Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, August 10, 2014
9th Sunday Of Mathew

Hippolytus the Martyr of Rome
Chitus of Athens, Bishop of Rome

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.

Ἐξ ὑψου ἐπήλθες ὁ εὐσπλαγχνὸς, ταφὴν καταδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃ τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωή καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Grave Tone)

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Thy disciples Thy glory as each one could endure. Shine forth Thou on us, who are sinners all, Thy light ever-unending, through the prayers of the Theotokos. Light-bestower, glory be to Thee.

Metemorphothēs e n tò òrē Xristé o Θεός, δείξας tois Μαθηταῖς σου tìn dòzan sou, kathōs ήδουντο, Λάμψων kai ẖmīn toīs aμαρτωλοίς, τò ψάς sou τò αἴδιον, πρεσβείας tής Θεοτόκου, φωτοδότα δόξα σοι.

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

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.

Την πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ήμῶν και αντίληψιν, ὅτι εφίμωσε λαμπρῶς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και ως μάρτυς του Κυρίου στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι, το μέγα ἔλεος.

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.

Εἰπ τοῦ ὀροῦς μετεμορφώθης, καὶ ως εχώρων οἱ Μαθηταί σου τὴν δόξαν σου, Χριστέ ο Θεός εθεάσαντο, ἵνα ὅταν σε ἰδοὺς σταυρούμενον, τὸ μὲν πάθος νοήσωσιν εκούσιον, τὸ δὲ κόσμῳ κηρύξωσιν, ὅτι σοὶ ὑπάρχεις αληθῶς, τοῦ Πατρός τὸ απαύγασμα.
Epistle Reading

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 3:9-17 – BRETHREN, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder. I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw - each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:22-34 - 9th Sunday of Matthew - 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 for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I have no fear."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

Wisdom of the Church Fathers

The principle and source of the virtues is a good disposition of the will, that is to say, an aspiration for goodness and beauty. God is the source and ground of all supernal goodness. Thus the principle of goodness and beauty is faith or, rather, it is Christ, the rock of faith, who is principle and foundation of all virtues. On this rock we stand and on this foundation we build every good thing (cf. I Cor. 3:11).

St. Gregory of Sinai, On Commandments and Doctrines no. 83, Philokalia Vol. 3 edited by Palmer, Sherrard and Ware; pg. 228
14th century

So absolutely nothing does it avail to be near Christ, if not being near Him by faith .... Signifying therefore that not the assault of the wind, but his want of faith had wrought his overthrow, He said, "Wherefore did you doubt, O you of little faith?"

* * *

So that if his faith had not been weak, he would have stood easily against the wind also. And for this reason, you see, even when He had caught hold of Him, He suffers the wind to blow, showing that no hurt comes thereby, when faith is steadfast

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 50 on Matthew 14
4th Century

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
Save the Date - Saint Katherine Annual Dinner Gala - November 9, 2014 - Hilton McLean Tysons Corner.

Fire Lane Exit - The chains blocking this emergency access to the rear of the Church property will soon be reinstalled per guidance received from Fairfax County Fire Dept. and this road will no longer be available for access/egress.

Project Mexico Mission Trip departs on August 13 and returns home August 19. Each team member is expected to fund raise $1,500. This covers air fare and expenses and also goes to fund needed items for the orphanage. Currently we are seeking four to five additional members to complete the Mission Team. We also need sponsors and donations to help our Team Members cover their expenses. Please contact Ray Vazquez rayvazquez1@aol.com or Father Panagiotis Hanley frphanley@stkchurch.com for more information or to submit donations.

Today's Second Offering Tray will be designated to support our Project Mexico Mission Trip.

You Are Needed for a 2014 OCMC Mission Team! The Orthodox Christian Mission Center is seeking 10 volunteers to help fill teams that will serve in Albania, Tanzania and Uganda later this year. The Albania team departing on September 17th will lead spiritual retreats for clergy wives, women lay leaders and women’s groups. The Tanzania team departing on October 27th will offer theological training for the clergy of the Metropolis of Mwanza. And, the Uganda team, also departing on October 27th will offer Christian stewardship workshops to clergy and laity in various communities. Are you able to serve on one of these teams? If so, you are urgently needed! Without 10 additional volunteers these teams may not go. Please visit http://www.ocmc.org/about/open_teams.aspx, or contact OCMC’s Teams Department by e-mail at teams@ocmc.org or by phone at 1-877-463-6784 for more information and to apply.

Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) is now on "Amazon smile,” Amazon’s charity arm. Go to: http://www.smile.amazon.com look for the Orthodox Christian Mission Center Inc., click and the OCMC gets 5%. Use it for all Amazon purchases, and tell your friends!

HOPE - Is your child interested in joining HOPE? The Holy Orthodox Primary Education ministry is an opportunity for children (ages 8 and under) to meet, socialize and interact with one another. HOPE children will have fun through crafts, games and special events while learning about their Orthodox faith. The 1st event is scheduled for Sunday, Sept 7th, after the 2nd Liturgy, in the Founders Hall. Please contact Patricia Rader at pagrader@yahoo.com to register. For more information, visit the DOXA or Saint Katherine website: www.saint-katherines.org under "Ministries."

Winchester Greek Festival will take place on August 16th & 17th, Saturday 11 am - 7 pm and Sunday 12 - 7 pm at the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church. Join us in celebrating Panagia’s Day and our Church’s 50th anniversary. Good food, Good music & Good fun. Hope to see you there! For more info, go to: http://dormition.va.goarch.org/greek-festival/

Wisdom of the Church Fathers (cont.)

Christ did not command the winds to cease at that time, but Himself stretched forth His hand and took hold of Peter, because here faith was required of him. When we do not do our part, divine (grace) slows and stands still... it was not the wind that did Peter harm; his lack of faith sank him. Where faith is fruitful, firm and strong, none of the evils that may befall us can do us any harm.

St. John Chrysostom, The Gospel Commentary, edited by Hieromonk German Ciuba, 2002
4th Century
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. Ο Θεός, όπως δέχθηκε τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίες του Νώε και του Αβραάμ, το θυμίαμα του Ααρών και του Ζαχαρία, ας δέχθηκαν από τα αμαρτωλά μας χέρια και τις προσφορές αυτές έτσι, ώστε πάντοτε να μπορούμε να σου προσφέρουμε δώρα και τους κόσμους της εργασίας μας για την δόξα Σου, προς ελάφρυνση των δοκιμιών 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.

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