Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, April 23, 2017
Sunday of Saint Thomas

Saint George
the Great Martyr

Apolytikion of Great 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 εν τοις εν τοις μνήμασι ζωήν χαρισάμενος.

Apolytikion of the Day (Plagal 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 ζωὴ ἐκ τάφου ἀνέτειλας Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, καὶ τῶν θυρῶν κεκλεισμένων, τοῖς Μαθηταῖς ἐπέστης ἡ πάντων ἀνάστασις, πνεῦμα εὐθές δι' αὐτῶν ἐγκαινίζων 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 Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημῶν και αντίληψιν. Ότι εφίμοσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματον τη δύναμει. Και νως 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 κατῆλθες ἀθάνατε, ἀλλὰ τοῦ Ἀδον καθεδρεύσει τὴν δύναμιν, καὶ ἀνέστης ὡς νικητής, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, γυναιξὶ Μυροφόροις φθεγξάμενος. Χαίρετε, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Αποστόλοις 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 Epistle Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11 – ABOUT THAT TIME, Herod the king laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword; and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the Church.

The very night when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison; and behold, an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, "Wrap your mantle around you and follow me." And he went out and followed him; he did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened to them of its own accord, and they went out and passed on through one street; and immediately the angel left him. And Peter came to himself, and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

Gospel Reading

John 15:17-27; 16:1-2 – 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.

Vacation Bible Camp June 26th – 30th, 2017 – “Going for the Gold!” is the theme of St. Katherine’s VBC 2017 and we will be covering the Feasts of the Triumph of Christ and His Church. The camp is for ages 4-14 and will run from 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The cost is $30/child including lunch daily. A registration table will be set up after Liturgy on March 12th and 19th in the community center lobby. Please have your payment ready – registration is not complete until payment is received. Checks should be made out to: St. Katherine’s Greek Orthodox Church with “VBC 2017” in the memo line. Forms are also available online on our website. Payment may be given directly to Eleni Porter, placed in the Sunday school mailbox, or mailed to 6811 Bluefield Court, Springfield, VA 22152. Refer questions to Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net or 703-470-9992.

Philoptochos Meeting this morning following the Divine Liturgy at the Meletis Charuhas Center in the board room.

Saint Katherine Ladies Philoptochos are inviting all of you to a complimentary Continental Breakfast on Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 14th. This event is to benefit “Aid to Greece and Cyprus Campaign “Heart to Heart”. All donations are appreciated and will be forwarded to this campaign.” In case you cannot join us please make and mail your donations to Saint Katherine Ladies Philoptochos and write on the memo line “Heart to Heart”. Thank you!

YAL – Thursday, May 4th, Potluck and Discussion at 7:00 p.m. More details to come!
Announcements

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

Our GOYA’s Basketball Tournament today! Our Goyans would like to thank all participants, parents, volunteers, and donors who contributed to help making our Basketball Tournament a Success! We are blessed to have such a strong community!

Memorial Coffee Hour Procedure – If you would like to sponsor the coffee hour in memory of your loved one, a donation of $175.00 is required. This includes coffee set-up, 100 koulourakia, 100 paximathia, putting koliva in cups, and clean-up after the event. Please remember to schedule the memorial service with the Church Office and mail your check at that time. Checks should be made payable to Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church.

MANAGE YOUR GIVING ONLINE – We are pleased to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

1) Visit the church website at http://saint-katherines.org
2) Click on the Online Donation button,
3) Click on the Create Profile button, then
4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

To reach the online giving page using your smartphone or tablet, simply scan our QR code to sign up and start giving. Our new Giving Kiosk is also available in the Narthex for your convenience.

Women’s Book Club – Please join us on Wednesday, April 26, at 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Meletis Charuhas Center in the room two doors from the church office. We are reading “The Pilgrim Continuous His Way”. For further information please contact Despina Raizes at 2draizes@gmail.com or (703) 216-8176.

Kairos Prison Ministry – We will be baking cookies for Kairos Prison Ministry on Monday, April 24, 2017. We will be baking 150 dozen cookies. Volunteers needed. Please contact Dennis Garbis at 202-437-7299 for more information.

OCMC Annual Benefit Banquet – Now taking reservations for what promises to be a great evening. The Annual Benefit Banquet for OCMC, Sunday, April 30. The night begins with Vespers followed by a wine reception, silent auction and two raffles. Raffle prizes include: a weekend stay at the Four-Diamond Hilton Mclean Hotel or a weekend/weekday stay at a Condo at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in PA. Your $60.00 ticket includes a wine reception, dinner & wine, desserts and a beautiful classical guitar performance. The keynote speaker, the Very Rev. Martin Ritsi, Executive Director of OCMC, will be speaking the heart on Missions in Today’s World. Please join us in this wonderful benefit for OCMC Missions around the world! Visit our reservation & ticket table during coffee hour or contact Dr. Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com or Betty Slanta slanta@verizon.net. Thank you!

High School World Languages, Fairfax County Public Schools – Every year, Fairfax County Public Schools offers 7th – 12th Grade students the opportunity to obtain High School credit for their knowledge of a foreign language. Currently 26 world languages are offered as part of this exam, Modern Greek is not one of them. Here is a link that provides additional information: High School World Languages, Fairfax County Public Schools. To do so, we need to provide the Fairfax County World Language personnel a list of 200 Fairfax County Public students who are rising 7th graders through 12th graders and know Greek. For more information please contact, pelekasisgreece@yahoo.com. Support our Project Mexico Trip – For the 4th time, our Church will sponsor a Missions Team to Mexico to

SUPPORT OUR PROJECT MEXICO TRIP – For the 4th time, our Church will sponsor a MISSIONS TEAM TO MEXICO from August 16-23, 2017, to build a simple home for a family in need, while staying at the St. Innocent Orphanage. This year’s team will consist of Nick Junes, Bill, Niko, and Leon Porter, Peter Pappas, Thanos and Michael Zuppas, and Teddy Stathopoulos. For our group to participate, WE STILL NEED TO RAISE $7,000 (out of $12,000), which pays for the building supplies/materials, food and lodging, flights, and a rental van into Mexico. Would you prayerfully consider becoming a spiritual and financial partner with us on our mission? As a spiritual partner, please keep our 2017 team in your prayers! As a financial partner, you can send a tax-deductible donation to St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church with Project Mexico 2017 in the memo line. You can learn more about Project Mexico on their website www.projectmexico.org. Thank you for helping our Church fulfill its part in our Lord’s global mission/outreach!!

Many Hearty “Thank You” to all our Parishioners who helped in Church during Holy Week and Easter! May our Risen Lord bless you always! Christos Anesti!
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 δοκιμασιών και της πείνας, προς διακονία του λαού Σου, προς συγχώρηση των αμαρτιών και εξιλασμό του λαού σου, με την χάρη, το έλεος και φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.