Sunday, August 26, 2012
12th Sunday of Matthew

The Holy Martyrs Adrian and Natalie
Our Righteous Father Joseph
Icon of the Mother of God of Vladimir

**Apolytikion of the Day (Third Tone)**

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord by His Might, has created a Dominion. He has conquered death by death, and become the first-born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hades, and has granted the world great mercy.

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ᾅδου ἔρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**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.

Την πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημῶν και αντίληψιν, ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβῶν, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και ως μάρτυς του Κυρίου στεφθείσα, αιτεῖται πάσι, το μέγα ἔλεος.

**Kontakion of the Day**

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."
Epistle Reading

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 15:1-11 - BRETHREN, I would remind you in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand, by which you are saved, if you hold it fast - unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God which is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 19:16-26 - 12th Sunday of Matthew - At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you call me good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Wisdom of the Church Fathers

Wherefore then doth Christ thus reply to him, saying, "There is none good?" Because He came unto Him as a mere man, and one of the common sort, and a Jewish teacher; for this cause then as a man He discourses with him. And indeed in many instances He replies to the secret thoughts of them that come unto Him.

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 63 on Matthew 18
4th Century

The sign that thou lovest God, is this, that thou lovest thy fellow; and if thou hatest thy fellow, thy hatred is towards God. For it is blasphemy if thou prayest before God while thou art wroth. For thy heart also convicts thee, that in vain thou multipliest words: thy conscience rightly judges that in thy prayers thou profitest nought.

St. Ephraim the Syrian, On Admonition and Repentance.

'But I say to you,' the Lord says, 'love your enemies; do good to those who hate you, pray for those who persecute you.' Why did he command these things? So that he might free you from hatred, sadness, anger and grudges, and might grant you the greatest possession of all, perfect love, which is impossible to possess except by the one you loves all equally in imitation of God.

St. Maximos the Confessor, Unknown, 7th century

Rise from love of the world and love of pleasure. Put care aside, strip your mind, refuse your body. Prayer, after all, is a turning away from the world, visible and invisible. What have I in heaven? Nothing except simply to cling always to You in undistracted prayer. Wealth pleases some, glory others, possessions others, but what I want is to cling to God and to put the hopes of my dispassion in Him (cf. Ps. 72:25, 28).

St. John Climacus, Ladder of Divine Ascent, Step 28: On Prayer; Paulist Press pg. 277
6th century

Spiritual delight is not enjoyment found in things that exists outside the soul.

St. Isaac of Syria, Unknown
7th century
Memorial Services are offered this morning for Apostolos Karageorge, loving husband to Lena and father to Helen and Effie; for Frixos Economou loving husband of Litsa and father of Georgia and Propopia; and for Rev. Fr. Anastasios and Presvytera Eleni, loving parents of Vaso Galatis. May their memories be eternal! Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the Karageorge and Economou families in memory of their loved ones.

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.

Catechetical (Sunday) School – Registration will begin Sunday September 9th following the Divine Liturgy in the hall where coffee is served. You may also download the registration form and view the schedule at the Church website. http://www.saint-katherines.org. The new school year begins at 9:30 a.m. September 16th. We will meet upstairs in the large hall to receive a blessing from Father Costa then proceed downstairs for class and continue registration.

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

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. Dress shoes, casual shoes, and new shoes and used shoes in good condition are also needed. Please give what you can and bring your items to our community center. We will deliver to the shelter once a week. Thank you.

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.

Fall Festival Cooking – Preparation for the Fall Festival has begun and many people look forward to our delicious pastries. So please come to help us bake while enjoying the camaraderie of other women. We will be baking Melomakarouna on Tuesday, August 28 and Paximadia Thursday, August 30 beginning at 10AM. Everyone is welcome. Please contact Kathy Cavallo, 703-978-1539, kcavallo1@aol.com for additional information.
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, ὁπως δέχθηκες τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίαις 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 δόρα 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 αἰῶνα. Αμήν.

Church Services

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 – Άγιος Μάθαων
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, September 8  Nativity of 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

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Please visit our website at:
www.saint-katherines.org
Facebook: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church