Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, September 18, 2016
Sunday after Holy Cross

Eumenius the Wonderworker,
Bishop of Gortynia;
Ariadne the Martyr;
Afterfeast of the Holy Cross

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.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασα, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Holy Cross (1st Tone)

Save, O Lord, Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; grant Thou unto the faithful victory over adversaries. And by the power of Thy Cross do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

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 ημῶν καὶ αντίληψιν. Ὄτι εφίμωσε λαμπρῶς, τοὺς κομψοὺς τῶν σεβόμενων, τοῦ Πνεύματος τῇ δυνάμει. Καὶ νῦν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αἰτεῖται πάσι τῷ μέγα ἔλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Tone)

Lifted up on the Cross by Your free will, Christ God, grant mercies to the new commonwealth that bears Your name. Gladden our faithful rulers by Your power, giving them victories over their adversaries. May Your alliance be for them a weapon for peace, an invincible standard.

Ὁ υψωθεὶς εἰς τῷ Σταυρῷ εκουσίως, τῇ επωνύμῳ σου καινή πολιτείᾳ, τοὺς οικτιρμοὺς σου δώρησαι, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, Ἐνέφρανον εἰς τὴ δυνάμει σου, τοὺς πιστοὺς Βασιλείς ἡμῶν, νίκας χορηγῶν αὐτοῖς, κατὰ τῶν πολεμίων, τὴν συμμαχίαν ἔχουν τὴν σήν, ὅπλον εἰρήνης, αἴτητην τρόπαιον.
**Orthros Gospel**

Mark 16:1-8 – When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back, for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

**Epistle Reading**

St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20 – BRETHREN, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**Gospel Reading**

Mark 8:34-38; 9:1 – The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

**Wisdom of the Church Fathers**

Interior crosses can found at all times, and more easily than exterior ones. You have only to direct your attention to yourself and examine yourself with a sense of repentance, and a thousand interior crosses will at once present themselves to you . . Interior crosses are sometimes so burdensome that the sufferer can find no consolation whatever in anything. All this can happen to you too! But in whatever position you may be, and whatever sufferings of the soul you may feel, do not despair and do not think that the Lord has abandoned you. NO! God will always be with you and will invisibly strengthen you even when it seems to you that you are on the very brink of perdition.


19th 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.
Announcements

Memorial Services are offered this morning for Konstantinos Giannoukos, beloved husband of Loukia and father of Christina; for Lampros Apostolou, husband of Panagiota and father of Sophia; for Barbara Euripides, wife of Charles and mother of Michael, Chris, and Gus; and for the millions of innocent Christians who perished during the Hellenic Genocide. Coffee hour is sponsored this morning by the Euripides families in memory of Barbara Euripides. The Garbis family also sponsors on behalf of the victims of the Hellenic Genocide.

May their memories 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.

Philoptochos Meeting – There will be a meeting following Church services in the Board Room today. GOYA – GOYA will have elections on Sunday, September 25, in the Board Room, immediately following Liturgy. A parents’ informational meeting will be held after elections. Hope to see you all there!

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 today 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.

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.

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.
Save the Date
Saint Katherine Annual Dinner Gala

Join us as we honor this year’s Community Service honorees:

John Agnos and Pierre Tavoularis

Sunday, November 6, 2016
Hilton McLean Tysons Corner
The Hellenic Genocide was the systematic torture, massacre and ethnic cleansing of several million Greeks perpetrated by the Turks in Asia Minor, Constantinople, Eastern Thrace, Imvros, Tenedos, Macedonia, Cappadocia and Pontos. It culminated with the burning of the city of Smyrna 94 years ago this month. Millions of men and women and children were expelled from their homes, tortured and massacred only for being Greek. In the same places and often at the same time, millions of Armenian and Assyrian Christians of all ages were also tortured and massacred. All told, 5.5 million Greek, Armenian and Assyrian Christians perished during this terrible period.

There is an old saying that “those who ignore the lessons of history are doomed to repeat them.” There is documentary evidence showing that the Jewish Holocaust perpetrated by Nazi Germany during WW II was enabled, encouraged and facilitated by the lack of outcry from the world regarding the Hellenic, Armenian and Assyrian Genocides less than two decades earlier. We need only reflect upon the current ongoing persecution of Christians in this region and elsewhere to understand why “we must never forget!” For these reasons, we choose to remember and make others aware…it is our obligation to our ancestry, to mankind and to Christianity!

The purpose of such an observance is not to promote hatred among races or nationalities, but rather to ensure we teach future generations lessons of the past so that such atrocities and crimes against humanity never be allowed to happen again. The souls of 5.5 million Christians demand nothing less. May their memory be eternal!

TODAY’S GUEST SPEAKER – After memorial services today, we are honored to host our guest speaker Professor 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 (Monday and Tuesday, if necessary). 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.

Everyone is welcome to attend! If your family is from this region and you have stories to share regarding their journey to freedom, please consider attending Professor Topalidis’ presentation and scheduling an interview so that awareness of this tragedy is raised. Additionally, we will have a Memory Table in the hall during coffee hour; everyone is encouraged to bring photos of loved ones from Mikrasia, books or other memorabilia to display in observance of this occasion and in honor of our brave ancestors and this great and substantive community.
Adult Bible Studies Begin Today, September 18

*Who We Are and What We Believe: A Journey Through the Orthodox Faith Guided by the Words of the Bible*

**This Year’s Topic:**

**The Book of Revelation**

Using colorful PowerPoint slide presentations we will discuss how Scripture informs our Orthodox faith and Tradition.

The Book of Revelation is the final book of the Bible and one of the most mysterious and misunderstood documents ever written. Through the centuries its symbols and visions have given rise to anxiety and fear, but also to a strengthening of faith and hope. Taking a no-nonsense approach to this topic we will explore the Orthodox understanding of this great work. We will review the seeds of apocalyptic literature found in the Old Testament, examine statements made by Christ and the writers of the New Testament regarding life after death and the “end times,” and also discuss the views of the Church saints and theologians on these topics. Following this we will review the book itself chapter-by-chapter. We will explore the enigmatic symbols, perennial questions and timeless truths the book reveals with the hope that it will help us deepen our Orthodox faith.

Classes are held every **Sunday from 9:00-10:00 AM, beginning September 18th** in the lower level of the new hall. For questions please call Bill Polizos (571) 216-4077; or e-mail polizos@att.com

*All are welcome!!!*
I want YOU

Volunteer to help your Church at our Festival October 7, 8, 9

Shifts: 10am-2pm; 2-6pm; 6-9pm

Contact 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 Προσφορώς. Ω Θεέ, όπως δέχθηκες τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίες του Νώε και του Αβραάμ, το θυμίαμα του Ααρών και του Ζαχαρία, ας δέχθηκε 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 εξίλασμό του λαού σου, με την χάρη, το έλεος και φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.