Sunday before Theophany
Eve of Theophany
Saints Theopemptos and Theonas
Κυριακή προ των Θεοφανείων
Παραμονή Θεοφανείων
Αγίων Θεοπέμπτου και Θεωνά

Apolytikion of the Day (3rd Tone)
Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy.

Ευφραινέσθω τα ουράνια, αγαλλιάσθω τα επίγεια, ότι εποίησε κράτος, εν βραχίονι αυτοῦ, ο Κύριος. Επάτησε τω θανάτω τον θάνατον. Πρωτότοκος των νεκρών εγένετο. Εκ κοιλίας Ἀδου ερρύσατο ἡμᾶς, και παρέσχε τω κόσμῳ το μέγα ἐλεος.

Apolytikion of Saint Katherine the Great Martyr (1st Plagios Tone)
The all-blessed bride of Christ let us extol in song, Katherine the divine and protectress of Sinai, the assistance and helper of all of us; for she muzzled brilliantly, the ungodly clever men, by the power of the Spirit. And now crowned as Martyr, she pleads great mercy for all of us.

Την πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημῶν και αντίληψιν, ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και ως μάρτυς του Κυρίου στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι, το μέγα ἐλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Tone)
On this day in the streams of River Jordan, the Lord indeed did appear, and called out loudly to John. Be not afraid to baptize me; for I have come to save Adam the First-created.

Εν τοις ρείθροις σήμερον του Ιορδάνου, γεγονός ο Κύριος, τω Ιωάννη εκβοᾷ. Μη δειλιάσης βαπτίσαι με. Σώσε γαρ ἦκω Αδάμ τον Πρωτόπλαστον.
Epistle Reading

O Lord, save your people and bless
your inheritance.
To you, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.
The reading is from Saint Paul’s Second Letter to Timothy.

2nd Timothy 4:5-8 – Timothy, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:1-8 – The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written n Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before the face,
who shall prepare thy way,
the voice of one crying in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the one whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Happy New Year!

Καλή Χρονιά! Χρόνια Πολλά!
Announcements

Epiphany Celebration in Ocean City – The 2014 Epiphany Celebration in Ocean City, MD will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2014. His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey will officiate all services. The church services prior to the blessing of the (ocean) waters will be held at: St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 8805 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842. 8:45 a.m. Orthros, 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy. The blessing of the waters will take place around noon, on the beach, across the highway from St. George, at 91st Street. If any girls or boys in our parish would like participate in the Retrieval of the Cross, the release form (signed by their parent or guardian) must be turned in that day. Boys and girls will dive in separate groups. A luncheon will follow at Leo’s Restaurant (Coastal Highway at 139th St.). A minimum donation of $20 per adult and $10 per child is requested. The restaurant holds 65 people and seating will be on a first-come first-served basis. The menu is: Crab soup, Greek salad, seven (7) jumbo shrimp, French fries, rice pudding, beverage. Hotel accommodations ($74 ocean front and $59 for non-ocean front) have been made with: The Grand Hotel, 2100 Baltimore Ave., Ocean City, MD 21842. Please call the hotel at 410-289-3684, ask for Lafabian, and mention that you are part of the St. George Church group in order to receive special rates.

Philoptochos Christmas Bake Sale – This morning, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Half trays of spanakopita are available for sale for $25.00 (the trays are uncooked and frozen); vasilopites $20.00 each; and melomakarona $15.00 per box.

AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce orders are now being taken for our Sixth Annual Community Christmas Ornament. These collectable ornaments have grown in popularity from year to year and we are extremely proud of this year’s offering. This stunning three-dimensional ornament is entitled “Star of Saint Katherine” and is a testament to the indomitable spirit of our community, its ministries and those who lovingly labor in its behalf. Manufactured by the same firm that creates the famous White House Christmas ornaments, they make excellent gifts and are the ideal stocking stuffer. Ornaments will be available for sale after Liturgies during coffee hour. Please place your order after Liturgy or by sending requests to antovi@verizon.net or by calling 703-929-6110.

Attention High School Seniors – Student applications are now available for the Washington Metropolitan Area 44th AHEPA Scholarship program. Students eligible for an award will be honored at this year’s Awards Program on May 18, 2014 held at the Hilton Washington, DC/Rockville Hotel in Rockville, MD. This program has honored 1,508 students and awarded $804, 975 in scholarships. Applications are available in the church office and website. Completed applications and materials must be submitted by April 4, 2014. For more information, contact Karen Polizos at kpolizos@naifa.org or on (571) 434-7790.

Washington Metropolitan Philoptochos Tea – You are cordially invited to attend the Washington Metropolitan Philoptochos Tea on Sunday, January 26, 2014, in the Meletis Charuhas Center from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saint Katherine’s Philoptochoshas has the honor of hosting the event this year. To RSVP, please contact Kathy Cavallo at kecavallo1@aol.com, (703) 978-1539, or Trish Kapsidelis at tgk1413@yahoo.com, (703) 356-5905. We look forward to seeing you at the Tea.

St. Katherine is proud to be a Project Mexico Santa’s Helper this year. I need your help in raising funds to cover Ivan’s wish list this year. Please make your checks payable to St. Katherine with Project Mexico in the memo column. If you have any questions please email rayvazquez1@aol.com.
Offertory Prayer. O God, as you welcomed the gifts of Abel, the sacrifices of Noah and Abraham, the incense of Aaron and Zachariah, do welcome also, from the hands of us sinners, these offerings, so that in clear conscience we may always offer to you gifts and the resources of our labor, for your glorification, for the alleviation of sufferings and hunger, for the ministry to your people, by the grace, mercy and philanthropy of your only begotten Son with whom You are blessed from ages to ages. Amen.

Προσευχή Προσφοράς. Ω Θεέ, ὅπως δέχθηκες τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίες του Νώε και του Αβραάμ, το θυμίαμα του Ααρών και του Ζαχαρία, ας δέχεσαι από τα αμαρτωλά μας χέρια και τις προσφορές αυτές ἕτσι, ὅστε πάντοτε να μπορούμε να σου προσφέρουμε δώρα και τους κόπους της εργασίας μας για την δόξα Σου, προς ελάφρυνση των δοκιμασιών και της πείνας, προς διακονία του λαού Σου, προς συγχώρηση των αμαρτιών και εξιλασμό του λαού σου, με την χάρη, το έλεος και φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το ονόμα Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.

The Sunday bulletin is available online in two formats—a PDF copy of the bulletin handed out in church and an online version with much more information. Please take a moment to check them out by visiting: http://www.saint-katherines.org/about_us/sunday-bulletins

Church Services

Monday, January 6  Holy Theophany – Τα Άρμα Θεοφάνεια
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy and Great Agiasmos 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 7  St. John the Prophet – Αγ. Ιωάννου Προφήτου
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 12  Sunday after Theophany – Κυριακή μετά τα Θεοφάνεια
Divine Liturgy 8:00 a.m.
Orthros/Youth and Adult Catechism 9:30 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Vasilopita Cutting

Saturday, January 18  Challenge Liturgy at St. George 9:30 a.m.

Church Organizations

Acolyte Captains – A. Galatis, N. Issa, and G. McKinney
Protos-Psalter – James Loizou 703-356-8220
Choir Director – John Doulis 703-670-4386
Catechetical School – Christian Demeter 703-534-5669
Hellenic Education Center – Eleni Alexopoulou 703-671-7715

Philioptochos – Eleni Kanakos 703-938-8360
YAL President – Olivia Carr 401-633-2072
GOYA President – Christina Kosmakos 571-271-6411
JOY – Tina Papamichael 703-536-4711
HOPE – Toula Christou 703-533-0055

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Facebook: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church