Apolytikion of the Day (Grave Tone)

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

Kατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέῳξας τῷ Λῃστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρήνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας, ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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 ημών και αντίληψιν. Ότι εφίμοσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς τῶν ασεβῶν, τοῦ Πνεύματος τὴ δυνάμει. Και νῦν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτεῖται πάσι το μέγα ἔλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (2nd Tone)

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε. Μὴ παρίδῃς ἁμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνὰς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθή, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦδον εἰς ἱκεσίαν, ἢ προστατεύουσα ἅπεις, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.
Epistle Reading

The Lord will give strength to his people.

Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy.

Timothy 3:10-15 – TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading

Mark 5:1-11 – At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

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!

JOURNEY TO ORTHODOXY: This is a reminder that the “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults meets 9-10 AM Sunday (before Liturgy, concurrently with the Sunday School). The class is 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. The class is held in an informal discussion format. Text is provided. We meet at in the Seniors’ Kentro room on the ground floor of Founders’ Hall. For further information contact the teachers, John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com or Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com 202 375-1007.
SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

Thank you to Sherry Maggio for stepping up to co-teach our 3rd grade class!

You may still register your children via Google for https://goo.gl/forms/kjcXAxLd3AkVqinm2 or printing a form from the St. Katherine’s website. Our NEW email will be stksundayschool@gmail.com.

On October 1st at 12 p.m. in Chelpon hall, the Sunday School children (grades 3rd – 12th) will be making prayer bracelets for the people of Kenya. Our mission’s team will be taking them to Kenya in October. Refreshments will be served. Please join us if you are interested in helping.

Raffle Benefitting our Trip to Kenya – Stella and Dot Hand-painted necklace and earrings along with clutch bag $250.00 value sold during Coffee Hour. Tickets 1 for $2.00 or 3 for $5.00.

Raffle for our Sister Church in Kenya – Little hands can do big things! 100% if every raffle ticket sold will help Bishop Neofytos’s mission to complete the church to be named Saint Katherine! Prize: handmade pull toys, GALIMOTOS, from Kenya plus books capturing life for children in African villages. Tickets: 1 for $5.00. Sunday School Preschool to 2nd grade, please return the raffle tickets and donations by October 1st. Paideia Preschool, please return the raffle tickets and donations by October 5th.

(Sunday School News is an insert page in September 24, 2017 Sunday Bulletin)
Announcements

Memorial Services are offered this morning for Demetrios Demetriou, Savvas Demetriou, Lambros and Elpida, Stylianos and Panagiotis Hadjichristodoulou, husband, brother-in-law, parents and brothers of Mrs. Androula Demetriou; for Anna Moshos, mother of Michael and Mary Catherine Moshos, Frances Campbell, and Stephanie Puddy; for Jane Frances Kolas, wife of Mr. Kyrriac Kolas, and mother of Athina, Paula and Stephen; and for the millions of innocent Christians who perished during the Hellenic Genocide. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the Demetriou and Moshos families in memory of their loved ones; and by Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Garbis in memory of the Christians who perished during the Hellenic Genocide.

St. Katherine Fall Festival – October 6, 7 and 8, 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Festival volunteers needed! Please sign up after Liturgy today or go to http://signup.com/go/XWgrBst or email andreaballard1@verizon.net or call 703-250-5419.

Registration for the 2017-2018 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 – Classes begin in September, Beginners Greek I and II on Tuesday evenings, and Intermediate and Advanced Greek on Thursday evenings. Contact Eleni Alexopoulou, with any questions, ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com.

Choir –Regular rehearsals will be on Thursdays at 7:30. If you have a decent voice and are willing to give of your time and talents, please consider joining us. Contact Nick Kyrus at 703-981-2526 or nbkyrus@comcast.net.

SAVE THE DATE – Saint Katherine Annual GALA, Sunday, November 19 at the Hilton McLean. 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 – Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos and the Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter 438.

Philoptochos – Every Sunday, in the month of September, we will be accepting donations for the victims of tropical storm Harvey during the coffee hour. Save the date on Sunday, October 22, 2017 for the Annual Tea to benefit the Agape Foundation at Saints Peter and Paul, Greek Orthodox Church, Frederick Md., 2:00-4:00p.m.

Moms, Pops, & Tots/HOPE/JOY:
- 10/21- SAT - 3pm - Pumpkin Playground! @ Burke Nursery – pumpkinplayground.com

GOYA:
- First GOYA meeting and elections TODAY in the Kentro! (downstairs of Chelpon Hall). Parent meeting today to discuss our basketball tournament – auxiliary room
- Basketball practice (Boys 6:30pm Wednesdays, Girls 6:30pm Thursdays) 9/30-10/1 - St. Nicholas Balt. BB tournament
For all things youth and young adult related please contact Nick Junes, Youth Director, njunes@stkchurch.com.

Warm Clothing Drive - The Daughters of Penelope and our Philoptochos are collecting hoodies, sweatshirts, and jackets Sept 3 - Oct 29. Sizes needed are for children, teens and adults. Donations must be new (preferred) or items in perfect and clean condition. Drop your donations in the box in the hall foyer after church or directly to the church office. You can sign up to donate at: http://bit.ly/KeepWarm2017. Monetary donations are welcome, payable to DOP-Helle 283 and mail to Karen Polizos, 903 Holly Creek Drive, Great Falls, VA 22066, which will be used to purchase items needed. Thank you!

AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce our Tenth 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 “Evzone Nutcracker” is a whimsical portrayal of a classic Christmas image with a Hellenic twist that is sure to delight young and old. 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 help make our philanthropy in support of our community and Hellenic ideals possible! For additional information, call 703-671-7225.

Kairos Prison Ministry – We will bake cookies for Kairos Prison Ministry on Sunday, October 1st after the Divine Liturgy. If you can, please come in the kitchen and help us. For any questions, please contact Dennis Garbis at digarbisis@envdes.com.

Save the date, October 29, 2017 – Turning stress into strength through the Jesus Prayer, presented by Dean Chelpon LCSW after Liturgy in the Chelpon Hall. All are welcome, light refreshments will be served.
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 δόρα 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.