Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, May 21, 2017
Sunday of the Blind Man

Saints Constantine and Helen
Equal-to-the-Apostles
Pachomios the New 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 νεκραίς χαρισάμενος.

Apolytikion of the Day (1st Plagal Tone)

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.
Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν προτοσκοπόντα, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγείραι τούς τεθνεώτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ

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 εφίσμωσε λαμπρῶς, τοὺς κομψῶς τῶν ασεβῶν, τοῦ Πνεύματος τῇ δύναμι. Και νῦν ὁς Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αἰτεῖται 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 ᾍδου καθεῖλες τὴν δύναμιν, καὶ ἀνέστης ὡς νικητής, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, γυναιξὶ Μυροφόροις φθεγξάμενος. Χαίρετε, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις εἰρήνην δωρούμενος ὁ τοῖς πεσοῦσι παρέχων ἀνάστασιν.
Epistle Reading

Acts 26:1, 12-20 – IN THOSE DAYS, King Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense: "I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining round me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and bear witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from the people and from the Gentiles-to whom I send you to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' "Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those at Damascus, then at Jerusalem and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and perform deeds worthy of their repentance."

Gospel Reading

John 9:1-38 – At that time, as Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age; he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe": and he worshiped him.

Saint Katherine Spring Festival is June 2-4 – We are once again using Volunteer Spot to sign up for shifts. You can use the link: http://signup.com/go/YGuqyL to volunteer. Please contact Andrea Ballard at anreaballard1@verizon.net or 703-250-5419. We need a little help from many, not a lot of help from just a few.

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.

Memorial Service is offered this morning for the deceased Brothers of the Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the AHEPA #348 Peter Derzis Chapter in memory of their Beloved Brothers.

Sunday School Graduation this morning at the end of the Divine Liturgy in church. A reception will follow for Sunday School students and their parents in the Chelpon Hall.

Our Philoptochos cordially invites all to its Annual Luncheon on June 10th at 12:00 noon, at Nostos Restaurant, 8100 Boone Blvd., Vienna, VA. Menu includes: Appetizers, choice of lamb reganato, ½ boneless chicken or salmon, dessert, coffee, etc. Price $40.00 For reservations, please call Mary Drakoulis (703) 273-4159 or Eleni Kanakos (703) 938-8360.

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.

Sunday School – Several teaching and co-teaching positions are available next school year, 2017-18. Please contact Bill or Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net if you are interested.

Sunday School Clothing Drive for Children – Please bring your donations of new/gently-used clothing and shoes and new underwear and socks for children between the ages of 6 months and 7 years old to the Sunday School office.

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. Cost is $30/child including lunch daily. Registration will be held after Liturgy on March 12th and 19th in the community center lobby (payment is due at registration). Checks payable to: St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church (VBC 2017” in memo line. Forms are also available on our website. Contact Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS – We have been called by our community to be a major contributor to the3 success of our annual Greek Festival, June 2-4, 11am-10pm! We are all prayerfully encouraged to give as much of our time as possible. This is a requirement for all GOYANs in order to be in good standing for the fall.

SUPPORT OUR PROJECT MEXICO TRIP – For the 4th time, our Church will sponsor a MISSIONS TEAM (Nick Junes, Bill, Niko, & Leon Porter, Peter Pappas, Thanos & Michael Zuppas, and Teddy Stathopoulos) to Mexico from August 16-23 to build a home for a family in need. WE STILL NEED TO RAISE $7,000 which pays for the building supplies/materials, food and lodging, flights, and a rental van into Mexico. Please consider a tax-deductible donation to St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church (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 our Lord’s global outreach!!

AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce our Tenth Annual Community Christmas Ornament. These collectable ornaments have grown in popularity from year to year and this year, by popular demand, they will be available for purchase at our Spring Festival. Our latest limited edition ornament, entitled “Evzone Nutcracker” is a whimsical portrayal of a classic Christmas image with a Hellenic twist that is sure to delight young and old. Manufactured by the same firm that creates the famous White House Christmas ornaments, they make excellent gifts and are the ideal stocking stuffer. Please visit our booth at the Spring Festival. Your purchases help make our philanthropy in support of our community and Hellenic ideals possible! For additional information, call 703-671-7225.

We also express our gratitude to the community on the occasion of AHEPA Sunday!
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 προσφέρομε δῶρα και τους κόπους της εργασίας μας για την δόξα Σου, προς ελάφρυνση των δοκιμασιών και της πείνας, προς δικαιονία 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

Church Organizations

Acolyte Captains – Nicholas Vazquez and Chad Velezis
Protos-Psalter – James Loizou 703-356-8220
Choir Director – Nick Kyrus (703) 981-2526
Catechetical School – Bill Porter 703-901-2404
Hellenic Education Center – Eleni Alexopoulou 703-671-7715

Philoptochos President – Eleni Kanakos 703-938-8360
YAL President – Faye Anson 703-437-5747
GOYA President – Panos Lagos 703-241-1176
JOY – Vaita Bousbouras, vsbousbouras@yahoo.com
HOPE – Doris Mentis, doris@alumni.virginia.edu

Church Services

Thursday, May 25  Holy Ascension, Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, May 28  Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council – Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Monday, May 29  Memorial Day – Trisagion Prayers at the National Memorial Park, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Services: Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Week Day Services: Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.