (demakis9931@gmail.com). If your organization would like to participate, please also contact Dr. John Demakis.

Clothing and Toiletries. Please bring new or clean used clothes and unopened toiletries to the atrium of the Meletis Charuhas Center. The shelter has many other needs. Their top needs this month are: gift cards to Target, Walmart and grocery stores; Metro cards; disposable kitchen wares (sturdy paper plates, cups, napkins, plastic utensils); men’s and women’s new t-shirts; and other warm-weather clothing. These items can be brought to our church. For a longer list of needs please see the Saint Katherine website.

Next Missions Meeting, September 12. Our next missions meeting is on Tuesday, September 12 at 7:30pm in the Board Room. All are welcome.

LEMONADE MISSIONARIES AT IT AGAIN

LENA AND MIA GEORGEADIS, children of Amy and Michael Georgeadis and grandchildren of Rosalie and George Georgeadis, set up their lemonade stand again this year. Selling lemonade for 25¢ per glass, they raised $60 for the children of Kenya. If they can give money to the Kenyan mission, you can, too! A list of needs is on page 1.

KENYA MISSION TRIP

Be sure to read Fr. Costa’s article on our October 13-22 mission trip to Kenya. You can find it on page 1, along with a list of needs for this mission. Please read through them and prayerfully consider how you can best help with this mission. God bless you!
ARCHIMANDRITE ARISTARCHOS

When I first had the idea of requesting an informal interview with a visiting archimandrite from Greece, I didn’t imagine that he would agree to it. I had heard him give a very brief sermon at Saint Sophia; brief yet powerful.

The topic of our discussion was Religion and Politics. Fr. Aristarchos Gkrekas has been active for many years in promoting the understanding of religion—Christianity, Islam and Judaism—on the political stage and has organized and participated in numerous international symposia. He was here taking a course on the role of Religion in Geopolitics at Georgetown University.

This is how he explained the issue:

In the wider Middle East region, for instance, religion was and is a factor influencing developments. For a comprehensive understanding, a combined approach to the role of religion is needed on both a theoretical and practical basis within the four pillars of Systematic Geopolitical Analytical Methodology—Security, Economy, Politics, Culture.

Furthermore, the data demonstrate the significant influence of religious belief in the wider Middle East as a primary indicator of identity, since two rival and regional sub-systems with features of religious identity have been formed: the Sunni and Shiite subsystems. In addition, ISIS activities have made the Syrian crisis more complex. Today, the intensity of the conflict is mainly due to the struggle for political and economic power over the interpretation of Islam that is being instrumentalized by the new leaders.

The above is almost verbatim as told to me by Fr. Aristarchos. A recent publication, titled International Actors in Peace Processes. The Role of Organizations and Religion in Global Practice, elaborates in full.

Among the books that have been published so far in English; Hesychastic Spirituality in the 18th Century. Study on the work of St. Nicodemus Agiorites, can be considered a manual for the Orthodox Christian.

Below is a partial description of this book:

The teaching of Nicodemus regarding the ethical life of the Christian, the value of attending church services, and the ethos of the faithful in the Church were highlighted. It is also pointed out how the “natural” (Φυσική) teaching, through the keeping of the divine commandments and the practice of virtues, leads to the divine experience and the “theoria.” According to Nicodemus, the spiritual life has the same criteria for all Christians, whether they be bishops, priests, monks or laymen. The criteria of hesychastic spirituality, which constitute the safe preconditions for spiritual progress and all the stages of a spiritual life, are analyzed. Moreover, it is noted that the “ascesis” in the context of hesychastic spirituality is a dynamic effort toward spiritual perfection. The value of Confession as a completion of repentance (through the advice of the priests) is stressed. “Ascesis” is approached as the spiritual pedagogy which leads to therapy. “

AHEPA CHAPTER #438

The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce availability of our Tenth Annual Community Christmas Ornament—Evzone Nutcracker. These collectable ornaments continue to grow in popularity from year to year and this year’s ornament is no exception! The Evzone Nutcracker is the perfect ornament for the Christmas season and one we trust you’ll want to add to your collection and give as gifts to friends and family alike…your children and grandchildren will cherish it!

These high quality ornaments are manufactured by the same firm that creates the famous White House Christmas ornaments. The decorative boxed packaging makes them ideal for gift giving…they are the perfect stocking stuffer. The ornaments are available for purchase beginning in June at our Fall Festival. Cost remains $20 each with proceeds supporting our AHEPA Charities such as Vacation Bible Camp, Hellenic Education Center, Church Missions, and College Scholarships. Please support our chapter’s charitable endeavors on behalf of our community with your purchase of these highly collectable and sought after ornaments. You may place your orders by contacting us at either 703-671-7225 or antovi@verizon.net,
Actually, they started constructing the church 21 years ago. The old priest who started the construction died about 9 years ago. May God rest his soul. His grandson is a priest. Fr. Theophilos.

In my critical analysis of the work and the church structure, I realized that the Narthex is too close to the public road such that no room for entrance. They never thought the government will extend the road toward the church site. In the event of all these, we decided to extend the altar by digging an external foundation without affecting the main building and joining it up very well. And that is what you can see from the photos. Men at work!

All shall be well and you will all appreciate the work when you come.

The structure you see with iron sheets was the main church of worship which was inside the church under construction. Now they demolished it and they will put up a small structure outside for worship. All is good. I will send you more photos showing the whole structure during my visit. Soon, we will require another $5000. That will get us do the roofing and others. Thank you for saving these people by giving them a church.

They want the church’s name to be changed to Saint Katherine! Is that ok with you? I have no problem blessing the name for them. Thank you very much.

God bless you all,

Bishop NEOFITOS

Thank you for donating to, and praying for, our Kenya Mission trip and may God continue to bless each and every one of you as we begin this new ecclesiastical year.

Yours in Christ’s service,

Fr. Costas

If your loved one needs care, please contact Fr. Costas, as he has the names of some known and trusted caregivers.
STEWARDSHIP

SHOWN BELOW is a list of families and individuals who participated in the 2017 Saint Katherine Stewardship Program through July 31, 2017. Thank you for responding to the needs of our church.

If you have not yet submitted your 2017 pledge, please do so as soon as possible. You may pledge online today at www.saint-katherines.org/stewardship or at our Giving Kiosk located in the Narthex of the church. Your Church and community depend on you.

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

(Continued on page 15)
BOOKSTORE

For those of you who have always cherished the silver-clad icons your Yiayia or favorite Thea brought with her from the village, we are now carrying specialty icons from Greece. The icons come in small, medium, and large sizes, and are covered in the highest grade silver. They are surprisingly affordable. Our new importer carries all the major saints, as well as the Theotokos and Christ.

It is time to find more space on your bookshelves. At the church festival, will again have a used book sale, with paperbacks available for $5 and hardbacks for $10.

SAINT KATHERINE OFFERS Greek folk dance lessons through the Byzantio Greek Dance and Cultural Arts Program. Lessons for Grades K-8 are offered on Tuesday evenings from 6:30pm-7:30pm. Lessons for high school students and adults are held on Sundays. Please visit www.byzantio.org for more information including practice dates, times, and registration. For more information or any questions, please feel free to contact the instructors, Aris and Anna Yortzidis at greekdancedc@gmail.com or 757-218-6991.

BYZANTIO GREEK DANCE
ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
Please expedite. Dated material.