Apolytikion of the Day (1st Plagal Tone)

- Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also will to resurrect the dead.
- Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσουμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσουμεν, ὅτι ἡμᾶς ἀνέλθειν ἐν τῷ σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγείραι τοὺς τεθνεότας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ Αναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

Apolytikion of Sunday of Orthodoxy (2nd Tone)

- O Christ our God, begging forgiveness of our sins, we venerate Your Pure Image, O Good One. Of your own will you condescended to ascend upon the Cross in the flesh and deliver those You created from the bondage of the enemy. Wherefore, thankfully, we cry out, "When You came to save the world, Your filled all things with joy, O Our Savior."
- Τὴν άχραντον Εἰκόνα σου προσκυνοῦμεν Ἀγαθέ, αιτοῦμεν συγχώρησιν τῶν πταισμάτων ἡμῶν, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός· βουλήσει γὰρ ηὐδόκησας σαρκὶ ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, ἵνα ῥύησῃ οὓς ἔπλασας ἐκ τῆς δουλείας τοῦ ἐχθροῦ· ὅτε εὐχαριστῶς βοῶμεν σοι· Χαράς ἐπλήρωσας τὰ πάντα, ὁ Σωτὴρ ἡμῶν, παραγενόμενος εἰς τὸ σῶσαι τὸν Κόσμον.

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 βοήθεια και αντών ὑμοῖς, ὅτι εφίμοις λαμπρῶς, τους κομψοὺς των ασεβῶν, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Καὶ νυν ος Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα ἔλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Plagal Tone)

- To you, Theotokos, invincible Defender, having been delivered from peril, I, your city, dedicate the victory festival as a thank offering. In your irresistible might, keep me safe from all trials, that I may call out to you: "Hail, unwedded bride!"
- Τῇ υπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τα νικητήρια, ως λυτροθεία τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστηρία, ἀναγράφω σοι ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε, Άλλῳ ὡς ἔχουσαι τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμήχητον, ἐκ παντῶν μὲ κινδύνου ἔλευθερος, ἵνα κράζω σοι, Χαίρε νύμφη αὖνύμφευτε.
Epistle Reading

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.
For you are just in all you have done.
The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.

Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40 – Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets -- who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign enemies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated -- of whom the world was not worthy -- wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Gospel Reading

John 1:43-51 – At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and he said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

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/mSukkQDyVLcKrkRql82.

Daughters of Penelope (DOP) – The next meeting of the Daughter of Penelope is on Sunday, March 14, after Liturgy in the Boardroom.
Today is the Sunday of Orthodoxy! And at the end of the Divine Liturgy the Sunday School students and the youth of our Church will participate in the procession by holding their icons and honoring the great event of the icons that we commemorate on the Sunday of Orthodoxy!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the Ladies Philoptochos.

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.

INTERESTED IN PROJECT MEXICO? – For the 5th time, our Church will sponsor a team from July 17-25, 2018, to build a simple home for a family, while staying at the St. Innocent Orphanage with about 120 Orthodox Christians. 6 spots are still available only until March 15th! Unfilled spots need to be released after this date. So, if you are considering joining us, you must decide soon! The trip costs approximately $1500, which covers building supplies/materials, food and lodging, flights, and a rental van. Interested? Contact Bill Porter at beporter1@verizon.net 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.

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. Katherine youth. Take a look at the new flyer in the bag and see photos of them in action!!

Mission Presentation – March 2, 2018 – Immediately following the Salutations to the Blessed Theotokos, there will be a mission presentation in our community center from members of our Kenya Mission team. Nick Dopuch and Veronica De Meylant will present “The Children of Kenya”. All are welcome to attend. Lenten refreshments will be served.

Please plan to join us in a Pan-Orthodox Celebration of Orthodox Christian Missions on Sunday, April 22, 2018, following Vespers at 4:30 p.m. Come enjoy a wine reception and dinner, along with music, raffles and guest speakers, including our very own Antonia Chelpon. Your support will help the Orthodox Christian Missions Center spread our Orthodox faith throughout the world! Tickets are $60.00. Student rate is $30.00 and a table for ten is $500.00. For tickets to the benefit and the raffle contact: Nia Vroustouris at evroustouris@gmail.com, Linda Jouvani at ljouvanis@gmail.com, or stop by the Missions and Outreach table during Coffee Hour.

You are invited to join the Gardeners of St. Phocas – Together we can continue to enhance the gardens of our church. All interested parishioners are asked to contact Linda Jouvani at ljouvanis@gmail.com. You do not need a green thumb. A joyful spirit will do!
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 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 at http://www.saint-katherines.org/about_us/sunday-bulletins.