**Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church**

**Sunday, April 30, 2017**

**Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women**

**James the Apostle**

**Argyra the New Martyr**

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**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 τοίς εν τοῖς μνήμαις ζωήν χαρισάμενος.

**Apolytikion of the Day (2nd Tone)**

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

Ότε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ή ζωή ή άθάνατος, τότε τὸν ᾍδην ἐνέκρωσας, τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος. Ότε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεότας ἐκ τῶν καταχθόνιων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δύναμεις τῶν ἑπούρανίων ἐκραύγαξαν: Ζωοδότα Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, δόξα σοι.

**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 ημῶν και αντίληψιν. Ὅτι εφίμοισε λαμπρῶς, τοὺς κομψοὺς τῶν σαιβῶν, τοῦ Πνεύματος τῇ δυνάμει. Και νῦν ὁ Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι τὸ 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 ᾍδου καθείλες τὴν δύναμιν, καὶ ἀνέστησε ως νικητής, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, γυναιξὶ Μυροφόροις φθεγξάμενος. Χαιρετε, και τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις εἰρήνην δωροῦμεν ὁ τοῖς παρέσκεψεν ἀνάστασιν.

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**Epistle Reading**

*The Lord is my strength and my song.*

*The Lord has chastened me sorely.*

*The Epistle Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.*

**Acts of the Apostles 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. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

**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 saw 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.

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**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.

**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.
Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

Memorial Services are offered this morning for Jane Frances Kolas, wife of Mr. Kyriacos Kolas, and mother of Stephen, Paula, and Athina; for Eleftherios D. Smirniotopoulos, husband of Mrs. Panagiota Smirniotopoulos, and father of Donna and Peter; for Marios Droussiotis, husband of Mrs. Nathina Droussiotis, and father of Marios; and for Alekos and Maria Andreou, parents of Andri, Kostas and Iacovos. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by Mr. Kyriacos Kolas and family in memory of his beloved wife, Jane Frances Kolas.

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.

OCMC Annual Benefit Banquet – The Annual Benefit Banquet for OCMC is taking place this evening! The evening 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 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!!

Retrospective in Gold:  Bridging Sacred and Secular by Thomas Xenakis – May 6 to June 8, 2017. Opening reception: Saturday, May 6, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the Frame Factory, 212 Dominion Road, NE, Vienna, VA 22180. Telephone: 703-281-2350.

Congratulations to our GOYANS on a very successful tournament this past weekend! Our Boys A, Boys B and Girls B teams all came in 1st place at our annual Saint Katherine’s Basketball Tournament!
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 αμαρτώλα 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.

The Sunday bulletin is available online in two formats--a PDF copy of the bulletin handed out in church and an online version with much more information. Please take a moment to check them out by visiting: [http://www.saint-katherines.org/about_us/sunday-bulletins](http://www.saint-katherines.org/about_us/sunday-bulletins)