Apolytikion of the Day (3rd 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, προτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας Ἀδων ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Apolytikion for the Placing of the Honorable Sash of the Most Holy Theotokos

(4th Plagios Tone)

O Ever-Virgin Theotokos, shelter of mankind, thou hast bestowed upon thy people a mighty investiture, even thine immaculate body's raiment and sash, which by thy seedless childbirth have remained incorrupt; for in thee nature and time are made new. Wherefore, we implore thee to grant peace to the world, and great mercy to our souls.

Θεοτόκε Αειπάρθενε τών ανθρώπων η σκέπη, Εσθήτα και Ζώνην τού αχράντου σου σώματος, κραταιάν τῇ πόλει σου περιβολήν εδωρήσω, τώ ασπόρω τόκω τού ἁπαντάρτα διαμείναντα, επί σοι γάρ καὶ φύσις καινοτομείται καὶ χρόνος, διὸ δυσωπούμε σε, ειρήνην τῇ πολιτείᾳ σου δώρησαι, καὶ ταίς ψυχαίς ημῶν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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 Χριστού υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την τού βίου θάλασσαν διεκφυγόντες ξενοφώνοντο σύν τή συζύγω τή σεπτή, εν ουρανοῖς συνευφραίνονται, μετά τῶν τέκνων, Χριστόν μεγαλύνοντες.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Tone)

With thy yoke-mate and thy sons didst thou keep vigil in the courts of Christ thy Lord and thou didst cheerfully disperse thy wealth to paupers, O blessed one. Hence, ye have all now inherited joy divine.

Τήν τού βίου θάλασσαν διεκφυγόντες, ξενοφώνον δίκαιος, σύν τή συζύγω τή σεπτή, εν ουρανοῖς συνευφραίνονται, μετά τῶν τέκνων, Χριστόν μεγαλύνοντες.
Epistle Reading

St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 9:1-7 - BRETHREN, the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

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

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, 4th century

'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

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

St. Isaac of Syria, Unknown

7th century
Announcements

Artoklasia is offered this morning by the Jouvanis and Scafetta families.

Hellenic Education Center (HEC) – Enrollment for our Greek school and Preschool is underway and registrations for the 2014-15 school year are currently being accepted. Our Greek School classes begin Friday, 12 Sept. and Saturday, 13 Sept. and Paideia Preschool classes begin Sept 8. Please contact Eleni Alexopoulou, HEC director, with questions or stop by our registration table during the Coffee Hour on 7 and 14 September. Registration forms are also available at http://www.stkhec.org/pages/Hellenic_Education_Center.

Catechetical (Sunday) School classes begin on September 21. Registration will take place on Sunday, September 14 after Divine Liturgy in the hall during coffee hour or on September 21 during Sunday School session downstairs in the rooms where music instruction normally occurs.

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 info, visit DOXA or www.saint-katherines.org under "Ministries."

Adult Bible Study – Classes begin September 21. This year, we will explore The Letters of St. Paul. Classes are held every Sunday at 9:30am in the board room of the Meletis Charuhas Center. For more information or questions, please contact Bill Polizos at 571-434-7790 or polizos@att.com. All are welcome!

Prison Ministry - Please join us as we will be baking cookies for our Prison Ministry after Church next Sunday, September 7. We welcome your participation and help.

5 Volunteers Needed to Teach English in Kenya - Five volunteers are needed to join an OCMC short-term mission team that will be traveling to Kenya from October 27th to November 8th to teach English to students studying at the Makarios III Seminary, the Orthodox Teachers College of Africa, and the St. Clement of Alexandria School.

The next Mission and Outreach Committee meeting at St. Katherine will be held Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2015 at 7:00 PM. Our meetings are open to all. Bring a friend. Our Mission and Outreach Committee will be serving dinner at the Bailey’s Crossroads Homeless Shelter on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 6:00 PM. Please contact J. Demakis at demakis9913@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

NHS Screening of Zorba - The National Hellenic Society (NHS) is hosting a special 50th anniversary screening of the newly remastered film Zorba the Greek on Thursday, September 4th at 6:30 pm at Angelika Film Center & Café at Mosaic, 2911 District Ave. Fairfax, VA (Gallows Road Exit off I-495). RSVP's Only: Call: (703) 256-3180. Anthony Quinn’s wife, Katherine Quinn will also be with us to share stories and anecdotes about his signature role as “Zorba.”

Save the Date - Saint Katherine Annual Dinner Gala - November 9, 2014 - Hilton McLean Tysons Corner.
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 δέχθηκες από τα αμαρτωλά μας χέρια και τις προσφορές αυτές έτσι, ώστε πάντοτε να μπορούμε να σου προσφέρουμε δώρα και τους κόστους της εργασίας μας για την δόξα Σου, προς ελάφρυνση των δοκιμασιών 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.