**Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church**

**Sunday, April 15, 2018**
**Saint Thomas Sunday**

**Martyr Crescens**
**Hieromartyr Leonidas,**
**Bishop of Athens**

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**Apolytikion of the Great and Holy PASCHA (1ST Plagal Tone)**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

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

**Resurrectional Apolytikion of the Day (Grave Tone)**

Whilst the tomb was sealed, Thou, O Life, didst shine forth from the grave, O Christ God; and whilst the doors were shut, Thou didst come unto Thy disciples, O Resurrection of all, renewing through them an upright Spirit in us according to Thy great mercy.

Ἐσφραγισμένου τοῦ μνήματος ἡ ζωή ἐκ τάφου ἀνέτειλας Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, καὶ τῶν θυρῶν κεκλεισμένων, τοῖς Μαθηταῖς ἐπέστης ἡ πάντων ἀνάστασις, πνεῦμα εὐθές δι' αὐτῶν ἐγκαινίζον ἡμῖν, κατὰ τὸ μέγα σου 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. Ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματον τη δυνάμει. Και νυν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα ἔλεος.

**Kontakion of the Day (4th Plagal 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.

Εἰ καὶ ἐν τάφῳ κατήλθατε ἀθάνατε, ἀλλὰ τοῦ Ἀδου καθείλες τὴν δύναμιν, καὶ ἀνέστης ὡς νικητής, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, γυναιξὶ Μυροφόροις φθεγξάμενος. Χαίρετε, καὶ τοῖς σοὶς Ἀποστόλοις εἰρήνην δωρούμενος ὁ τοῖς πεσοῦσι παρέχων ἀνάστασιν.
Epistle Reading

Great is our Lord, and great is his power.
Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.
The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 5:12-20 – In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31 – On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them: "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him: "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them: "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe."

Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said: "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.
Χριστός Ανέστη! Αληθώς Ανέστη!
Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

Coffee Hour – This morning the Coffee Hour will be sponsored by our Ladies Philoptochos.

Journey to Orthodoxy – Our “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults meets 9:00-10:00 a.m. Sunday before Liturgy. This class is designed for non-Orthodox inquirers as well as Orthodox Christians wanting to learn more about our faith. It is also recommended for newly married couples, particularly where one is not Orthodox. It is informal and all texts are provided. Location is the Seniors’ Kentro (downstairs of Chelpon Hall). For more information please contact Dr. John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com or Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com, 202-375-1007.

Scholarship Opportunity for Graduating Seniors! – The Scholarship Awards will be presented at the Annual Awards Banquet on Sunday, May 20, 2018, at the Hilton Hotel in Rockville, MD. For information, please contact Karen Polizos, (571) 434-7790.

OCMC Benefit Dinner, Sunday, April 22, 2018 – Please 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 Jouvanis at ljouvanis@gmail.com, or stop by the Missions and Outreach table during Coffee Hour on Sundays following the Divine Liturgy.

You are invited to join the Gardeners of Saint Phocas – Together we can continue to enhance the gardens of our church. All interested parishioners are asked to contact Linda Jouvanis at ljouvanis@gmail.com. You do not need a green thumb. A joyful spirit will do!

GOYA:
April 22 – Sunday – Youth Church Duty and GOYA Meeting after Liturgy.
April 22 – Sunday – GOYAns to help serve at OCMC banquet – time to be determined.
April 28-29 – Saturday/Sunday – Saint Demetrios Baltimore GOYA Basketball Tournament

Daughters of Penelope Meeting is on April 16, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the boardroom of the Meletis Charuhas Center.

Many Thanks to all our parishioners who helped and supported our church during the Great Lent, Holy Week and Easter! May our Risen Lord bless you and your families always!
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 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 ἐλέος και φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εἰς τον αἰώνα. Αμήν.

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