GREAT AND HOLY EASTER
ΤΟ ΜΕΓΑ ΚΑΙ ΑΓΙΟ ΠΑΣΧΑ

Apolytikion of the Day (1st Plagios Tone)

Christ is risen from the dead, by death hath He trampled down death, and on those in the graves hath He bestowed life.

Χριστός ανέστη εκ νεκρών, θανάτω θάνατον πατήσας, και τοις εν τοις μνήμασι ζωήν χαρισάμενος.

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 τον ασεβών, του Πνεύματον τη δυνάμει. Και νυν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα έλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Plagios Tone)

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades’ power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the Myrrh-bearing women. Hail, and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

Ει και εν τάφω κατήλθες αθάνατε, αλλά του Άδου καθείλες την δύναμιν, και ανέστης ως νικητής, Χριστέ ο Θεός, γυναιξί Μυροφόροις φθεγξάμενος. Χαίρετε, και τοις σοις Αποστόλοις ειρήνην δωρούμενος, ο τοις πεσούσι παρέχων ανάστασιν.
Epistle Reading

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;  
for His mercy endured forever.  
The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 1:1-8

In the first book, O Theophilos, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.”

Gospel Reading

John 1:1-17

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh not of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.’”) And from his fullness have we all received grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Reminder! AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope Metro Scholarships Applications and instructions for submission are available at the Saint Katherine Church Office. Application deadline for graduating seniors is the first week of April each year. Donation deadline for this year’s scholarships is the third week of April. Donor contact information is also available at the Church Office. The event will be held Sunday, May 17, 2017.

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Katherine, in an effort to locate Greek Orthodox Christians who have been born in Constantinople and later emigrated to various parts of the world, our Ecumenical Patriarchate has reached out to our Holy Metropolis for assistance. If you and/or family members were born in Constantinople please contact the Church Office and leave your contact information with Sophia.
Announcements

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen! Χριστός Ανέστη! Αληθώς Ανέστη!

Parents are reminded that children are not allowed to play on the stage in the Meletis Charuhas Center during Coffee Hour or other social gatherings. We ask your assistance to prevent injury to the children and damage to curtains and other equipment. Thank you.

New Candle Prices – The Parish Council has approved the following changes to candles available at the pangaria: Red votive candles - $10; large white candles - $5; small candles - $1 (no change). Prices are effective in April.

Save the date: Metropolitan DC Orthodox Mission and Outreach Mission Dinner – The Metropolitan DC Orthodox Mission and Outreach Committee is again sponsoring a Mission dinner, to be held at St. Katherine, on Sunday, April 26, 2015. 5:00 p.m. Pan-Orthodox Vespers, 5:30 p.m. Hors d’oeuvres, and 6:00 p.m. Dinner and Presentation, to benefit the OCMC, the International Orthodox Mission and Evangelization organization. Please consider coming, to the banquet. The speaker is Very Rev. John Chakos, Missionary to Guatemala, who will speak on “Orthodoxy in the Guatemalan Highlands: a light shines brightly”. The tickets are $55.00 for adults; for those under 22, $30.00; children under 6 are free; get a table for 10 for $500.00. The reservation deadline is April 21, 2015. Points of contact are: Dr. John Demakis, demakis9931@gmail.com; Skip Mersereau, jwmster@gmail.com or Betty Slanta, slanta@verizon.net. Enclose check and mail to St. Katherine, 3149 Glen Carlyn Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041. Check payable to St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, note: Mission Banquet.

The 2015 Saint Katherine Vacation Bible Camp (sponsored by AHEPA Chapter #438) will take place June 22 – 26, 2015, 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., ages 4-14. Vacation Bible Camp is a unique opportunity for our Orthodox youth to come together in order to enhance their understanding of our faith. This year we’ll explore the Great Feasts of the Church dedicated to the life and ministry of Christ. There is a $30.00 fee per child. Please make checks payable to St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church and note VBC on the memo line. For information, please contact Vicki Mowery, 703-913-3178 or mowerycrew@gmail.com or Eleni Porter, 703-913-9629 or beporter1@verizon.net. Registration forms are available at the narthex.

Helle Chapter invites the St. Katherine Community to attend a speaker presentation on Sunday, April 19th, immediately following second Liturgy. We are delighted to welcome Jan King, a motivational speaker, humorist, author and breast cancer survivor. Her inspirational presentation will be held in the lecture room across from the board room and a light lunch will be provided. We hope you will join us.

HEC will offer a 7-week period of summer fun to 3 - 5 year-old children in our Summer Camp Program, June 29 - August 14, 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. For more information, please contact the director at ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com.
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 εξίλασμο του λαού σου, με την χάρη, το έλεος και φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.