Apolytikion of the Day (Fourth Tone)

O Merciful One, You came from on high, and condescended to Your three day burial to save us from suffering. You are our Life and our Resurrection. Glory to You.

Ἐξ ὕψους κατῆλθες ὁ εὔσπλαγχνος, ταφὴν καταδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃ τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωή καὶ ἡ Ἄναστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion of Saint Katherine the Great Martyr (First 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 βοήθειαν ημῶν και αντίληψιν, ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και ως μάρτυς του Κυρίου στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι, το μέγα έλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (Second 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 των χριστιανών ακαταιρούν, μεσιτεία προς τον Ποιητήν αμετάθετε, μη παρίδης, αμαρτωλών δεήσεων φωνάς, αλλά πρόφθασον ως αγαθή, εις την βοήθειαν ημῶν, των πιστώς κραυγαζόντων σοι: Τάχυνον εις πρεσβείαν, και σπεύσον εις ικεσίαν, η προστατεύουσα αει, Θεοτόκε των τιμώντων σε.
Epistle Reading

St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1 - BRETHREN, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 6:31-36 - 2nd Sunday of Luke - The Lord said, "And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

Wisdom of the Church Fathers

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 profittest nought.

St. Ephraim the Syrian, ON ADMONITION AND REPENTANCE.

Let us then, bearing in mind all the things which have been said, show forth great love even towards our enemies; and let us ease away that ridiculous custom, to which many of the more thoughtless give way, waiting for those that meet them first.

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 18 on Matthew 5

4th Century

There are three things that impel us towards what is holy: natural instincts, angelic powers and probity of intention. Natural instincts impel us when, for example, we do to others what we would wish them to do to us (cf. Luke 6:31), or when we see someone suffering deprivation or in need and naturally feel compassion. Angelic powers impel us when, being ourselves impelled to something worthwhile, we find we are providentially helped and guided. We are impelled by probity of intention when, discriminating between good and evil, we choose the good.

St. Maximos the Confessor, Second Century on Love no. 32, Philokalia Vol. 2 edited by Palmer, Sherrard and Ware; Faber & Faber pg. 71

7th century

Every work which does not have love as its beginning and root is nothing.

St. John Chrysostom, Unknown

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

Christians…should strive in all things and ought not to pass judgment of any kind on anyone, not on the prostitute nor on sinners nor on disorderly persons. But they should look upon all persons with a single mind and a pure eye so that it may be for such a person almost a natural and fixed attitude never to despise or judge or abhor anyone or to divide people and put them into boxes…For this is purity of heart, that, when you see the sinner and the weak, you have compassion and show mercy to them.

St. Makarios the Great, Homilies 5.8

4th century

Why do we judge our neighbors? Because we shun knowing ourselves. Someone busy trying to understand himself has no time to notice the shortcomings of others. Judge yourself — and you will stop judging others. Judge a poor deed, but do not judge the doer. It is necessary to consider yourself the most sinful of all, and to forgive your neighbor every poor deed.

St. Seraphim of Sarov, Unknown

19th century
Announcements

Memorial Services are offered this morning for Elizabeth Anamisis, beloved mother of Diane Monis. May her memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by Mr. & Mrs. Gus Monis in memory of Diane’s beloved mother, Elizabeth Anamisis; and by the Daughters of Penelope (DOP) Helle Chapter #283.

Our FALL FESTIVAL cooking continues this coming week. Please join us as we prepare Karithopita on Tues, Oct 2 at 10am. Please contact kcavallo1@aol.com or call 703-978-1539.

We also need volunteers to staff our festival activities October 5, 6 and 7. There are a multitude of tasks that require our attention and YOU can help by volunteering your time to support your church and community. If you’re new to the community, this is a great way to get to know people. If you’ve never worked at the festival, join us...you won’t regret it! You may sign up after Liturgy or by contacting Andrea Ballard 703-250-5419, andreballard1@verizon.net, or Elvira Garnet 703-425-3675, villa45@hotmail.com. Let’s ALL help Saint Katherine have a successful festival!

Saint Katherine Book Club – Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, October 3 at 10:30am in the Community Center boardroom. Our new book is Saint Seraphim: Wonderworker of Sarov and his Spiritual Inheritance, by Helen Kontsevitch. We may have some copies in our bookstore. Access https://www.archangelsbooks.com/proddetail.asp?prod=HERKONTSE-03 to order your book online. Please read pages 1-50 for our first meeting. Please consider joining our group and share the spiritual nourishment we experience every two weeks. For more information, please contact faympras@gmail.com; (H) 703-865-5776.

Combined Federal Campaign – Federal Employees are encouraged to give to OCMC by designating their pledge to charity number 10304. Please make your pledge no later than December 15, 2012 by visiting www.opm.gov/cfc for more information. Contact Ken Kidd, 904-829-5132, x161; kenny@ocmc.org for more info.

Philoptochos – The first General Meeting of the Ecclesiastical New Year will take place on Sunday, Sept 30 in the Board Room at 12:30pm. All ladies are reminded we will be working on behalf of Saint Katherine at our annual Fall Festival October 5 - October 7. Please come and help us serve our community.

Saint Katherine Professional and Business Directory – Please contact Daphne Vaccarello for more details at (703) 830-0892 or dvac.memories@verizon.net.

DOP Trip – Join the Daughters of Penelope for a fun day in Lancaster, PA on Tuesday, November 13. Trip includes coach bus transportation, Jonah, the musical & family style dinner at an Amish Restaurant. Deadline to reserve your seat is Oct 11. Price is $105 and includes gratuities and taxes. For more information, contact Kathy Cavallo, kcavallo1@aol.com or call (h) 703-978-1539.

AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce orders are now being taken for our Fifth Annual Community Christmas Ornament. These collectable ornaments have grown in popularity from year to year and this year's ornament is no exception! This stunning three-dimensional ornament is entitled “Snowflakes from Mt. Athos” and depicts the Byzantine Eagle among 19 sparkling snowflakes as it soars over Mt. Athos. Manufactured by the same firm that creates the famous White House Christmas ornaments, they make excellent gifts and are the ideal stocking stuffer. Ornaments will first be available for sale during the Fall Festival and after Liturgies during coffee hour while supplies last. Purchases may be made by visiting our booth at the Fall Festival or after Liturgies beginning September 30. For more information, contact antovi@verizon.net or call 703-929-6110.

“Snowflakes from Mt. Athos”
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 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 για 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.