Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, September 4, 2016
11th Sunday of Matthew

Babylas the Holy Martyr;
Moses the Prophet & Godseer;
Hermione the Martyr;
Anthimos the New Ascetic

Apolytikion of the Day (2nd Tone)

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

Ὅτε κατῆλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ Ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ᾅδην ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος, ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πάσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion for Hieromartyr Babylas (4th Tone)

As a sharer of the ways and a successor to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, thou foundest discipline to be a means of ascent to divine vision. Wherefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, thou didst also contest for the Faith even unto blood, O Hieromartyr Babylas. Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

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 αντήλησιν. Ὅτι εφίμωσε λαμπρῶς, τοὺς κομψοὺς τῶν ασεβῶν, τοῦ Πνεύματος τῇ δυνάμει. Καὶ νῦν ὡς Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αἰτεῖται πάσι το μέγα ἔλεος.

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."

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Ioakeim ai Anna onneidismou apektia, kai Aadam kai Ewia ek tis phorazin tis thanaton, eniutheroithsan, !ghranite, en ti aghia gennhisei sou, autin eortazei kai o laos sou, evochis tin ton paitiasmoton, lyniothei en tis krazilin sou, H steira tiktik tihn Theotokon, kai tropon tin zoiis hmon.
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

11th Sunday of Matthew, Matthew 18:23-35 – 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 everyone of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

Wisdom of the Church Fathers

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 ....

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 61 on Matthew 18

4th Century

AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce our 9th Annual Community Christmas Ornament. These collectable ornaments have grown in popularity from year to year and we are extremely proud of this year’s offering. Our latest limited edition ornament, entitled “Santa’s Sleigh” is sure to delight young and old. They make excellent gifts and are the ideal stocking stuffer. Ornaments will be available for sale during the Fall Festival and after Liturgies (starting in Oct.) during coffee hour while supplies last. Please visit our booth at the Fall Festival or make your purchases by sending requests to antovi@verizon.net or by calling 703-929-6110.

Hellenic Genocide Observance – Our community’s annual observance of this tragedy will take place on Sunday, September 18. After memorial services, we are honored to host our guest speaker Prof. George Topalidis from the University of Florida, who will make a presentation in Founders Hall on The Ottoman Greeks of the United States 1904-1924. This multifaceted research endeavor will, among other things, produce an oral archive of information collected from children of immigrants from Asia Minor. Professor Topalidis will conduct interviews with interested parishioners the week of September 19. The archive of stories will eventually be shared through social media to act as an educational tool and to raise awareness about the experiences of immigrants from the former Ottoman Empire. For additional information or to schedule an interview, please call the Church office, 703-671-1515.
Memorial Services are offered this morning for Steve Alatis, beloved son of Penelope Alatis and brother to William and Anthony. Coffee hour is also sponsored this morning by the Alatis family in memory of Steve Alatis. May his memory be eternal!

Registration for the 2016-2017 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. Please contact HEC Director, Eleni Alexopoulou, with any questions, ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com.

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.

Our Hellenic Education Center is seeking a Greek School teacher and an Assistant Preschool teacher for 2016-2017. Please submit an updated CV to the HEC office at ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com.

Coffee Hour Procedures – Coffee Hour sponsorship after a Memorial Service requires a donation of $175. Your sponsorship includes coffee set up, 100 koulourakia, 100 paximathia, putting koliva in cups and clean up after the event. Checks should be made out to: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church (please make payment in advance). Parishioners can contact Mary Varlas at (703) 965-4161 or Eleni Kanakos at (703) 969-8364. Please also remember to schedule the actual memorial service with the Church office.

JOURNEY TO ORTHODOXY CLASS – begins on Sunday, Sept. 18 and is designed for adult 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. The class is held in an informal discussion format. Text is provided. We meet at 9-10 AM Sunday in the Seniors Kentro on the ground floor of Founders’ Hall. Contact John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com or Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com, 202 375-1007.

GOYA Pool Party – The Moratis family is hosting a pool party for teenagers of our community on Saturday, September 10 at 3:00pm. Snacks and dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to Linda Moratis (call or text her at 703-999-9983 or email her at lmoratis@aol.com). Hope to see you there!

4th Annual Monumental Mission Walk 2016 – Saturday, Oct 15th 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.! Help us raise funds for OCMC and local VA charities, while walking past the Capital and other monuments and having fellowship with other Orthodox Christians. Register at http://www.DCGreeks.com/MonumentalMissionsWalk. Ask family and friends to sponsor you for the walk. Donations by check made out to St. Katherine GOC with “Monumental Missions Walk 2016” in the memo line. Contact Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net or (703) 470-9992.

Catechetical School Registration – Registration for Sunday school takes place today & September 11th in the lobby of the Meletis-Charuhas Hall. We will have an Open House September 11th, between 9-10 am to meet your teachers and see your classroom. Classes begin on September 18th. Contact Bill or Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net. Thank you!

Daughters of Penelope and Philoptochos Annual Jacket Drive – We are collecting jackets, hoodies, and sweatshirts for children, teens and adults through October 25. Donated items should be new (preferred) or in perfect and clean condition. Drop your hoodies and jackets in the box in the hall foyer or directly to the church office. Sign up to donate at: http://bit.ly/DOP_Philoptochos_KeepWarm. Monetary donations payable to DOP-Helle 283 and mail to Karen Polizos, 903 Holly Creek Drive, Great Falls, VA 22066.

FALL FESTIVAL will be held Friday, Oct 7 – Sunday Oct 9. We need your help and support. Please volunteer by contacting Andrea Ballard at 703-250-5419 or andreaballard1@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. Ω Θεέ, ὁπως 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 δόρα και τους κόπους της εργασίας μας γιά την δόξα Σου, προς ελάφρυνση των δοκιμιών 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 μονογενοῦς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εἰς τὸν αἰώνα. Αμήν.

The Sunday bulletin is available online in two formats--a PDF copy of the bulletin handed out in church and an online version with much more information. Please take a moment to check them out by visiting: http://www.saint-katherines.org/about_us/sunday-bulletins