Apolytikion of the Day (4th Tone)

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spake to the Apostles exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Ἀναφαίρετον, οὖν, τήν σωτηρίαν πίστιν τρισμάκαρ, καταλιπών τήν πατρώαν ασέβειαν, καί τῷ Δεσπότῃ κατ’ ίχνος επόμενος, κατεπλουτίσθης ενθέοις χαρίσμασιν, Αδριανὲ ἐνδόξη, Χριστὸν τὸν Θεόν ἱκέτευε, ομοί σὺν Ναταλία τῇ θεόφρονι.

Apolytikion for the Martyrs Adrian and Natalie (3rd Tone)

Thou didst deem that Faith which hath salvation to be riches never lost or plundered. Thou forsookest thy fathers' impiety, and thou didst follow thy Master, becoming rich in His divine gifts, O glorious Adrian. With the godly-minded Natalie, who emboldened thee, entreat Christ God, O Martyr, that our souls be saved.

Αναφαίρετον, ὅλβον ηγήσω, τὴν σωτηρίαν πίστιν τρισμάκαρ, καταλιπών τήν πατρώαν ασέβειαν, καί τῷ Δεσπότῃ κατ’ ίχνος επόμενος, κατεπλουτίσθης ενθέοις χαρίσμασιν, Αδριανὲ ἐνδόξη, Χριστὸν τὸν Θεόν ἱκέτευε, ομοί σὺν Ναταλία τῇ θεόφρονι.

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 Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημῶν και αντίληψιν. Ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και νυν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα έλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Tone)

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."

Ιωακείμ καί Άννα όνειδισμού ατεκνίας, καί Αδάμ καί Εύα, εκ τής φθοράς τού θανάτου, ηλευθερώθησαν, Αχραντε, εν τή γαία γεννήσης σου, αυτήν εορτάζει καί ο λαός σου, ενοχής τών πταισμάτων, λυτρωθείς εν τώ κράζεις σου, Η στείρα τίκτει τήν Θεοτόκον, και τροφόν τής ζωής ημῶν.
Epistle Reading

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 16:13-24 – BRETHREN, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicos, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:33-42 – The Lord said this parable, "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it was marvelous in our eyes?"

Wisdom of the Church Fathers

Many things does He intimate by this parable, God's providence, which had been exercised towards them from the first; their murderous disposition from the beginning; that nothing had been omitted of whatever pertained to a heedful care of them; ...

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And observe also both His great care, and the excessive idleness of these men for what pertained to the husbandmen, He Himself did ... and He left little for them to do; to take care of what was there, and to preserve what was given to them.

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And where do they take counsel to kill Him? "Out of the vineyard." Do you see how He prophesies even the place where He was to be slain. "And they cast Him out, and slew Him."

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... that even when prophets had been slain, He had not turned away from them, but had sent His very Son; that the God both of the New and of the Old Testament was one and the same; that His death should effect great blessings; that they were to endure extreme punishment for the crucifixion.

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For nothing was left undone, but all accomplished; ... And "He sent His servants," that is, the prophets, "to receive the fruit;" that is, their obedience, the proof of it by their works.

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 53 on Matthew 21
4th Century
Memorial Services are offered this morning for Sophia Demitrakos (one year), sister of Anthoula Valmas.

Coffee hour is sponsored this morning by the Valmas family in memory of their loved one. May her memory be eternal!

Our Capital Campaign begins in September to address the abundant needs of our community. We solicit your support and encourage your prayerful consideration of this most worthy endeavor in support of “our families, our church, our future.” More details to follow. Please contact us at capcampaign@stkchurch.com with your questions.

SAVE THE DATE – Saint Katherine Annual GALA, Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Meletis Charuhas Center. 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 – Jim Stoucker and our GOYA. Music by Zephyros.

The Ladies Philoptochos of Saint Katherine will be collecting monetary donations for the recent tragic arson events in Athens, Greece, every Sunday through the end of August during the coffee hour. We pray all of us will come together to assist the victims and families affected by this tragedy. You may also mail your donation to: Saint Katherine Ladies Philoptochos, 3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church, VA 22041. Please write “Fires” on the memo line. Thank you!

Registration for the 2018-2019 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 – 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. Please contact HEC Director, Eleni Alexopoulou, with any questions, ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com.

Catechetical School Registration – Welcome! Registration for Sunday school will be available on September 2nd and 9th in the lobby of the Meletis-Charuhas Hall. Classes begin on September 16th (we’ll meet at 8:45 that day to be led in prayer by Fr Costa and to introduce our teachers). Please contact Bill or Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net for additional information.

JOURNEY TO ORTHODOXY: Our “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults begins September 23, meeting 9-10 AM Sunday in the Seniors Kentro room in Chelpon Hall. The class is held in an informal discussion format and designed for non-Orthodox inquirers into Orthodoxy as well as for Orthodox Christians who want to know more about the teachings, practices, history, and contemporary life of our Orthodox Church. It is also recommended for intending or newly married couples, especially where one spouse is not Orthodox. Text is provided. Contact John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com or Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com, 202-375-1007 for additional information.

AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce our 11th 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 “Theotokos & Child” is a classic and revered icon and mosaic appearing over our sanctuary entrance that, for the first time ever, will be available in the beautiful “sun catcher” format that makes a brilliant display by allowing daylight to further enhance the icon’s classic beauty, enabling its use year round. 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 enable our philanthropy in support of our community and Hellenic ideals! For additional information, call 703-671-7225.
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 γιά 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.