Apolytikion of the Day (1st Plagios Tone)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Life-giver. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, Glory to Thy Kingdom, Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

Του λίθου σφραγισθέντος υπό των Ιουδαίων, και στρατιωτών φυλασσόντων το άχραντόν σου σώμα, ανέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δορούμενος το κόσμω την ζωήν. Διά τούτο αι Δυνάμεις των ουρανών εβόων σοι Ζωοδότα. Δόξα τη αναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τη Βασιλεία σου, δόξα τη οικονομία σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

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. ጰι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματον τη δυνάμει. Και νυν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα έλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Plagios 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!

Τη Υπερμάχω Στρατηγώ τα νικητήρια, ως λυτρωθείσα των δεινών ευχαριστήρια, αναγράφω σοι η Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε. Αλλ’ ως έχουσα το κράτος απροσμάχητον, εκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ελευθέρωσον, ίνα κράζω σοι, Χαίρε νύμφη ανύμφευτε.
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 Saint 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 sown 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 to him, “Behold, and 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.”

Clothes Drive – They need clothes, they need shoes, give them things that we don’t use! The Catechetical School’s 5th/6th grade students are organizing a drive to collect clothes for the Arlington Head Start Centers on Sunday, April 3rd. They will be collecting the following: New/Gently-Used clothes (infant to age 7). New socks (infant-age 5), New Underwear (2T-5T), t-shirts (2T-5T), and shoes (10T-4). Contact Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net on at (703) 913-9629, if you have questions regarding this drive. Thank you!

The HOPE Ministry – Please join us at the movies for an adventure with “The Little Prince” on Saturday, April 9th at about 3:00 p.m. at AMC Theaters Tysons Corner Center. (The exact time will be announced in early April). Please RSVP to Vaisa.Bousbouras@yahoo.com by April 2nd.

Seniors Kentro – A Continental Breakfast for seniors will be served on Wednesday, April 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. We hope to make this a regular event, so please RSVP to the Church office NLT noon, April 4. Come enjoy good food and parea with your friends!

Easter Lamb Roast – Save the date! Our 3rd Annual event will take place after Agape Services on Easter morning. Enjoy a traditional, care-free meal featuring roast leg of lamb and many other traditional Greek dishes and desserts. Plan on spending your Easter with friends and family at Saint Katherine and enjoy all the benefits of a great meal, live music and a great time without any of the worries associated with preparation and cleanup! Additional details forthcoming. Help us continue this tradition by contacting the Church office to volunteer your time to help organize this year’s event.

The Ladies Philoptochos are having their traditional Easter Bake Sale following the Divine Liturgy: Sunday, April 17, Saturday of Lazarus, April 23, and Palm Sunday, April 24 following the 2nd Liturgy only. No sales will be available during Holy Week. For more information please contact Mary Varlas, (703) 965-4161 or LPbakesale@yahoo.com.

Community Dinner – Please join us for our first Community Dinner on Thursday, March 24 at 7:00 p.m. after Vespers for the Annunciation (Vespers begin at 6:00 p.m.). We anticipate these will be monthly events in the future. Our first meal will feature Lenten fare (fish plaki, vegetables, lentil soup, etc.). Donation $10.00 per person.
We Welcome His Eminence Bishop Neofitos of Nyeri and Mount Kenya Region! Εἰς πολλά ἐτη Δέσποτα!

Our Sunday School students, holding their icons, will participate in the procession of the Sunday of Orthodoxy, this morning!

Philoptochos – To sponsor Coffee Hour after a Memorial Service is $175.00 donation. It will include set up coffee, 100 koulourakia, 100 paximathia, putting koliva in cups and cleaning up. Donations need to be sent to Saint Katherine’s in advance. Please write checks to: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church. 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.

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?Teamld=170, e-mail teams@ocmc.org, or call 1-877-463-6784, ext. 141.

Journey to Orthodoxy Class for adults – Meets 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. on Sundays in Seniors’ Kentro of the Founders’ Hall. Do you want to know more about the teachings, practices, history and contemporary life of the Orthodox church? For more information contact John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com or Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com, 202-375-1007.

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.

Peter Derzis AHEPA Chapter 438 started selling 2016 restaurant raffle tickets after the Liturgy during coffee hour. The cost of the tickets is $20.00 (6 for $100.00) with the drawing for the 3 prizes of $500.00 in gift certificates to be held on AHEPA Sunday, May 15, 2016.

Monumental Mission Walk 2016 – Save the Date! Our 4th Annual Monuments Mission Walk will take place on Saturday, October 15th, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Eleni Porter and her energetic committee are organizing this year’s event, which will start on the National Mall between 3rd and 4th streets and take us around the Mall to learn about the monuments in that area. Proceeds from our mission walk are shared with the OCMC and our area ministries. Come and join us to walk for missions!

‘Healthy heart – Healthy Life Styles” Seminar – Sunday, April 10th, in Founder’s Hall. Daughters of Penelope Helle Chapter 283 and AHEPA Peter N. Derzis chapter 438 are sponsoring a health seminar for the Saint Katherine community presented by Dr. Rachel Berger of Virginia Heart of Arlington, VA. This seminar will focus on the latest preventive measures to maintain a healthy heart and healthy life style, and will provide a greater understanding of heart disease that affects women and men. There will be a Lenten breakfast at noon followed by the presentation from 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Choir – We would like to welcome Nick Kyrus back as St. Katherine’s choir director. The choir continues to rehearse on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. and is now preparing music for Great Lent and Pascha. If you are musically inclined, over 13 yrs. old and are willing to dedicate some time each week, please consider joining the choir. Many thanks to previous choir director, John Doulis and his hard work who will continue his role as the music director for the Sunday school. We eventually aim to have a packed choir loft of children and adults. For more information please contact Nick at nbkyrus@comcast.net.

Philoptochos Meeting this morning immediately following the Divine Liturgy at the board room of the Meletis-Charuhas Center.

The Prometheas March 25th Program will take place this afternoon at St. George, Bethesda, MD at 5:30 p.m.
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 εξιλασμό του λαού σου, με την χάρη, το ύπνος και φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.