Sunday, June 9, 2013

Sunday of the Blind Man
Κυριακή του Τυφλού
Cyril, Patriarch of Alexandria
Three Virgin Martyrs of Chios

Paschal Troparion (1st Plagios Tone)
--Χριστός ανέστη εκ νεκρών, θανάτω θάνατον πατήσας, και τοις εν τοις μνήμασι, ζωήν χαρισάμενος.
--Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Apolytikion of the Day (1st Plagios Tone)
--Τον συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρί και Πνεύματι, τον εκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εις σωτηρίαν ημών, ανυμήσωμεν πιστοὶ και προσκυνήσωμεν. Ότι ημόδοκης σαρκί, ανελθείν εν τω σταυρώ, και θάνατον υπομείνα, και εγείραι τους τεθνεότας, εν τῇ ενδόξῳ Αναστάσει αυτοῦ.
--Let us worship the Word who is unoriginate with the Father and the Spirit, and from a Virgin was born for our salvation, O believers, and let us sing His praise. For in His goodness He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, and to undergo death, and to raise up those who had died, by His glorious Resurrection.

Apolytikion of Saint Katherine the Great Martyr (1st Plagios Tone)
--Την πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστού υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημών και αντίληπναν. Ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και νυν ως μάρτυρας στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα έλεος.
--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 us.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Plagios Tone)
--Εἰ καὶ εν τάφῳ κατήλθες αθάνατε, ἀλλὰ τὸν Ἀδόνα καθῆλες τὴν δύναμιν. Καὶ ανέστης ως νικητής, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, γυναίξι μυροφόροις φθεγξάμενος, χαίρετε, καὶ τοῖς σοις Ἀποστόλοις εἰρήνην δωρούμενος, ο τοῖς πεσούσι παρέχεις 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

You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us. Save me, O Lord, for the godly man had failed.

The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 16:16-34 – In those days, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation. And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, “I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

But when the owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, “These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice.” The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one’s fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open he drew his sword and was about to go kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried out with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas and brought them out and said, “Men, what must I do to be saved?” And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

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 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”; other 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 believed”; and he worshiped him.

**Announcements**

**Memorial Services** are offered this morning for **Nicholas and Evangelia Stefanias**, parents of Antonios, Irene, Panagiotos and Maria Stefanias; for **Vasilios Kavalarigos**, husband of Dimitra Tsantes and brother of George Kavalarigos; for **Kaliopi Kavalarigos**, mother-in-law of Dimitra Tsantes and step-mother of George Kavalarigos; for **John J. Chipouras**, husband of Marjorie Chipouras and father of Cary, James, Peter, Jennifer and Eleni; and for **Nikitas (Nicholas) Pristouris**, husband of Stella Pristouris and father of Elaine and Penelope. May their memory be eternal!

**Coffee Hour** is sponsored this morning by the Stefanias, Tsantes, Kavalarigos, Chipouras and Pristouris families in memory of their loved ones.

**Catechetical (Sunday) School Graduation** is this morning following the Divine Liturgy in Church. Pizza party for students, teachers and parents after Liturgy in Founders’ Hall. Have a blessed summer!

**Greek School Graduation** is this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. with a cook out dinner. Students must be in their classrooms at 4:30 p.m. Please come to see our program and have dinner with us.

**Saint Katherine is offering a Summer Camp** for 2 year olds and 3-5 year olds this summer. Both camps are offered from 2 July-16 August on a weekly basis, with after care available. Many fun activities are planned! If interested, please contact Pantelis Psoras at (301) 538-4710 or director@gopaideia.org.

**Bible Camp After-care Program** will be offered Monday, June 24 – Friday, June 28 from 1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m. as a supplement to the Saint Katherine Vacation Bible Camp (VBC), for ages 4–14. For more information, please contact Pantelis Psoras at (301) 538-4710 or director@gopaideia.org.

**Orthodox Youth Day at Kings Dominion** is on Thursday, June 20. **All youth** of our church, of any age, are welcome. The cost is $48.00 per person, which includes admission and an all-you-can-eat picnic lunch. If there is enough interest, we will rent a bus, otherwise we will carpool. The reservation deadline, **with payment**, is Monday, June 3. Please give your money to Presv. Pauline or Maria Will. For more information, contact Presv. Pauline at (703) 239-2627 or przpauline@stkchurch.com.

**St. Katherine’s Book Club** invites everyone interested in joining to lunch and our final meeting on Wednesday, June 12, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the home of Fay Mpras in Annandale. You do not have to be a member or have read the current book, **Remember Thy First Love: The Three Stages of the Spiritual Life in the Theology of Elder Sophrony**, to enjoy this morning of “sistership” and hospitality. This is an opportunity to observe and participate in our unique meetings (generally held every other Wednesday morning at St. Katherine’s from 10:30-12:00) where we discuss answers to previously questions about text in several chapters only, not the entire book. The questions are a great catalyst for exploration of our faith and how it applies to our lives. If you would like to join us for lunch and the meeting on June 12, please email: faympras@gmail.com or call Fay at (703) 865-5776. We look forward to having new members, and we will begin again in October.

**Attention Graduates and Parents of Graduates!** Saint Katherine would like to share your wonderful graduation news with the entire community. A special section of the July/August 2013 DOXA will be dedicated to our graduates. Please send the following information, no later than noon on June 14, to przpauline@stkchurch.com: Graduate’s name, parents’ name(s), name of high school, name of college or future plans. You may also include a short list of accomplishments. The total submission should be 75 words or less. College and other higher education graduates are encouraged to send information as well.

**Saint Katherine has teamed up with our neighboring church, Columbia Baptist,** to provide food to hungry people in our community through their Food Pantry. Our first collection of the year will be on Sunday, June 16. Please bring the following items to the foyer of our community center:

1. Non-perishable food or canned items including Canned Fruit, Cereal, Chunky/Hearty Soup, Condensed Soup, Pasta Sauce and Canned Pasta (e.g., Chef Boyardee).  
2. Additional items needed are Cereal/Cereal Bars, Peanut Butter, Beef Stew, Bagged Rice, Spaghetti/Pasta Sauce, Chili, Canned Tomatoes, Tuna. 
3. Canned Beans (e.g., kidney, pinto, garbanzo, baked), Hearty/Meal Soups (e.g. Campbell’s Chunky or Healthy Request; Progresso), Instant Soup, Canned condensed soup or broth. 
4. Canned Fruit, Pasta, Canned pasta (e.g., Spaghetti, etc.); Canned Vegetables (e.g., green beans, corn, peas, mixed veggies) and Macaroni & Cheese. – More details can be found in the June issue of DOXA. Financial donations are accepted. Please make checks payable to “Saint Katherine” and, on the bottom left line, specify “Food Pantry.”

**Annual Philoptochos Dinner** – June 18, 6:00 p.m. at Metro 29. $30.00 per person. For information and reservations please contact Mary Drakoulis (703) 273-4159 or Eleni Kanakos (703) 938-8360.

**Annual Laconian Convention Dinner Dance** – June 29, 7:00 p.m. at the Bethesda Hyatt Regency Hotel. For reservations please contact Dimitrios Hios at (703) 281-3569.

**Caregiver, Babysitter, or Housekeeper available** – Looking for a job with a family for P/T or F/T position. Mature, responsible, patient, reliable, and honest with good references upon request. Please contact Maria at (703) 938-0538.
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, ὃπως δέχθηκες τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίες του Νώε και του Αβραάμ, το θυμίαμα του Ααρών και του Ζαχαρία, ας δέχθεις από τα αμαρτωλά μας χέρια και τις προσφορές αυτές έτσι, ώστε πάντοτε να μπορούμε να σου προσφέρουμε δώρα και τους κόπους της εργασίας μας για την δόξα Σου, προς ελάφρυνση των δοκιμασιών και της πείνας, προς διακονία του λαού Σου, προς συγχώρηση των αμαρτιών και εξίλασμο του λαού σου, με την χάρη, το έλεος και την φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το Όνομά Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.