Sunday, February 14, 2021
Sunday of the Canaanite

St. Auxentius of the Mountain
St. Cyril, Enlightener of the Slavs
St. Theodore the Tyro

Apolytikion of the Day (3rd Tone)

-Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the mighty power of His arm. He trampled down death by death and became the firstborn of the dead. From the depths of Hades, He delivered us and granted to the world great mercy.

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

-Let us praise the all lauded and noble bride of Christ, the godly Katherine, the guardian of Sinai and its defense, who is also our support, assistance and our help; for with the Holy Spirit's sword she hath silenced brilliantly the clever among the godless; and being crowned as a Martyr, she now does ask great mercy for us all.

Kontakion of the Day (2nd Tone)

-O Protection of the Christians unashamable, mediation to the Creator immovable, despise not, the pleading voices of those in sin, but hasten O good one, to the help of all of us, who in faith cry out to you: Speed up your intercession, and press on your supplication, O Theotokos who always protect, all those who honor you.

-Προστασία των χριστιανών ακαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία προς τον Ποιητή αμετάθετε, μη παρίδης, αμαρτωλών δεήσεων φωνάς, αλλά πρόφθασον ως αγαθή, εις την βοήθειαν ημών, των πιστώς κραυγαζόντων σοι: Τάχυνον εις πρεσβείαν και σκεύσον εις ικεσίαν, η προστατεύουσα αεί, Θεοτόκε των τιμώντων σε.
Epistle Reading

Sing praises to our God, sing praises.
Clap your hands, all you nations.
The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

2nd Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1 – Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."
Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 15:21-28 – At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." And he answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Saint Cyril, Enlightener of the Slavs

Saint Cyril was born in Thessaloniki in the early 9th century to pious parents. His family was one of only a few Byzantines in Thessaloniki at that time since it was largely populated by Slavs. Growing up in this situation, Cyril learned the Slavonic language, which later in life would serve him and the Church at large. He continued his education in Constantinople with his brother Methodios (see May 11th), each taking to their particular interests: Methodios in politics, and Cyril in philosophy and teaching.

The two brothers were approached in 850 by Saint Photios the Great (see February 6th) to lead a diplomatic mission to the Khazars, the people who inhabited the western shore of the Caspian Sea. Cyril and Methodios accepted this mission and departed to the North. After the success of this trip, the brothers lived for a time in a monastery on Mount Olympus where Methodios became a monk. At this time the brothers utilized their childhood Slavonic education to develop a written alphabet for the Slavonic language, which to this time had never existed. This alphabet became known as the Glagolitic Alphabet. On their own instigation, the brothers began translating the Gospels and liturgical service books into Slavonic.

Providentially, Cyril and Methodios were again called upon for a mission, this time to travel to Moravia to spread the Christian faith to King Rostislav (see May 11th) and his people. The brothers departed in 862, bringing with them their Slavonic alphabet and service books. After five years of service, the brothers made their way to Rome in 867 to have members of their company ordained to the priesthood to aid in the missionary journey. The group of missionaries celebrated the Divine Liturgy in Rome in the Slavonic language for the very first time with members of their party being ordained as they intended. While in Rome, Cyril fell deathly ill. He was tonsured a monk and died. His brother Methodios continued their missionary work, utilizing the Glagolthic Alphabet. Cyril and his brother Methodios are commemorated together on May 11th.

Apolytikion of Saint Cyril, Enlightener of the Slavs (4th Tone)

Since ye were equal in character to the Apostles, and teachers of the Slavic lands, O divinely-wise Cyril and Methodius, pray to the Lord of all to strengthen all nations in Orthodoxy and unity of thought, to convert and reconcile the world to God, and to save our souls.
Memorial Services are offered this morning for Rev. Fr. Theodore H. Chelpoń (5-years), husband of Presvytera Theodora Chelpoń and father of Deacon Harry, Dean and Antonia; for George Chelpoń (7-years), son of Presvytera Theodora Chelpoń, and brother of Deacon Harry, Dean and Antonia; and for Nymfodora “Nora” Stathis-Bitchakas (1-year), mother of Argery Cooke. May their memory be eternal!

Family Night – Friday, February 19, 2021 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the Meletis Charuhas Center. A presentation will be offered on “Saint Photini and Saint Herman of Alaska.” A delicious pizza will be served. There is no cost. Seats are limited. To register please send an email to Father Costa at frcostas@stkchurch.com. Thank you!

Journey to Orthodoxy – Beginning Monday, February 1, the “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults resumes ONLINE Via Zoom, on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00pm Eastern Time. 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, this class is also recommended for intending or newly married couples, especially where one spouse is not Orthodox. The class follows an informal discussion format. For further information, and to receive links class materials and to be placed on the Zoom invitation list, please contact the teachers, John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com, Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com, 202-375-1007, or the Zoom technical coordinator James Class, classj@gmail.com.

Adult Bible Studies class – In this time of social distancing, let us continue our weekly Adult Bible Studies online. Join us each Thursday evening at 7:00pm. We will take up a new topic each week on Thursdays, with: “What is the Meaning of Resurrection?”

Catechetical Lectures of Saint Cyril of Jerusalem – A Greek Bible Study led by Professor Ioannis Gkigkitzis. The Adult Catechism and Sacraments class “Catechetical Lecture of Saint Cyril” is taking place every Tuesday online at 7:15 p.m. This includes time for discussion and fellowship.

Greek School – Please check our Church’s website, www.saint-katherines.org or our HEC website, www.stkhec.org for an application. For more information on our Saint Katherine’s Greek School please contact Sophia Tsangali at 703-671-1515 or stsangali@stkchurch.com.

The AHEPA Chapter 438, Peter N. Derzis is hosting a fundraising virtual 5km/1 mile race/walk for the week of March 22-26, any day, any time. Proceeds from the event will help train service dogs for wounded warriors suffering from PTSD. For registration and more information please go to www.ahepa438.org.

Paideia Preschool – We are excited to announce that the Paideia Preschool is now open and accepting enrollments. We currently offer part-time (3 day/week) and full-time (5 days/week) options for children between the ages 2 to 5. Should you have any questions, or wish to enroll in our program, please feel free to reach our to us at hec-administraton@stkchurch.com or 703-671-7715.

Saint Auxentius of the Mountain
This Saint, who was from the East, lived during the reign of Saint Theodosius the Younger. In 442 he enlisted in the Fourth Military Company of the Scholarii, that is, the Imperial Guard. Afterwards, he became a monk on a certain mountain in Bithynia (which later took his name), not far from Chalcedon. On becoming the archimandrite of the monasteries gathered there and proving himself to be most enduring in asceticism and most Orthodox in his faith, he reposed during the reign of the Emperor Leo the Great of Thrace, who reigned from 457 to 474.

Apologetic of Auxentius of the Mountain (1st Tone)
Thou didst prove to be a citizen of the desert, an angel in the flesh, and a wonderworker, O Auxentius, our God-bearing Father. By fasting, vigil, and prayer thou didst obtain heavenly gifts, and thou healest the sick and the souls of them that have recourse to thee with faith. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength. Glory to Him that hath crowned thee. Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee.
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. Ωθεέ, ὃπως 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 εξίλασμό του λαού Σου, με την χάρη, το έλεος και φιλανθρωπία του μονογενοῦς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το ὄνομά Σου εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Αμήν.

The Sunday bulletin is available online at [http://www.saint-katherines.org/about_us/sunday-bulletins](http://www.saint-katherines.org/about_us/sunday-bulletins).