Apoloitiκion of the Day (Grave Tone)

Thou didst abolish death by Thy Cross; Thou didst open Paradise to the thief; Thou didst transform the myrrh-bearers' lamentation, and didst bid Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

Σώσον Κύριε τόν λαόν σου καί ευλόγησον τήν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοίς Βασιλεύσι κατά βαρβάρων δωρούμενος καί τό σόν φυλάττων διά τού Σταυρού σου πολίτευμα.

Apoloitiκion 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.

Σώσον Κύριε τόν λαόν σου καί ευλόγησον τήν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοίς Βασιλεύσι κατά βαρβάρων δωρούμενος καί τό σόν φυλάττων διά τού Σταυρού σου πολίτευμα.

Apoloitiκion 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 αντίληψιν. Ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τούς κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματον τη δυνάμει. Και νυν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα έλεος.

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.

Ο υψωθείς εν τώ Σταυρώ εκουσίως, τή επωνύμω σου καινή πολιτεία, τούς οικτιρμούς σου δώρησαι, Χριστέ ο Θεός, Εύφρανον εν τή δυνάμει σου, τούς πιστούς Βασιλεύσι ημών, νίκας χορηγών αυτοίς, κατά τών πολεμίων, τήν συμμαχίαν έχον εκείνη τήν σήν, όπλον ειρήνης, αίτητην τρόπαιον.
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

And see how He also makes His discourse unexceptionable: not saying at all, "whether you will, or no, you must suffer this," but how? "If any man will come after me."

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"I force not, I compel not, but each one I make lord of his own choice; wherefore also I say, 'If any man will.' For to good things do I call you, not to things evil, or burdensome; not to punishment and vengeance, that I should have to compel.

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Nay, the nature of the thing is alone sufficient to attract you." ... For thou oughtest not, O Peter, because thou hast confessed me Son of God, therefore only to expect crowns, and to suppose this enough for thy salvation, and for the future to enjoy security, as having done all. .."


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 93 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 only 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!”

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!
Announcements

Memorial Services for Aphrodite Tzaperas, sister of James Loizou, Theodore Papaloizou and Sophia Lignos; and for the 1.5 Million Victims of the Hellenic Genocide. May their memory be eternal.

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by Jim, Theodore and Sophia in memory of their beloved sister.

Saint Katherine Directory – We regret to inform everyone that we must postpone the creation of a new photo directory for our community due to insufficient registrations to merit continuing the project at this time. We remain committed to this project and are currently working with the photographers to secure a more convenient/appropriate time frame to reinstitute this worthy program. We will notify everyone who scheduled an appointment and anticipate providing additional information regarding new dates in the near future.

The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA chapter 438 is proud to announce the opening of the new community Seniors Kentro (Kentro) located on the ground floor of Founders Hall. Gather with friends, enjoy a cup of coffee while watching the news from Greece, spending some quiet time reading the paper, or enjoying each other’s company/parea. Lectures, Bible Studies and presentations of health and wellness are also benefits that will be introduced as part of our Church’s new Seniors Ministry.

Seniors Kentro

The Seniors Kentro is carpeted and fully furnished, featuring a 60-inch flat screen television with satellite access to Greek network programming, and has a coffee bar. Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 3:00pm (the Seniors Kentro will open at noon when church services are scheduled). The room is also available to other groups by appointment through the Church Office.

GOYA will meet following liturgy on Sunday, September 27, in the board room. We will have a brief overview of the year and elections. All teenagers of our community are encouraged to participate as we have something to offer everyone. Visit the GOYA page of our church’s website (under the “Ministries” tab) for more information. Please bring your completed Health/Registration form (available on the web page) and $30 dues to the meeting. Please contact the GOYA advisors Presv. Pauline (GOYA_St_Katherine@msn.com) or Maria Wills (mwills28@verizon.net) for more information.

Daughters of Penelope and the Philoptochos will be collecting new hoodies for teens at the Alternative House facility and jackets for children served by the Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless. The sizes needed are: S, M, L, & XL warm-style hoodies for both male and female teens; and jacket sizes 2T-4T for toddlers, and youth sizes 5 to 20 for both boys and girls. Monetary donations may be made payable to DOP-Helle Chapter 283 and mailed to Karen Polizos, 903 Holly Creek Drive, Great Falls, VA 22066. Drop your hoodies and jackets in the box in the hall foyer or directly to the church office starting 9/20 through 11/8. Thank you for your support!

The Holy Orthodox Primary Education (HOPE) ministry is an opportunity for children (ages 7 and under) to meet, socialize and interact with one another. Our first event is Lego Fun and Book Drive at Founders Hall (Oct. 17, 3:30-5:30PM. Email us at HOPE_St_Katherine@yahoo.com to be added to our email distribution list.

Adult Bible Study – Classes begin September 20. This year, we will explore Biblical Responses to the Problem of Evil and Suffering. Classes are held every Sunday at 9:00am 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. Everyone welcome!

Registration for the 2015-2016 HEC school year is ongoing for Paideia Preschool, Greek School and Adult language classes. 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.

Women’s Book Club - Join us on Wednesday, October 7 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for our first meeting in the small conference room of the Meletis Charuhas Center. Our first book is Inner River: A Pilgrimage to the Heart of Christian Spirituality by Kyriacos C. Markides (available in bookstore). Contact is Despina Raizes at 2draizes@gmail.com or 703-216-8176.
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.

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](http://www.saint-katherines.org/about_us/sunday-bulletins)