Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, February 7, 2016
16th Sunday of Matthew

Parthenios Bishop of Lampsakos
Luke the Righteous

Apolytikion of the Day (3rd Tone)
Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the power of His reign. He has conquered death by death, and become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hades; and has granted to the world 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 Άδου ερρύσατο ημᾶς, και παρέσχε τω κόσμω το μέγα έλεος.

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 Χριστού υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημών 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.

Ο μήτραν παρθενικήν αγιάσας τω τόκω σου, και χείρας του Συμεών ευλογήσας ως έπρεπε, προφθάσας και νυν έσωσας ημᾶς Χριστέ ο Θεός. Άλλ’ ειρήνευσον εν πολέμως το πολίτευμα, και κραταίωσον Βασιλείς ους ηγάπησας, ο μόνος φιλάνθρωπος.
**Epistle Reading**

The Lord will give strength to his people. Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

The reading is from Saint Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians.

2nd Corinthians 6:1-2 – Brethren, working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, “At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation.” Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

**Gospel Reading**

Matthew 25:14-30 – The Lord said this parable: “A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.’ And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ His master said, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.’ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.” As he said these things he cried out: “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA chapter 438 is proud to announce the opening of the new community Seniors Κέντρο (Kentro) located on the ground floor of Founders Hall. Gather with friends, enjoy a cup of coffee while watching the news from Greece, spending some quiet time reading the paper, or enjoying each other’s company/parea. Lectures, Bible Studies and presentations of health and wellness are also benefits that will be introduced as part of our Church’s new Seniors Ministry. The Seniors Kentro is carpeted and fully furnished, featuring a 60-inch flat screen television with satellite access to Greek network programming, and has a coffee bar. Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 3:00pm (the Seniors Kentro will open at noon when church services are scheduled). The room is also available to other groups by appointment through the Church Office.

St. Katherine’s Vacation Bible Camp – Mark your calendars for St. Katherine’s Vacation Bible Camp on June 27th – July 1st. We are looking for great teachers to make this event happen! Please contact Vicki Mowery at mowerycrew@gmail.com or Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net if you are interested in volunteering.

Ride to Church Needed - A woman who is helping her son settle into Vienna is seeking a ride to church services. If you can help, please call Tina at 248-496-8787.
Memorial Services are offered this morning for Kathleen Michael (6-months), wife of Mr. Frank Michael, and mother of Beckie, Christina and Martha; for Petros Karyotis (6-mothers), father of Irene Veltsistas; and for Pavlos Thrasyvoulou and Thrasyvoulos Thrasyvoulou, husband and son of Mrs. Eleni Thrasyvoulou and father and brother of Maria Kolas and Yioula Trahilis. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the Michael, Silis, Veltsistas, Thrasyvoulou, Kolas and Trahilis Families in memory of their loved ones.

Philoptochos – To sponsor Coffee Hour after a Memorial Service is $175.00 donation. It will include set up coffee, 100 koulourakia, 100 paximathia, putting Coliva in cups and cleaning up. Donations need to be sent to Saint Katherine’s in advance. Parishioners will call the church first for the date and all their information and then, they can contact Mary Varlas at (703) 965-4161 or Eleni Kanakos at (703) 969-8364.

The Annual Seniors’ Valentine’s Day Luncheon by our Philoptochos in on Thursday, February 11, 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Meletis Charuhas Hall. For reservations please contact Mary Drakoulis at (703) 273-4159 or Eleni Kanakos at (703) 938-8360 or ekanakos@aol.com.

Apokreatiko Glendi 2016 – Tickets are now on sale for the March 12, 2016 Apokreatiko Glendi! Visit ApokreatikoGlendi2016.EventBrite.com to purchase your tickets. $45.00 for adults and $15.00 for children ages 4 to 13. Please join us for an elegant and fun evening of mezedes, dinner, raffle prizes, music and dancing, and other fun activities. For more information, contact Toula Christou at toulamm@gmail.com

Teach Youth Basic Orthodoxy in Guatemala This Summer – In Guatemala there are hundreds of children and young adults hungry to learn more about their Orthodox Christian Faith. A short-term OCMC mission team has been invited to offer a summer Church school program for two communities outside Nuevo Conception in Southwest Guatemala to teach basic Orthodoxy. If you have a heart for youth or teaching, please prayerfully consider joining this team which will serve from June 15th to the 28th, 2016. To learn more or apply, visit http://www.ocmc.org/about/view team.aspx?TeamId=170, e-mail teams@ocmc.org, or call 1-877-463-6784, ext. 141.

Food Pantry Miracle – Parishioners donated 1,046 pounds of food last Sunday, despite the huge snowstorm a few days earlier and the chaotic parking lot. Thank you, St. Katherine’s, for your awesome commitment to provide for the poor!

Build a House in Mexico this Summer – In Mexico, there are many families without homes. You can change the life of a needy family by volunteering on a home building trip to Tijuana, Mexico. The Mission and Outreach Committee at St. Katherine’s invite you to join us this summer from July 14th-20th, 2016 to build a home for an impoverished family. If you have a heart for working with your hands, please prayerfully consider joining this team. The team leader is Elaine Porter and she can be reached at beporter1@verizon.net or (703) 913-9629 (H) or (703) 470-9992 (cell). To learn more about Project Mexico, please visit their website at www.projectmexico.org.

Project Mexico Bake Sale – The Project Mexico Team will be having a Bake Sale after Church, next Sanday, k February 14th in the Charuhas-Meletis Hall to raise funds for our trip to Mexico this summer. For now, some of the delicious confections that you may purchase for your loved one (it is Valentine’s Day after all)) will be Chocolate Bark, Whoopie Pies, Spiced Pecans, Baklava, and Banana Bread. Please stop by and support our mission team. Thank you!

Archimedes Scholarship – Applications are now being accepted for the Next Generation Initiative’s Archimedes Award Scholarship, offered to outstanding high school seniors of Hellenic heritage intending to pursue studies in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) related fields at a university in the United States. To be considered for a 2016-17 scholarship, please apply by March 25, 2016. For more information, and to apply online, please go to www.hellenext.org.

Scholarship Opportunity for Graduating Seniors! The 2016 Washington Metropolitan Area AHEPA/DOP Scholarship Application is available now in the Church office. Completed applications are due the first week of April. Donor applications are also available. Awards will be presented at the Annual Banquet in May 2016. For more information, please contact Karen Polizos, (571) 434-7790.
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 εξιλασμό 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