**Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church**

**Sunday, February 5, 2017**

The Publican and Pharisee

Triodion Begins

Agatha the Martyr

Polyeuktos, Patriarch of Constantinople

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**Apolytikion of the Day (4th Plagal Tone)**

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Ἐξ ὕψους κατῆλθες ὁ εὔσπλαγχνος, ταφὴν καταδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃ τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

**Apolytikion of Saint Katherine the Great Martyr (1st Tone)**

The all-blessed bride of Christ let us extoll 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 you.

Την πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημῶν και αντίληψιν. Ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματον τη δυνάμει. Και νυν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα έλεος.

**Kontakion of the Day (1st Tone)**

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

Ὁ μήτραν παρθενικὴν ἁγιάσας τῶ τόκῳ σου, καὶ χείρας τοῦ Συμεὼν εὐλογήσας ὡς ἐπρεπε, προφθάσας καὶ νῦν ἔσωσας ἡμᾶς Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός. Ἀλλ' εἰρήνευσον ἐν πολέμοις τὸ πολίτευμα, καὶ κραταίωσον Βασιλείας οὗς ἡγάπησας, ὁ μόνος φιλάνθρωπος.
Epistle Reading

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.
God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.
The reading is from Saint Paul’s Second Letter to Timothy.

2nd Timothy 3:10-15 – TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading

Luke 18:10-14 – The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Save the Date to attend Tastes of the Mediterranean – February 10, 2017, 7:00 p.m., Meletis Charuhas Center. Please join Helle Chapter of the Daughters of Penelope for an evening of wine tasting, delicious appetizers, and live Greek music. Proceeds benefit Fisher House Foundation and other DOP Philanthropies. Cost: $30.00. Contact Karen Polizos, 571-434-7790, or Rosalie Georgeadis, 703-532-1723. Advance reservations required. We are planning another successful event and appreciate your support!

Safety Notice – Please be reminded that during inclement weather, the front entrance of the church will be closed until such time as the safety railings are installed. On such occasions, please use the side entrance.

St. Katherine’s Bookstore – Come to our first annual Cheese fare Book Fair on Sunday 26 February and pick out a book to enrich your Lenten experience! We will be offering for one day only gently used and almost new books--$5 for paperbacks and $10 for hard covers. You will be able to choose from readings from church elders, homilies on the place of animals in Orthodox theology, and short stories on the lives of Orthodox saints among other books. If you have items you would like to donate to the Book Fair, feel free to bring them by the bookstore. Consider also this Lent purchasing a new icon. We will be discounting our in-stock icons 15 percent on the Sunday of Orthodoxy (5 March). Our stock includes many beautiful icons of Christ, the Theotokos, major saints, and guardian angels. Remember we now can take credit card payments.

Our Ladies Philoptochos invite all seniors to its Annual Valentine’s Day Luncheon at the Meletis Charuhas Center, on Thursday, February 9, from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. Kindly, make your reservations by calling Mary Drakoulis, at (703) 273-4159, or, e-mail at: Marydrak3@gmail.com. Or, the President, Eleni Kanakos, at (703) 938-8360, or, e-mail at ekanakos@aol.com.

Scholarship Opportunity for Graduating Seniors! The 2017 Washington Metropolitan Area AHEPA/DOP Scholarship Application is available now in the Church office. Completed Applications are due March 31st. Donor applications are also available. Awards will be presented at the Annual Banquet in May 2017. For more information, please contact Karen Polizos, (571) 434-7790.
Memorial Services are offered this morning for Aliki Lagos, mother of Nicholas and Alex Lagos; for Paraskeve Koumarianos, mother of Teddy Koumarianos and Katherine Howard; for Stylianos Salagaras, father of Vasilia Fineskos and Eleftheria Merkert; for Sophia Kavarligos, niece of George and Eleni Kavarligos; for Nicholas Pittas, father of Stergios Pittas; and for Gerry Capacos, uncle of Ioannis Laios. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the Lagos, Koumarianos, Howard, Fineskos and Merkert families in memory of their loved ones.

Memorial Service Procedures – A Memorial Service requires a donation of $175.00. Your sponsorship includes coffee set up, 100 koulourakia, 100 paximathia, putting koliva in cups and clean up after the event. Checks should be made out to: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church (please make payment in advance). Please remember to schedule the actual memorial service with the Church office.

Project Mexico Home-Building 2017 – There are only 2 spaces left for this year’s home-building trip. The trip is from August 16-23. If you are interested in going, please contact Bill or Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net.

Project Mexico Bake Sale – The Project Mexico Home-Building Team will be having a Bake Sale on Sunday, February 12th in the Meletis-Charuhas Center following the Liturgy. Please come by and see photos from previous home-building trips and buy some yummy treats to support our fundraising efforts! Thank you!

Journey to Orthodoxy – This is a reminder that the “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults meets 9:00-10:00 a.m. Sunday (before Liturgy, concurrently with the Sunday School). The class is designed for non-Orthodox inquirers into Orthodoxy as well as for Orthodox Christians who want to know more about the teachings, practices, history, and contemporary life of our Orthodox Church. It is also recommended for intending or newly married couples, especially where one spouse is not Orthodox. The class is held in an informal discussion format. Text is provided. We meet at in the Seniors’ Kentro room on the ground floor of Founders’ Hall. For further information contact the teachers, John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com or Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com, (202) 375-1007.

Women’s Book Club – Please join us on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Meletis Charuhas Center in the room two doors from the church office. We are reading “The Way of a Pilgrim and The Pilgrim Continued His Way”. The book is available for purchase on Amazon and the Church Bookstore. It’s not too late to join the club. For further information contact Despina Raizes at 2draizes@gmail.com or (703) 216-8176.

Apokreatiko Glendi – Please join us for an elegant, fun, and family friendly evening on February 18, 2017 for the 2017 Saint Katherine Greek School Annual Apokreatiko Glendi. (February 19 is the snow date). There will be mezethes, dinner, Greek dancing, best costume prizes, balloon twisting, a photo booth, and face painting. There will be wonderful raffle prizes, including a Fitbit Blaze, Apple TV, Vineyard Tour and Wine Tasting, and many more. Tickets can be purchased NOW at DC Greeks at www.dcgreeks.com. Hope to see you there!

JOY (Junior Orthodox Youth, ages 8-12) – Have fun with friends at Bowl America Fairfax (9699 Fairfax Boulevard) on Saturday, March 18th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Please contact Vaitsa.Bousbouras@yahoo.com to RSVP by March 11th.

Padeia Bilingual Kindergarten – Hellenic Education Center (3149 Glen Carlyln Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041). Come learn the advantages of our unique Kindergarten program: Curriculum based in scientific inquiry, Low teacher: student ratio with highly qualified staff, Greek language immersion, Christian values and tradition, On-site before and after care. For more information: www.stkherc.org, 703-671-7715 or ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com.

Moms, Pops and Tots will have a potluck brunch on Saturday, February 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Senior Hall. All children up to four years old and parents are welcome. Please join us for this fellowship for both children and adults. For more information, please contact Irene Sakkas at (703) 338-8823 or irenesakkas@gmail.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, όπως δέχθηκες τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίες του Νώε και του Αβραάμ, το θυμίαμα του Ααρών και του Ζαχαρία, ας δέχθεις από τα αμαρτωλά μας χέρια και τις προσφορές αυτές έτσι, ώστε 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 εξάλειψη του λαού σου, με την χάρη, το έλεος και φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά 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