Apolytikion of the Day (2nd Tone)

Ότε κατήλθες προς τον θάνατον, η ζωή η αθάνατος, τότε τον Άδην ενέκρωσας, τη αστραπή της θεότητος. Ότε δε και τους τεθνεώτας εκ των καταχθονίων ανέστησας, πάσαι αι δυνάμεις των επουρανίων εκραύγαζον. Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ο Θεός ημῶν, δόξα σοι.

When You descended unto death O Lord who yourself are immortal Life, then did You mortify Hades by the lightning flash of Your Divinity. Also when You raised the dead from the nether world all the Powers of the heavens were crying out. O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You.

Apolytikion of St. Katherine the Great Martyr (1st Plagios Tone)

Την πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημών και αντίληψιν, ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματος την δυνάμει. Και ως μάρτυς του Κυρίου στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι, το μέγα έλεος.

The all-blessed bride of Christ let us extol 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 us.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Plagios Tone)

Ει και εν τάφω κατήλθες αθάνατε, αλλά του Άδου καθήλες την δύναμιν. Και ανέστησες ως νικητής, Χριστέ ο Θεός, γυναιξί Μυροφόροις φθεγξάμενος, χαίρετε, και τοις σοις Αποστόλοις ειρήνη δωρούμενος, ο τοις πεσούσι παρέχων ανάστασιν.

Though in the grave you descended, O immortal one, yet you destroyed the power of Hades; and you rose as victor, O Christ our God; to the Myrrh-bearing women you said: Rejoice! And to your Apostles you granted your peace, you who grant resurrection to the fallen ones.
Epistle Reading

The Lord is my strength and my song.
The Lord has chastened me sorely.
The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 6:1-7 – In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them.

Gospel Reading

Mark 15:43-47, 16:1-8 – At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?” And looking up, they say that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, “Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.” And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.
Community Announcements

Calling All Parishioners – In preparation for the Spring Festival (June 1-3) we will be baking this week on Tuesday, May 1 and Thursday, May 3 beginning at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. No experience needed. If you would like to help bake or work at the festival please contact Andrea Ballard (703) 250-5419, andreaballard1@verizon.net or Elvira Garnett (703) 425-3675, villa45@hotmail.com.

Memorial Services are offered this morning for Rene and Angelos Katsaitis, parents of Anna Vassilopoulos, Voula Begley, Babi Katsaitis and Dionysia Floropoulos and grandparents of Constantine Vassilopoulos; for Doxa Orfanos, mother of Nick, Michael and Evdoxia Orfanos, and sister of Nicholas and Manuel Zavolas; and for Vasiliki (Betty) Panageas, wife of Mr. Elias Panageas, mother of Eleni and Michael Bakatsias, Soteri and Angela Panageas and beloved Yiayia.

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the Vassilopoulos, Orfanos, Zavolas, Panageas and Bakatsias Families in memory of their loved ones.

Sacraments – Congratulations to George Rallis and Rebecca Eileen Malone on their wedding April 28, 1:00 p.m.; to John and Kaliopi Polizos on the baptism of their son Nikolas John, April 29, 1:00 p.m.; and to Anastasios and Erin Anastasiou on the baptism of their son Savvas Tristan, April 29, 2:30 p.m.

Prosphoro – If you can make prosphoro for Divine Liturgy, please call Mrs. Niki Papasavva at (703) 764-9746.

Summer Camp for 3-5 year-olds. July 9-August 17, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Paideia Preschool Open House: April 29 following the Divine Liturgy, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Contact M. Papathanassiou at director@gopaideia.org or (703) 671-7715.

The Daughters of Penelope Helle chapter will be selling raffle tickets today following both Liturgies at the coffee hour for their Tea and Fashion Show which will be at 2:00 p.m. today. Raffle prizes include two separate Bed and Breakfast’s valued at over $200.00, a Kindle, $250.00 gift card to Nordstrom’s plus other wonderful prizes. Tickets are $5.00 each or 3/$12.00. Proceeds will go towards the DOP annual scholarship and many other philanthropic projects throughout the year. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The Rosemary Bronder Memorial Scholarship offered by the Nativity of the Theotokos, Fredericksburg, VA – Applicants must be an Eastern Orthodox Christian pursuing academic degrees and/or academic certification in any field of human or animal medicine to include, but not limited to the following: medical doctor, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, licensed practical nurse, physicians assistant, doctor of veterinary medicine; support fields which include, but not limited to the following: emergency medical technicians, paramedical services technician, veterinary technicians, medical research clinician. If you interested please contact the church office.

Attention Safeway Supporters: Gatorade will donate 5% of the purchase price to St. Katherine when you purchase any two (2) or more Gatorade or G2 20 oz. 8-packs in a single transaction at a Safeway store, using your registered Safeway card. And 10% will be donated when you buy any Gatorade Prime or Gatorade Recover. The program is good between 5-3-2012 and 5-23-2012 – 6-1-2012. Happy Shopping and Thank you. For more information, call Elvira Garnett, (703) 425-3675.
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, ὅπως δέχθηκες τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίες του Νώε και του Αβραάμ, το θυμίαμα του Ααρών και του Ζαχαρία, ας δέχθηκες από τα αμαρτωλά μας χέρια και τις προσφορές αυτές έτσι, ώστε πάντοτε να μπορούμε να σου προσφέρουμε δόρα 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 μόνογενος Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.