Sunday, February 18, 2018
Forgiveness Sunday
(Cheesefare)

St. Leo, Pope of Rome
St. Agapetus the Confessor

Apolytikion of the Day (4th Tone)

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spoke to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ο θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωροθέμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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. Ὅτι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψοὺς των ασεβῶν, του Πνεύματον τῇ δυνάμει. Και νυν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αἰτεῖται πάσι τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (2nd Plagal Tone)

O Master, Prudence, Guide of Wisdom, Instruction to the foolish and Defender of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it discernment. Give me words, Word of the Father, for behold, I shall not keep my lips from crying out to You, "O Merciful One, have mercy on me who has fallen."

Τῆς σοφίας ὁδηγέ, φρονήσεως χορηγέ, τῶν ἀφρόνων παιδευτά, καὶ πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστά, στήριξον, συνέτισον τὴν καρδιάν μου Δέσποτα. Σὺ δίδου μοι λόγον, ὁ τοῦ Πατρός Λόγος· ἰδοὺ γὰρ τὰ χεῖλη μου, οὐ μὴ κωλύσω ἐν τῷ κράζειν σοι· Ἐλεήμον, ἐλέησόν με τὸν παραπεσόντα.
**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 St. Paul's Letter to the Romans.

**Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4** – Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

**Gospel Reading**

**Matthew 6:14-21** – The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.'"

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**Philoptochos Meeting** – This morning after Liturgy at the boardroom.

**Philoptochos Stewardship Tea** will be held on March 11th, from Noon-3:00pm at the Meletis Charuhas Center.

**Easter Bake Sale** will be on Sunday March 25th, Saturday March 31st and Sunday April 1st, after Liturgy is completely over. Please preorder by calling Mary Varlas at 703-965-4161 or email her at LPbakesale@yahoo.com.

**Easter Decorated Lambathes/Candles** will be available on the same dates as above. Please preorder by calling or emailing Mary Varlas.

**Thriving in the Orthodox Home – Saturday, 3/17 – 9am-3pm - Parent Retreat** – Please join us for a Lenten Retreat for living our faith as parents, in our homes, and in our relationships. Presented by author, professor and speaker: Dr. Philip Mamalakis, Ph.D, LMFT. Saturday, March 17th, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church. Lenten Lunch will be provided. *Free will offering can be made at the event.* Childcare available for $25/ child. Space is limited. REGISTER: https://goo.gl/forms/mSukkQDyVLcKrkQJ82.
Memorial Services are offered this morning for Archimandrite Nicholas Pekatoros and his sister Alexandra Dervesse; for Nikolaos and Maria Mallus, parents of Mark Mallus; for Gerry Capacos, uncle of Ioannis Laios; for Pavlos and Barbara Hantzopoulos, parents of Leonidas Hantzopoulos, Demetra Rajendra, Despina Malloy, and grandparents of Julia, Vasilios, Sean, Barbara, Vera, and Angelina; for Nikolaos Rekkas, uncle of Georgia Rekka Hantzopoulos; and for Peter and Angelina Kalavritinos, parents of Christopher Kalavritinos. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the Spiritual Children of Archimandrite Nicholas Pekatoros in his loving memory and his sister’s Alexandra Dervesse; and by the Hantzopoulos, Rajendra and Malloy families in memory of their beloved parents, Pavlos and Barbara Hantzopoulos and uncle Nikolaos Rekkas.

Journey to Orthodoxy – This is a reminder that the “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults meets 9-10 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 where one spouse is not Orthodox. The class is held in an informal discussion format. Text is provided. We meet 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.

Project Mexico Bake Sale – This morning after Liturgy. – Please come and support our fundraising efforts!! We will be selling baklava, banana breads, pumpkin/cranberry breads, Whoopie Pies, sugar cookies, cakes and more…..all in time for Valentine's Day! Thank you for your support!!

INTERESTED IN GOING TO PROJECT MEXICO? – For the 5th time, our Church will sponsor a Missions Team to Mexico from July 17-25, 2018, to build a simple home for a family in need, while staying at the St. Innocent Orphanage with about 120 other Orthodox Christians. 15 spaces have been reserved for our team, and 6 are still available! The trip costs approximately $1600, which pays for the building supplies/materials, food and lodging, flights, and a rental van. If you are interested, please contact Bill Porter at beporter1@verizon.net or Nick Junes at njunes@stkchurch.com.ASAP!

Scholarship Opportunity for Graduating Seniors! – The 2018 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 2018. For more information, please contact Karen Polizos, (571) 434-7790.

Taste of Greece – Today, February 18, 2018. OPA! Authentic Greek food and pastries, dancing, and more. Dine in or take out at the Ashburn Firehouse (20688 Ashburn Road, Ashburn, VA 20147) presented by the Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church. For further details at www.holyapostlesgreekorthodox.org/tog.

Food Pantry – In keeping with our Lenten tradition of helping others in need, we are handing out empty blue bags after the liturgy for donations to the St. Katherine Food Pantry located at Columbia Baptist Church, and asking that you return them on Collection Sunday, March 4, to the large community center. If you are unable to fill a bag, write a check to “Columbia Baptist Church” with “Food Pantry/St. K” in the corner and give to one of the food pantry volunteers. In addition to helping those in need, you will be supporting a service ministry of our St. K youth. Take a look at the new flyer in the bag and see photos of them in action!!
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 δεχθείς από τα αμαρτωλά μας χέρια και τις προσφορές αυτές έτσι, ώστε πάντοτε να μπορούμε να Σου προσφέρουμε δόρα και τους κόπους της εργασίας μας γιά την δόξα Σου, προς ελάφρυνση των δοκιμασίων 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 μονογενοῦς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.