I PROCLAIM TO YOU A BLESSED ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR. September 1 is the date that the church proclaims the start of a new year. We all know that in the western world the new year is January 1. We are called to acknowledge in our life and society that, with the beginning of a new year, we are to be faithful to the message of salvation preached and proclaimed by the Holy Church. This start of the new year is also called the Feast of the Trumpets in the Old Testament.

There are few descriptions of how the people of God celebrated the Feast of Trumpets in the Old Testament. One of those references that gives us some insight occurred in the days of Nehemiah shortly after the completion of the wall of Jerusalem. On the first day of the seventh month (Tishri), Ezra began reading the books of the Mosaic Law to the people. The people all wept because they realized that they hadn’t kept the Law and the Babylonian captivity was the result. However, Nehemiah instructed them that this day is holy to the Lord and weeping and mourning are not appropriate. “Go, eat of the fat, drink of the sweet, and send portions to him who has nothing prepared; for this day is holy to the Lord. Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength” (Nehemiah 8:9-12).

All of you know me as an optimistic priest. I am optimistic because I believe that the Lord has promised us, by His incarnation, that we will receive our inheritance, with our heavenly body. The prophet Nehemiah reminds us by his words that there is joy in the Lord. I am sure you are thinking, how can I write to you of joy when this has been a horrible year? We are still enduring the epidemic of COVID-19 and still not assured that this will pass anytime soon. We have been limited with the fellowship of each other and we have distanced ourselves from large public gatherings. We have all made so many sacrifices.

You may wonder, how I can proclaim “Happy New Year!” It is because God wants us to be happy. I cannot tell you when we will get back to “normal”, but it will happen. This pandemic has had a life-changing effect on every person who cares to be part of the body of Christ. We, as a Church, had to adapt to a way of worship and fellowship that is not “normal”.

We as the community of Saint Katherine, have not stopped the missions of our church. We still celebrate Liturgy and all other liturgical services. We still collect food for the poor and take care of those with other needs. We have even started celebrating sacraments, albeit with a limited number of people.

I believe because I pray, as you pray, as we pray, that the joy of overcoming this
**CLERGY**
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Rev. Presbyter Nikolaos S. Delavaries, Assistant Priest cell 571-213-1109, 703-239-2627

**STAFF**
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**2020 PARISH COUNCIL**
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Bible Study (Weekday) Ioannis Gkgkitzis, Ph.D. 703-728-2657
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Journey to Orthodoxy James Jatras 202-375-1007

**MINISTRIES**
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AHEPA #438 (P. Derzis) George Vassilopoulos 703-437-9218
Bookstore Georgia McKinney, Manager Victoria Cherpes 703-310-8651
Book Club (Saint Genevieve) Gregory McKinney 703-812-0286
Book Review Maria Tikoff Vargas 703-729-2627
Daughters of Penelope Helle #283 Pres. Pauline Pavlakos, Editor Maria Cherpes 703-239-2627
Doxa Fellowship of Saint Ephraim (Addiction) Rev. Nikolaos Delavaries 703-338-8823
GOYA (7th-12th grades) President TBD
Greek Dance (Byzantio) Aris and Anna Yortzidis, Instructors 757-218-6991
Greek School PTA Andri Orphanides, President 703-727-4285
Paideia Mary Liakos 703-671-7715
Hellenic Education Center Greek School and Paideia Preschool 703-671-7715
HOPE (ages 7 and under) Doris Mentis, Coordinator 703-239-2627
JOY (ages 8-12) Vaisa Bousbouras, Coordinator 703-319-1610
Listserv (email list) Pres. Pauline Pavlakos, Administrator 703-338-8823
Missions and Outreach Dr. John Demakis, Chairman 703-338-8823
Moms, Pops & Tots (up to age 4) Irene Sakkas 703-239-2627
OCF (College Ministry) TBD
Philoptochos Mary Varlas 703-965-4161
Social Media Social Media Coordinator 703-250-5419
Stewardship Andrea Ballard 703-250-5419
Website Presv. Pauline Pavlakos, Webmaster 703-239-2627
YAL (Young Adult League) Faye (Potini) Anson 703-671-1515
tbd
SAINT KATHERINE FINANCIAL REPORT
Seven Months Ended July 31, 2019 and 2020

- Stewardship giving and donations improved 12% year-to-date from the prior year-to-date (YoY) while offerings from candles and trays decreased nearly 60%. Although YoY church income declined only $6,000, there has been a declining trend in contributions following Pascha through July.
- Church expenses have increased mainly from compensation/benefits added with assistant priest (budgeted) and increased wages for maintenance staff offset in part by reductions in utility, security, and candles costs.
- Overall, church expenses continue to exceed income from steward giving and other contributions despite targeted cuts.
- HEC tuition and other income decreased 25% YoY mainly from cessation of Paideia tuition for May-July 2020 and deferral of Ellinomatheia exams from May to Fall 2020 partially offset in improvement in Greek School tuitions.
- Lack of fundraising and rental events from COVID restrictions resulted in significant loss of income ($160,000 YoY).
- In April 2020, we received proceeds from U.S. SBA loans under the payroll protection program of $142,000, which are expected to be forgiven by the Federal government. Loan proceeds were applied to payroll from April-June 2020.

Unrestricted cash balances of church and HEC approximated $410,000. Ongoing restrictions limiting attendance and Hall rentals, uncertainty for a Fall festival, replacement of 3 air conditioning units ($45K more required) will all place a strain on cash balances for the rest of 2020 and through next Spring. Your contributions and support are greatly appreciated and very inspirational as the ministries of our church continue.

Respectfully submitted, George Moratis, Treasurer
CATECHETICAL (SUNDAY) SCHOOL
IT SEEMS AS IF SUMMER BREAK started yesterday and now we are at the dawn of a new school year. 2020 will be remembered by all as an interesting year, to say the least. Given all of the uncertainties surrounding the COVID virus and out of an abundance of caution, our Catechetical (Sunday) School classes will begin virtually this year and continue as such until it is safe for our teachers and students to return to the classroom. At this point, we are asking parents to register their children online. Please use the following link and complete a Google form for EACH of your children—https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13VZGK-Ny7FR5Ods_Su1R2xS-JFR4P6EIs4dLFmeoWUk/edit.

More information about the virtual start of Catechetical classes will be forthcoming. If you have any questions, please reach out to Christina Vazquez at czvmail2@gmail.com or 703-728-2657.

GOYA
THE GOYANS ARE PREPARING for an unprecedented online learning experience with their schools. With most events cancelled for the foreseeable future and their lives mostly online, the GOYAn are missing their church brothers and sisters like never before. In spite of COVID, Bible Study with Fr. Nikolas is continuing, a virtual fundraiser is being set up to benefit the entire parish, and our two late fall service projects are moving forward.

Once again, the GOYAn will visit grave sites to honor the family and friends of Saint Katherine with a Trisagion service. If you would like to donate or help us, please contact saintkatherinegoya@stkchurch.com. Hard to believe, but in just a few months, we will continue the tradition of our Feeding and Clothing the Homeless project on Christmas morning.

In addition, our GOYAn have taken the lead to unite all the amazing youth ministries of our parish. Follow us on Facebook at YouthofSTK for more information.

It is incorrect for us to say that our children are the future of the Church, but what is correct, is to say that the only future for our children is the Church. + His Eminence Demetrios, Former Archbishop of America+

ST. GENEVIEVE BOOK CLUB
DUE TO THE UNCERTAIN and fluid situation with COVID, we are postponing our September retreat with Archimandrite Sergius, the Abbot of Saint Tikhon’s Monastery, until a later time. Father Sergius wants all of you to know that he is thinking of you and will come as soon as he is able—hopefully, in the Spring of 2021. Wishing you God’s blessings and His Peace!

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 the new Zoom meeting times for our Adult Catechetical Lessons:

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

HELLENIC EDUCATION CENTER UPDATE
THE HEC COMMITTEE would like to share some important updates regarding the Paideia and Greek School Programs for Saint Katherine. The HEC has been working tirelessly over the last few months to make all the necessary preparations to get the schools up and running for the Fall.

We have created a COVID reopening plan that takes the health and wellbeing of all faculty and students into consideration and is consistent with local, state, and CDC guidelines. This is currently in the process of being approved by the county.

We are also preparing the building in several ways—a fresh look by painting, a new HVAC system, and securing teachers, as well as appropriate custodial crew for cleaning and sanitizing the building.

We are still in search of a Director for our Paideia program and hope to find someone soon. For this reason, the opening has been postponed to January 2021, but we hope to open sooner, if we can find the appropriate individual. If you or anyone you know is interested, there are several positions to be filled for the schools. Please review job postings by visiting https://www.stkhec.org/Page/2903.

We have targeted September 19, 2020 to open the Greek School. The registration will be open soon. Sophia Tsangali will be acting as the interim director for the Greek School. Parents should be on the lookout for information in the next week or so.

We hope to see all of our children and parents back soon. If you have questions or need more information, please contact hec-administration@stkchurch.com.
Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC). Exciting things happened last month with the OCMC. Please visit www.ocmc.org to navigate the new OCMC website! Additionally, the OCMC organized a virtual OCMC Trek4Missions website to support Trek4 Missions by allowing mile tracking from August 9 through September 14! If you are interested in participating in Trek4 Missions or if you would like to form a virtual team from Saint Katherine, please contact daniel@ocmc.org. The goal is to walk/run/climb over 60,000 miles to raise funds in support of the OCMC. Betty Slanta is fundraising during the Trek4 Missions on the OCMC Board Team. In order to support her team, please click on this link.

Bailey’s Shelter and Supportive Housing. As we have done at Saint Katherine for over 10 years, once again we are asking our various groups to donate items for the shelter. There is not enough room at the shelter during the winter months and many people have to be sent away. In that case, the shelter hands out Hygiene and Survival Kits to help them. Groups are reminded that the items are due at Saint Katherine by November 22. (Bailey’s Shelter and Supportive Housing is a multi-service facility that provides a shelter program and permanent supportive housing. The shelter has 48 beds for men or women with 4 additional medical respite beds for homeless adults discharged from hospitals needing extra care. The new facility opened November 1, 2019, replacing the Bailey’s Crossroads Community Shelter in use since the 1980s.)

Ordination of Thomas Manuel, Missionary to Guatemala. We are pleased to announce that our long-term missionary in Guatemala, Thomas Manuel, was ordained to the Diaconate on Sunday, August 2, 2020 in Port Washington, New York by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros. Our Saint Katherine parish has supported Thomas and his wife Elizabeth in their missionary work in Guatemala. Thomas and Elizabeth have presented at Saint Katherine several times. Follow this link to watch the ordination of Deacon Thomas. The service is long, but please watch the last 3-4 minutes. The Archbishop comes out of the Altar and goes to the Bishop’s throne on the Solea. All the priests gather around him, as well as the new Deacon, his wife Elizabeth, and their new baby Vasili. The Archbishop asks the new Deacon to help start a Spanish language Orthodox Church in the Americas when he returns from his mission work in Guatemala. He also asks him to reach out to the Black Americans and welcome them into our Greek Orthodox Church.

Food Pantry at Columbia Baptist Church. Food collections, during the time of COVID-19, took place on June 21 and August 30, spearheaded by our Daphne Papamichael and Bill Porter. During the food collection held June 21, over 1,671 pounds of food was collected! The food was donated to the food pantry to help the increasing number of families that come for help at the shelter, which is only two blocks from Saint Katherine.

(Continued from page 1)

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. ... (Continued on page 11)
PARIS AND OPERA

If you have a timed entry into the National Gallery, you can certainly escape from our everyday reality and pleasantly immerse yourself in the world of Paris in the mid-to-late 1800s and the fantastic world of ballet and opera.

Walter Benjamin (1892-1940), the German philosopher and cultural critic, called Paris the “Capital of the Nineteenth century”. New arcades had been built starting after 1822. Wide boulevards and big department stores were also installed to display goods of all kinds. These arcades were the center of trade and luxury. In addition, on a cultural level, the Conservatoire where composers like Jacques Offenbach produced operettas like “La Vie Parisienne”, first performed in 1866, portraying on stage images of contemporary Parisian life.

Baudelaire’s poetry and the literature of Balzac and Zola influenced thinking. Theatres flourished. There were dance halls. And then there were the Opera houses. The Paris Opera Ballet was originally founded by Louis XIV in 1669, making it the very first ballet.

The current exhibition, titled Degas at the Opera at the National Gallery, gives you a series of images of the activities surrounding these fantastic performances. Edgar Degas (1834-1917) rejected being called an “Impressionist” because he didn’t work like one. He rarely worked outside, and if his portrayals of ballerinas have anything impressionistic about them, it is the movement of the fluttering tulle material. My own understanding was that the tulle and the “bodies” of the ballerinas were painted in such a way that what you see has all the airy quality of lightness, not being grounded, so that, together with the elegant postures and poses, you get the feeling and a visual image of elevation and something ethereal.

He dedicated decades to drawing ballerinas, starting around 1870. And I think his work can be seen as chronicling those years at the Opera. No one else painted ballerinas. And it seems to me he felt compassion for those poor girls having to struggle so hard to please, to perform perfectly. His attention was riveted on capturing movement. Certainly, in this he succeeded. In each pose he masters the lines that create it. He did actually follow his own teacher’s advice to adhere to the classical method of line and drawing. His mentor being the master Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres.

I was, however, actually surprised to see a “line”, an outline in black, drawn over the blue tulle skirt and defining the shape of the leg underneath, as well as around the neckline. That was in the “Blue Dancers”. And to the degree that sculpture is a delineation of form, his little sculpted bronze ballerina, with her defiant upturned head and small frame, is also a study in lines.

To the left is a scene from the Opera La Source by Leon Minkus, first performed in 1866 and featuring a real horse on stage and a flowing stream of water. The famous ballerina Eugenie Fiocre is shown taking a break with her slippers off. The National Gallery has a virtual tour one can access online, and where this particular painting can be viewed. The actual exhibit includes less works, but still wonderful to see. I find it incredible that such elaborate measures were taken with these productions of operas, such as installing flowing water to resemble a stream. In all, this is a wonderful exhibit. However, the online lectures and virtual tours are a valuable resource!
Η ΓΙΑ ΝΑ ΠΡΟΛΑΒΩ ΤΗΝ ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΗ!

Sophia D. Tsangali

'ΗΤΑΝ ΕΝΑ ΓΑΛΗΝΙΟ, πανέμορφο του Αυγούστου απογευματινό! Είχε καταπέτασε κάπως ο μεσημεριανός του καλοκαιριού και ο τόξος της αιώνιας θεότητας στην πανέμορφη πόλη της Κωνσταντινούπολης. Ακούγοντας τη σαφή ανθρώπινη φωνή της Παναγίας που έκανε πλήρη σειρά ερωτήματα, μιλούσε με αγάπη και στρεφόταν προς τον ορίζοντα του Ηρακλείου. Σαν να πέρασαν μέσα στην ίδια, η Ιερά Μονή Παράκλησης έκανε περιπολική για να καταλήξει στη σημερινή διαδρομή της Ιεράς Παράκλησης. Είχε κατακτήσει τον Παναγιώτη, επίσης πανέμορφο, που ήταν παράξενο για τον καθημερινό του πολιτισμού, και γιένετε με τον Μοναχό Παναγιώτη, ο οποίος ήταν γνωστός για την καλή του θεωρητική προσοχή και την ικανότητά του να εντοπίζει τις κρίσεις της καθημερινότητας.

'Ηταν, λίγο λίγο, έξω από το παράθυρο του αυτοκινήτου, αφού οι πόρτες δεν άνοιγαν. 'Ολοι ήταν εκεί, και η έντονη θέληση της ιεράς Παράκλησης να καταλήγει στη σημερινή διαδρομή της Ιεράς Παράκλησης. Είχε εκεί, στη σημερινή διαδρομή της Ιεράς Παράκλησης, καθώς οι ιερείς και οι πιστοί καλούσαν την Παναγία να συνεχίσει τη διαδρομή της. Είχε εκεί, στη σημερινή διαδρομή της Ιεράς Παράκλησης, καθώς οι ιερείς και οι πιστοί καλούσαν την Παναγία να συνεχίσει τη διαδρομή της.

'Η Νύχτα ήταν τέτοια, ώστε να καταλήγει στη σημερινή διαδρομή της Ιεράς Παράκλησης. Είχε εκεί, στη σημερινή διαδρομή της Ιεράς Παράκλησης, καθώς οι ιερείς και οι πιστοί καλούσαν την Παναγία να συνεχίσει τη διαδρομή της. Είχε εκεί, στη σημερινή διαδρομή της Ιεράς Παράκλησης, καθώς οι ιερείς και οι πιστοί καλούσαν την Παναγία να συνεχίσει τη διαδρομή της.

(Continued on page 10, column 2.)
Greetings to all my sisters in Christ, Reverend Father Costa, Father Nikolas, Parish Council members, and all our parishioners. I pray you all are doing well and staying healthy.

As a Philoptochos member I am overwhelmed at times as to how to fulfill our mission. During this pandemic, it has felt as if we are at a standstill. When looking back to the beginning of the year, we started off on the right foot with our biggest event ever in January by packaging more than 25,000 meals for the hungry which were distributed globally. I was flying high from the joy I experienced in seeing all of us come together to accomplish this amazing goal. Weeks later we were able to purchase blankets and shoes for 60 children, residents of an Orthodox Diocese orphanage in Kenya. Then we contributed to The Children’s Medical Fund set up for youth and hospitals in our country. But, March came in with a roar and pushed us all into quarantine. Suddenly, our focus changed. Our thoughts were geared mostly to our homes, our health, and our Church. We were fortunate enough to have the luxury of modern technology. In this chaos of uncertainty, through prayer and divine guidance, we focused our philanthropic energy through virtual meetings and phone calls to ensure that our good deeds continued to at minimum donate to our local food banks and feeding the homeless. Thankfully, we were able to donate more than 2,000 meals in March. In April, we provided funds to assist our church and continued with our donations and focused on community social service providers including Brain Injury Services, Culmore Clinic, and Boulder Crest which helps combat veterans solve mental crises. As the months in quarantine and social distancing moved along, we remained steadfast in our efforts to keep pace with the rise in need among those less fortunate. In July, we supported our Metropolis Philoptochos on feeding and providing basic needs to at least 40 families in Clay County, West Virginia. The initiative to raise funds for the endeavor in West Virginia was so successful that there will be 2 more donations which will follow for Thanksgiving and Christmas. In August, we were able to provide funds to our neighbor, Columbia Baptist Food Bank, who will provide produce to their most needy families. In addition, Arlington Food Assistance Center was helped for the second time during this period. Culmore Clinic, Doorways for Women and Families (they assist domestic violence victims), Homestretch Inc. (helping homeless to become productive participants in the community) and, Miriam’s Kitchen with meals for the homeless were also assisted.

I am thrilled to share with everyone that our donations from January to August exceeded our expectations. All we have accomplished is due to your generosity! Your donations come in little by little, some $10, $25, $50, $100 and more. Every bit counts, every penny adds up. And, every Philoptochos Stewardship pushes us to do more, domestically and internationally. We are currently at 185 members. Please send in your application! For the remainder of August, we are accepting donations for Beirut, Lebanon. We joined the National Philoptochos emergency fund drive soon after the catastrophe in Beirut, Lebanon, to raise funds for and send to IOCC in Beirut. Please send your checks directly to us: Saint Katherine Ladies Philoptochos, Attn: Mary Varlas, 3149 Glen Carlyn Rd, Falls Church, VA 22041. Please include in the memo line, “Beirut Emergency Fund”. Also, we are planning two curbside Bake Sales: Sunday, September 20 and Sunday, October 4, from 10:00am to 11:30am. All orders must be prepaid. There will be no walk ups. For further details, please email us at stkphilo@gmail.com or join us on Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter @StKatherineLadiesPhiloptochos.

My sincerest thanks to all who continue to donate to our missions!
Please check the online calendar, [http://saint-katherines.org/calendar](http://saint-katherines.org/calendar), for the most current information.
While we are all waiting for this pandemic to be over, our Daughters of Penelope chapter has remained in touch and we look forward to starting up our activities in the Fall. Although many activities will unfortunately remain virtual, we continue to be a strong sisterhood devoted to philanthropy and helping those in need.

**Important Updates:**

- Please mark your calendar for Sunday, September 13. We will host our first meeting via Zoom (but you can also just call in by phone!) to talk about our year ahead. It will be at 4:00pm. Keep your eyes out for an invitation via email and for more information in our DOP August newsletter.

- Our big fall project will be a drive for needed items for local charities. This will include coats and other items requested by area shelters. Anyone can contribute! We will be looking for donations that can be dropped off at church (or if members would rather not shop and submit a monetary contribution instead, the board will purchase the items). Stay tuned for the date for people to drop off their donations in a drive-through at our church. Donations will be received only on the designated date and time and should not be dropped off at the church office.

- We need to begin efforts to collect 2021 dues now, especially since we are not able to plan our normal in-person fundraising activities. Most members of our chapter have sent in their $45 for year 2020 and we appreciate the great response we have received so far. If you still need to pay your dues, please contact Karen Polizos at polizos@aol.com.

If you would like to join our chapter, we would love to have you! I would be happy to speak with you. Please contact me at maria@chrisandmaria.com.

We hope everyone continues to remain healthy this Fall and we can’t wait until we can be together in person. Until then, we will continue to email, Zoom, Skype, mail, and whatever else it takes to stay together and stay strong.

(Continued from page 7)

Εκεί ο μηχανικός το εξήτασε με λεπτομέρεια, μήπως υπάρχει βλάβη, το επλύναν κι όλας, επειδή είχε γεμίσει από τα χώματα του χωραφιού.

Τους ευχαρίστησα από την καρδιά μου όλους, τους πρόσφερα και ταπεινοί αστάθεις, έτσι ότι με γεμίσει από τα χώματα και τα χόρτα του χωραφιού, και τότε ήταν που άκουσα την καμπάνα να χτυπά. Η χαρά μοι δεν περιγράφεται. Μόλις άρχιξε η πολυπόθητη Παράκληση!

Αναμένα το κεράκι μου στην Παναγία, που με έσωσε από αυτά τα θανάτους, κυρίως την παραμυθική γρατζουνιά, ούτε σε μένα ούτε στο αυτοκίνητό μου. Κάθισα με πολλή ταπείνωση κι ευλάβεια στην πύρινη μέρος του ναού, αλλά παρά μόνο την καπνική φυγή άλλα ήταν τα δάκρυα της ψυχής μου, ευνωμένο με την έρημο ευθυγραμμίζοντας με στοιχεία της τριαντάφυλλης χρυσόμαλλης και τις υδατομόρφωσες κάλαμους της νεκράς ρεμάτας, ήταν που άκουσα την καμπάνα να χτυπά. Η χαρά μοι δεν περιγράφεται. Μόλις άρχιξε η πολυπόθητη Παράκληση!

Άνωθεν να άρχισα να μιλάω στην Παναγία, που με έσωσε από αυτά τα θανάτους, κυρίως την παραμυθική γρατζουνιά, ούτε σε μένα ούτε στο αυτοκίνητό μου. Κάθισα με πολλή ταπείνωση και καταπράσινο ευλάβεια στην Παναγία, ήταν που άκουσα την καμπάνα να χτυπά. Η χαρά μοι δεν περιγράφεται. Μόλις άρχιξε η πολυπόθητη Παράκληση!

Ανακοίνωσε η αφοσιωμένη Γερόντισσα της Ιεράς Μονής της Παναγίας την παράληψη των ανθρώπων, της έρημου και τους θανάτους που εκτροφεύονταν από την επικίνδυνη φυγή της ψυχής μου, ευνωμένη με τις πιο κατα τετελεσμένες ευχαριστίες, όλες με άνθρωπο σπίτι και καταπράσινος έμπειρος, υπάρχει εκείνος που θα μπορούσε να κάνει καλύτερα από μας.

Με το ατύχημα αυτό διαπίστωσα, για μια ακόμη φορά στην ζωή μου, πως η ευεργετική θέληση της Ευγενικής Θεού μας, μένοντας σταθερά σε αυτήν, χωρίς κανένα χαμόγελο, επειδή ενδυναμώνει τους θάνατους των άλλων και τη γενική ηθική πολιτική της μητέρας μας, ήταν σίγουρα προβλέψιμο από την Ευγενική Θεού μας.

Τότε έκανα την απόφαση να διαπιστώσω αυτό το ουσιαστικό γεγονός, για μια ακόμη φορά στην ζωή μου, πως η ευεργετική θέληση της Ευγενικής Θεού μας, μένοντας σταθερά στην παράληψη των άλλων και τη γενική ηθική πολιτική της μητέρας μας, ήταν σίγουρα προβλέψιμο από την Ευγενική Θεού μας.
BOOK REVIEW
Gregory McKinney


We frequently hear that the aims of the Orthodox Church are akin to the medical professions: we come to be healed and made whole. There is no higher truth, but do we hear it so often that the meaning has dulled for us and its impact diminished? We can reconnect with the healing in Christ and His Church through Dr. Rossi.

Rossi is the licensed clinical psychologist in residency at St. Vladimir’s Seminary and since 2011 has hosted a podcast on Ancient Faith Radio that shares the book’s name. He has truly embraced Christ as the Great Physician and his advice flows from that.

“Becoming a healing presence” is a code phrase for loving others as best we can. It is code for actively listening to others, intuiting their needs, and serving them in whatever way we can. We become a healing presence because Christ is the healing presence through us. He is “all in all” through us to others. We can’t give what we don’t have. We can’t give Christ’s healing presence to others if we are not intimate with him ourselves. We grow in intimacy with him through stillness and prayer. (150)

This book is, frankly, a rather unstructured meander through Dr. Rossi’s heart. He shares the lessons of his life in Christ, in his practice, in the seminary, and in his family in an open and reflective way. His insights are very human and of a depth not apparent at first. Rossi is the wise teacher or perhaps the family’s general practitioner of decades past. It’s clear that he is familiar with theology and the Church Fathers, but he offers up their insights with a fresh face.

The present moment is quietly explosive, combustible with the very presence of God. Our task is to be faithful to the present moment - that is, to have an unconditional interest in it. Interestingly, we can be a healing presence only in the present moment. There is no other place to go. This requires focused attentiveness to the present moment and the person in front of us. (110)

Rossi offers gentle advice on inner stillness and expansion of the heart through the Jesus Prayer. He speaks about looking at one’s life in terms of vocation, in this case the vocation of healer. He explores gentleness with others and surrender in service to them, or “living for others.” Encountering God within and without requires us to embrace the present moment in all its God-given fullness. He finishes with a discussion of suffering, death, and the frequent tensions and lack of clarity that we encounter in the world.

All in all, a gentle book from a true Christian gentleman.

Dr. Albert S. Rossi was a member of the SCOBA Commission on Contemporary Social and Moral Issues for six years. He is currently Director of Field Education at St. Vladimir’s Seminary.

(Continued from page 5)

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

We are developing more means of using the Internet. For example, we will begin teaching Sunday School online. We have been able to continue meetings and Bible studies via the web. The Hellenic Education has spent so many hours preparing for Greek School and Paideia, mostly via the Internet. Soon, we will be able to announce limited gatherings to grow in our fellowship.

I hope that, if it is proper for you, you will register and come to church services. If you cannot, please participate through the broadcasting of our services live. The Church Fathers have directed our attention to the Lord’s return in Glory. Stay in touch. I really miss all of you.

We will have a good new year because the time is coming soon for Saint Katherine Church to return to her glory! Be supportive of your church because our community is amazing!

Kali Chronia!

Fr. Costas
STEWARDSHIP: A Time for Every Purpose Under Heaven

Christian Stewardship is our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ’s redeeming love. Please continue to support our Church during this difficult time via your Stewardship pledge and donations. We are grateful for your continuous support and we will protect our Church together in faith.

Yours in Christ’s service,
Andrea Ballard

andrebald1@verizon.net

Shown below is a list of families and individuals who participated in the 2020 Saint Katherine Stewardship Program through July 31, 2020. Thank you for responding to the needs of our church. Please contact Lisa Mikhalevsky at accounting@stkchurch.com or 703-671-1515 x106 with any questions.

(Continued on page 13)
IMPROVED LIVE STREAMING FROM THE CHURCH

Please note that our livestreaming from the church is much improved as far as

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We pray this letter finds you and your family healthy and safe.

As we look back on the first half of 2020, we have all been impacted, spiritually, personally, professionally, and financially as we adapted to life with COVID-19. Saint Katherine has not escaped these challenging times. We have made a determined effort to continue with the ministries of Saint Katherine despite the struggles around us. Recently, we have been blessed to reopen our doors for Sunday Liturgy and we pray that our doors will never be closed again. We have also been blessed with several donations to upgrade our video and audio to broadcast our services via YouTube. Although we pray for a return of normalcy to our daily and liturgical lives, we are faced with the likelihood that some form of restricted gathering and distancing requirements will continue for many months to come. Recently, Arlington Public Schools and Fairfax County Public Schools determined they will continue with distance learning in the Fall. These restrictions prevented us from holding a Spring festival and we have also cancelled most banquet hall rentals. While we are planning to host a curbside/takeout festival in the Fall, it is uncertain if this will be possible. The combination of all these factors means our church will struggle financially as we will not receive income generated by these fundraising and rental events to cover our budget. To put this into context, these events represent nearly 35% of our church’s revenue and 25% of the funds required to balance our operating budget each year.

Over the past year, the Parish Council has implemented improvements and cut costs that have allowed us to weather COVID-19. We have also worked hard to secure funding from the programs available to help plug the shortages. However, these actions barely offset the generous contributions that would have normally been made by stewards and guests attending our Lenten, Holy Week, and Pascha services if the church could have fully opened.

**AT THIS TIME, YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS NEEDED MORE THAN EVER!**

The cancellations of the numerous fundraising events noted above will create a budget shortfall for the year of at least $225,000. While our funding has come down, the work of the church has continued. We have remained in operation and continue serving the needs of our parishioners virtually and through special visits.

With this letter, we are launching an emergency supplemental stewardship initiative called “A Dollar More a Day”. We are asking that you commit to contributing a dollar of stewardship per day (or $30 per month) in addition to what you already contribute. We recognize your hard-earned dollars are important to you and your families and that this request may be difficult to fulfill especially given these unprecedented times, but your church needs you now to avoid facing a financial crisis in late 2020 or early 2021. Please refer to graph on the next page showing the significant projected decline in unrestricted cash balances due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
We hope that by considering supplementing your stewardship in the context of “A Dollar More a Day”, you will be able to find the means to support your church during these unprecedented times. Of course, if you have been blessed with the means to provide larger contributions than what we are requesting through this initiative, we would graciously appreciate your added generosity. If you do not have the means to fulfill “A Dollar More a Day”, do not worry, we will graciously accept anything you can provide within your means. Finally, if you are not currently a steward, this would be a great time to become one and help the church.

In addition to meeting its recurring operating expenses, the church has had to replace three air conditioning units in the Meletis Charuhas Hall at a cost of approximately $90,000. The Parish Council followed a bidding process to secure the best price possible for this significant repair. Funding for the air conditioning units was shared between the church and the Hellenic Education Center.

Stewardship contributions can be made using our online giving portal on our website saint-katherines.org and clicking on Make a Donation. Once there, you can select “A Dollar More a Day” or create a Stewardship Profile, and recurring donations can be established. Alternatively, donations can be mailed directly to the church offices. Please write the nature of the contribution (e.g., “Stewardship” or “A Dollar More a Day”) on your check or envelope for proper coding. If you need technical support to establish your profile, please contact Domenic Carr (703-609-1950, carr.domenic@gmail.com) or Andrea Ballard (571-277-9669, andreaballard1@verizon.net). Your weekly or monthly donations that correspond to “A Dollar More a Day” will support this great need our community is facing.

We pray that we can count on your support of Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church.

Sincerely,

Rev. Father Konstantinos A. Pavlakos
Parish Priest

Ray Vazquez
Parish Council President

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Due to lack of rentals and festivals, our cash balances will significantly drop by November placing us at financial risk.

2020 Actual/Estimated Revenue, Expenses and Unrestricted Cash Balances.

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<th>Month</th>
<th>EOM Cash Bal</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Operating Expenses</th>
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End of Month (EOM)

Covid-19 Closure