Apolytikion of the Day (Second Tone)

When You descended to death, O Immortal Life, then, the light of Your divinity destroyed Hades. When You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out, "Glory to You our Christ, the Giver of Life."

Ότε κατήλθες πρός τὸν θάνατον, ἡ Ζωή ἡ αθάνατος, τότε τὸν Ἀδην ενέκρωσας τῇ αστραπῇ τῆς θεότητος, ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεότας εκ τῶν καταχθονίων ανέστησας, πάσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν επουρανίων εκραύγαζον, Ζωοδότα Χριστέ ο Θεός ημῶν δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion for the Afterfeast of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady & Ever Virgin Mary

In birth, you preserved your virginity; in death, you did not abandon the world, O Theotokos. As mother of life, you departed to the source of life, delivering our souls from death by your intercessions.

Εν τῇ Γεννήσει τὴν παρθενίαν εφύλαξας, ἐν τῇ Κοιμήσει τὸν κόσμον οὐ κατέλιπες Θεοτόκε, Μετέστης πρὸς τὴν ζωήν, μήτηρ υπάρχουσα τῆς ζωής, καὶ ταῖς πρεσβείαις ταῖς σαίς λυτρουμένη, εκ θανάτου τάς ψυχάς ημῶν.

Apolytikion of Saint Katherine the Great Martyr (First 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.

Τὴν πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν τὴν θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, τὴν βοήθειαν ημῶν καὶ αντίληψιν, ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβῶν, τοῦ Πνεύματος τῇ δυνάμει. Καὶ ως μάρτυς τοῦ Κυρίου στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι, το μέγα έλεος.

Kontakion of the Day

Neither the grave nor death could contain the Theotokos, the unshakable hope, ever vigilant in intercession and protection. As Mother of life, He who dwelt in the ever-virginal womb transposed her to life.
Epistle Reading

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 9:2-12 - BRETHREN, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:23-35 (11th Sunday of Matthew) - The Lord said this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailors, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

Wisdom of the Church Fathers

Wherefore then did He not do this, nor forgive the debt before the account? Desiring to teach him, from how many obligations He is delivering him, that in this way at least he might become more mild towards his fellow servant .... He gave more than he asked, remission and forgiveness of the entire debt.

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When then you are minded to be revengeful, consider that against yourself are you revengeful, not against another; that you art binding up your own sins, not your neighbors ....

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Two things therefore does He here require, both to condemn ourselves for our sins, and to forgive others; ... and not merely to forgive with the lips, but from the heart.

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 61 on Matthew 18
4th Century

Do we forgive our neighbors their trespasses? God also forgives us in His mercy. Do we refuse to forgive? God, too, will refuse to forgive us. As we treat our neighbors, so also does God treat us. The forgiveness, then, of your sins or unforgiveness, and hence also your salvation or destruction, depend on you yourself, man. For without forgiveness of sins there is no salvation.

St. Tikhon of Zadonsk, Unknown
18th Century
Memorial Services are offered this morning for Kathy Rice, mother of Maria Briganti and Ernest Kanaki. May her memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning in loving memory of Kathy Rice by her family.

Nathan Hoppe & family to visit August 21-22 – We are pleased to announce that our long term missionaries in Albania, Nathan and Gabriela Hoppe and their children will be visiting our parish on August 21, 2012. Please join us in our Founders Hall at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 21, 2012 for a reception in their honor. We will have an opportunity to meet them and hear about their work with Metropolitan Anastasios in Albania. Refreshments will be served. Free will donations for their mission work in Albania will be accepted.

Greek School – Registration for 2012-13 is taking place on the days the school begins Friday and Saturday, September 7 and 8, and on Sunday, September 9, following the Divine Liturgy. We offer classes from Pre-K to 9th grade and adult classes, as well as Conversational Greek classes at two levels, level 1 for children up to 10 and level 2 for children ages from 10 to 15 on Weds. evenings as well as Greek dancing by expert teachers. For information, please contact the Church Office (703) 671-1515.

Missions & Outreach Committee – We are organizing a trip to Martinsburg, WV on August 24-25, to partner with Habitat for Humanity. Led by Fr. Costa, over 40 people will be going to perform "critical repairs" to senior housing. This area is one of the poorest areas in the country and the goal of this trip is to provide the elderly poor with safer and healthier living conditions. You can help in this important work by making a check out to St. Katherine with "Habitat for Humanity" in the memo section. Thank you!

Paideia Preschool is hiring teachers/assistant(s) for the fall session. We seek energetic and caring individuals with qualifications/experience in early childhood education. For more information leave a message at the Church Office (703) 671-1515 and we will contact you personally.

Samaritans Feet – We will be collecting children shoes again this year during the entire month of August. This is so children will have new shoes to wear to school starting in September. They are asking for children’s sizes 5-6-7 male and female. The shoes should be gym/sneakers/tennis shoes. There will be a special bin in the foyer of our community center. The shoes will be distributed to children in the Washington DC area. For many children this will be their first pair of new shoes. Thank you for your generosity.

Clothing and Toiletries – We continue to collect new and used clothing and unopened toiletries for the Shelter. Although summer is here, we still collect and store warm clothing, coats, scarves, gloves, etc. for next winter. And there is always a need for adult shoes of every kind for men and women. Dress shoes, casual shoes, and new shoes and used shoes in good condition. Please give what you can. Bring your items to our community center and we will deliver to the shelter once a week. Thanks to all who have contributed in the past.

SAFeway Program supporters – Please look for the "10% Goes back to schools" logo when you shop. When you purchase products bearing this logo, Safeway will contribute 10% of your purchase amount to our St. Katherine. This 10% program runs August 8 - Sept 11, 2012. If you are not a member of the program, you can still contribute. Just drop off your Safeway receipts for the products with the "10% Goes Back to School" logo at the church office or put them in the Sunday offering basket. If you have any questions, call Elvira Garnett at (703) 425-3675.

Saint Katherine Professional and Business Directory – Please contact Daphne Vaccarello for more details at (703) 830-0892 or dvac_memories@verizon.net.
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 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 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.

Church Services

Sunday, August 26  12th Sunday of Matthew – ΙΒ’ Κυριακή Ματθαίου
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, August 29  The Beheading of St. John the Baptist – Αποτομή Τιμίας Κεφαλής Αγ. Ιωάννου Προδρόμου
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, September 1  Ecclesiastical New Year
Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 2  13th Sunday of Matthew – ΙΓ’ Κυριακή Ματθαίου
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, September 8  Nativity of The Theotokos
Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 9  Sunday Before the Holy Cross
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Friday, September 14  Elevation of the Holy Cross
Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Church Organizations

Acolyte Captains – Anastasios Galatis
Protos-Psalter – James Loizou (703) 356-8220
Choir Director – John Doulis (703) 780-0560
Catechetical School – Christian Demeter (703) 534-5669
Greek School – Sophia Tsangali (703) 671-5820
Paideia Preschool – TBD

Philoptochos – Eleni Kanakos (703) 938-8360
YAL President – TBD
GOYA President – Tiffani Wills (703) 948-7950
JOY – Tina Papamichael (703) 536-4711
HOPE – TBD

Facebook: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Please visit our website at: www.saint-katherines.org