Sunday, August 2, 2015
9th Sunday of Matthew

Translation of the Relics of
Stephen the Protomartyr; Phocas
the Martyr; Holy Glorious New
Martyr Theodore of Dardanelles

**Apolytikion of the Day (4th Tone)**

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.

**Apolytikion for Translation of the Relics of Stephen (4th Tone)**

The crown of the Kingdom hath adorned the brow of thy head because of the contests that thou hast endured for Christ God, thou first of the martyred Saints; for when thou hadst censured the Jews' madness, thou sawest Christ thy Saviour standing at the right hand of the Father. O Stephen, ever pray Him for us, that He would save our souls.

**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.

**Kontakion of the Day (Grave Tone)**

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.

Επὶ τού ὀργάνου μετεμορφώθης, καὶ ὡς εχόρων οἱ Μαθηταὶ σου τὴν δόξαν σου, Χριστέ ο Θεός εθεάσαντο τόν Χριστόν τού Ὀσιόν τού Θεού τού Πατρός τού Παλαιστινίου, τού Πατρός τού τοῦ ἄγιον τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Καὶ νῦν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, οἰκεῖται πάσι το μέγα ἔλεος.
Epistle Reading

Apostles 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60 – IN THOSE DAYS, Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, arose and disputed with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated men, who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, and set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place, and will change the customs which Moses delivered to us." And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

And the high priest said, "Is this so?" And Stephen said: "Brethren and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, and said to him, 'Depart from your land and from your kindred and go into the land which I will show you.' Then he departed from the land of the Chaldeans, and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living; yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him in possession and to his posterity after him, though he had no child.

"But it was Solomon who built a house for him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with hands; as the prophet says, 'Heaven is my throne, and earth my footstool. What house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest? Did not my hand make all these things?"

"You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth against him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together upon him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Gospel Reading

9th Sunday of Matthew, Matthew 14:22-34 – At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together upon him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Wisdom of the Church Fathers

Let us, then, cry out loudly with Peter's words, "Lord, save us." And if we are willing to receive Christ into our ship; that is, to have Him dwell in our hearts; we shall immediately find ourselves at the land to which we are hastening. What land is that? Clearly, it is the promised land, heaven, the land of the meek, of them that refrain from evil. With them, then, may we also be vouchsafed to enter that land and be heirs of its good things; in Christ Jesus our Lord, to Whom be glory and dominion, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, unto the ages of ages. Amen.

St. John Chrysostom, The Gospel Commentary, edited by Hieromonk German Ciuba, 2002
4th Century
Memorial Services are offered this morning for Argyroula Oktay, mother of Efstratios and Elias Oktay and sister of Eleni Kanakos.

Coffee hour is sponsored this morning by Efstratios and Elias Oktay and Eleni Kanakos in memory of their beloved mother and sister, Argyroula Oktay. May her memory be eternal!

The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA chapter 438 is proud to announce the opening of the new community Seniors Κέντρο (Kentro) located on the ground floor of Founders Hall.

Gather with friends, enjoy a cup of coffee while watching the news from Greece, spending some quiet time reading the paper, or enjoying each other’s company/parea. Lectures, Bible Studies and presentations of health and wellness are also benefits that will be introduced as part of our Church’s new Seniors Ministry.

The Seniors Kentro is carpeted and fully furnished, featuring a 60-inch flat screen television with satellite access to Greek network programming, and has a coffee bar. Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 3:00pm (except when church services are scheduled – on those days, the Seniors Kentro will open at noon). The room is also available to other groups by appointment through the Church Office.

The Ladies Philoptochos of Saint Katherine would like to let you know that they have koulourakia and paximathia available all year long. The Ladies Philoptochos thank you very much for your help and support. Please contact Mary Varlas at (703) 965-4161 or Eleni Kanakos at (703) 969-8364 for information or to place your order.

Registration for the 2015-2016 HEC school year is now open for both Paideia Preschool and Greek School. Forms can be downloaded from HEC website (www.stkhec.org) or picked-up in the school office. Please contact HEC Director, Eleni Alexopoulou, with any questions, ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com.

Registration for Greek Adult classes – Please see our HEC website, www.stkhec.org for a registration form or pick up one from the school or the church office. Classes begin in September, Beginners Greek I and II on Tuesday evenings, and Intermediate and Advanced Greek on Thursday evenings.

Paideia Preschool is looking to hire an Early Childhood Education teacher. If you are interested, please submit an updated CV to the HEC office at ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com.

Daughters of Penelope Helle Chapter and Philoptochos Fall Philanthropy Project – Please join us in our annual support of the Fairfax County Collect for Kids Back to School Program in conjunction with Our Daily Bread in collecting backpacks and scientific calculators or cash donations between July 12 and August 5. Cash donation should be made payable to DOP Helle Chapter 283 and mailed to Karen Polizos, 903 Holly Creek Dr., Great Falls, VA 22066. A collection box will be available starting July 12 or items may be dropped off at the church office. Please help us in supporting this worthy program. Thank you!


Parents are reminded that children are not allowed to play on the stage in the Meletis Charuhas Center during Coffee Hour or other social gatherings. We ask your assistance to prevent injury to the children and damage to curtains and other equipment. Thank you.
**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 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 φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.

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**Church Services**

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Wednesday, August 5</td>
<td><strong>Paraklesis – Παράκλησις</strong> 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Thursday, August 6</td>
<td><strong>Holy Transfiguration – Τής Μεταμορφώσεως</strong> Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Friday, August 7</td>
<td><strong>Paraklesis – Παράκλησις</strong> 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sunday, August 9</td>
<td><strong>10th Sunday of Matthew – Ι’ Κυριακή Ματθαίου</strong> Orthros 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Wednesday, August 12</td>
<td><strong>Paraklesis – Παράκλησις</strong> 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Friday, August 14</td>
<td><strong>Great Vespers for the Theotokos – Μέγας Εσπερινός της Θεοτόκου</strong> 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, August 15</td>
<td><strong>Dormition of the Theotokos – Η Κοίμησις της Θεοτόκου</strong> Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, August 16</td>
<td><strong>12th Sunday of Matthew – 12’ Κυριακή Ματθαίου</strong> Orthros 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.</td>
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**Sunday Services:** Orthros 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m., and **Week Day Services:** Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

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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)

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**Church Organizations**

- Acolyte Captains – Anastasios Galatis & Daniel McKinney
- Protos-Psalter – James Loizou 703-356-8220
- Choir Director – John Doulis 703-670-4386
- 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 – Demetrios Karounos 703-321-3009
- JOY – Toula Christou 703-533-0055
- HOPE – Vaitsa Bousbouras vsbousbouras@yahoo.com

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Please visit our website at: [www.saint-katherines.org](http://www.saint-katherines.org)

Facebook: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church