Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, August 13, 2017
10th Sunday of Matthew

Apodosis of the Transfiguration;
Maximus the Confessor;
Dorotheus, Abba of Gaza;
Tikhon of Zadonsk

Apolytikion of the Day (1st Tone)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Lifegiver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωήν. Διὰ τούτῳ τίνες οἱ αἰωνίοις ἐβοῶν σοι Ζωοδότα: Δόξα τῇ ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

Apolytikion for Apodosis of Transfiguration (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.

Μετεμορθώθης εν τῷ ὄρει Χριστέ ο Θεός, δείξας τοίς Μαθηταίς σου τὴν δόξαν σου, καθώς ἠδύνατον, Λάμψον καὶ ἡμῖν τοῖς αμαρτωλοῖς, τὸ φῶς σου τὸ αἰώνιον, πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, φωτοδότα 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 ημών και αντίληψιν. Ὅτι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματος τὴ δυνάμει. Καὶ νῦν ὁς Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτεῖται 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.

Επὶ τοῦ ὀροῦ μετεμορφώθης, καὶ ὡς εχόμενοι οἱ Μαθηταὶ σου τὴν δόξαν σου, Χριστέ ο Θεός εθαέσαντο, ἵνα ὅταν σε ἱδοί σταυροῦμενον, τὸ μὲν πάθος νοήσωσιν εκούσιον, τὸ δὲ κόσμῳ κηρύξωσιν, ὅτι σὺ ὑπάρχεις αληθῶς, τοῦ Πατρὸς τὸ απαύγασμα.
Epistle Reading
St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 4:9-16 – Brethren, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

Gospel Reading
Matthew 17:14-23 – At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move hence to yonder place,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day."

Wisdom of the Church Fathers
For a man to have such faith appears simple, but it is, on the contrary, something very lofty, not easily attained by many. Such faith is born of boldness before God; but such boldness comes (only) from pleasing God. Beloved, great labour is needed to acquire, through pleasing God, such boldness before Him that one firmly believes that he will grant all that one asks; as it is written, Ask, and it shall be given to you. Amen.

* * *
Here Christ is not speaking of that faith which believes in Him undoubtingly and knows Him to be true God, but of the faith (needed) to work miracles. If ye have faith, He said, so exceedingly warm and burning as a grain of mustard seed (for these are its qualities), and if it is believed without a doubt that ye will perform signs, then ye will receive such power, that if ye desire to move the very mountains, ye will move them.

St. John Chrysostom, The Gospel Commentary, edited by Hieromonk German Ciuba, 2002
4th Century
At this point he is referring to the faith required for signs, and mentions a mustard seed is small in size, yet it is more potent than all others in its effects. So to bring out that the least degree of genuine faith is capable of great things, he mentioned the mustard seed.

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 56 (PG 58, 549-50) Translated by Robert Charles Hill in "Spiritual Gems from the Gospel of Matthew"
4th Century
For as the faith of the person presenting oftentimes availed for receiving the cure, even from inferior ministers; so the power of the doers oftentimes sufficed, even without belief in those who came to work the miracle.

* * *
Yet if his unbelief was the cause ... why does He blame the disciples? Signifying, that even without persons to bring the sick in faith, they might in many instances work a cure.

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 57 on Matthew 17
4th Century

Warm Clothing Drive - The Daughters of Penelope and our Philoptochos are collecting hoodies, sweatshirts, and jackets starting the week of Sept 3 through Oct 29. Sizes needed are for children, teens and adults. Donations must be new (preferred) or items in perfect and clean condition. Drop your donations in the box in the hall foyer after church or directly to the church office. You can sign up to donate at: http://bit.ly/KeepWarm2017. Monetary donations are welcome, payable to DOP-Helle 283 and mail to Karen Polizos, 903 Holly Creek Drive, Great Falls, VA 22066, which will be used to purchase items needed. Thank you for supporting this worthy effort!
**Announcements**

**Memorial Services** are offered this morning for Dr. Kathleen Michael, wife of Mr. Frank Michael, and mother of Beckie, Christina, and Martha; and for Anastasia Sedor, mother of Christo, George and Steve.

**Coffee hour** is sponsored this morning by the Michael family in memory of Kathleen Michael. *May her memory be eternal!*

**Sunday School** – The Pre-Kindergarten teaching position is vacant for the next school year, 2017-2018. Please contact Bill or Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net, if you are interested in teaching or helping out.

**Young Adults** – Kick-Off Forum on Thursday, September 14 at 6:30 p.m.

**Seniors Brunch** will be held in our Kentro on Thursday, Sept 7 at 11am. For reservations, please call the Church office. Please contact Irene Burton at 703-256-5531 for additional information. Come and enjoy each other’s parea…

**Seniors Κέντρο**

**Registration for the 2017-2018 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. **Registration for Greek Adult classes** – Classes begin in September, Beginners Greek I and II on Tuesday evenings, and Intermediate and Advanced Greek on Thursday evenings. Please contact HEC Director, Eleni Alexopoulou, with any questions, ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com.

**SAVE THE DATE** – Saint Katherine Annual GALA, Sunday, November 19 at the Hilton McLean. Join us as we gather to give thanks for our community’s many blessings and recognize this year’s worthy honorees for their devoted service to our community – Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos and the Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter 438.

**E-Giving**

**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.

**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 **they will be available for purchase at our Fall 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. Your purchases help make our philanthropy in support of our community and Hellenic ideals possible! For additional information, call 703-671-7225.

“Evzone Nutcracker”
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 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 γιά την δόξα Σου, προς ελαφρύνση των δοκιμασιών και της πείνας, προς διακονία του λαού Σου, προς συγχώρηση των αμαρτιών και εξίλασμό του λαού Σου, με την χάρη, το έλεος και φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.