Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, October 2, 2011
2nd Sunday of Luke
Hieromartyr Cyprian
Martyr Justina
Saints Eleftherios and Roustikos

Apolytikion of the Day (Grave Tone)

Κατέλυσας τω Σταυρώ σου τον θάνατον, ηνέωξας τω Ληστή τον Παράδεισον, των Μυροφόρων τον θήριον μετέβαλες, και τοις σοις Αποστόλοις κηρύττειν επέταξας. Ότι ανέστης Χριστέ, ο Θεός, παρέχων τω κόσμω το μέγα έλεος.

By means of Your Cross, O Lord you abolished death, to the robber You opened Paradise, the lamentation of the Myrrh-bearing women You transformed and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all that you had risen from the dead, and granted the world Your great mercy.

Apolytikion of Saint Katherine the Great Martyr (1st Plagios Tone)

Την πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστού υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημών και αντίληψιν, ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς τον ασεβών, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και ως μάρτυς του Κυρίου στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι, το μέγα έλεος.

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.

Kontakion of the Day (2nd Tone)

Προστασία των χριστιανών ακαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία προς τον ποιητήν ομετάθετε, μη παρίδης, αμαρτωλών δεήσεων φωνάς, αλλά πρόφθασον ως αγαθή, εις την βοήθειαν ημών, των πιστώς κραυγαζόντων σοι. Τάχυνον εις πρεσβείαν, και σπεύσον εις ικεσίαν, η προστατεύουσα αεί, Θεοκόκε των τιμώντων σε.

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.
Epistle Reading

The Lord will give strength to his people.
Bring to the Lord, O sons of God,
bring the Lord honor and glory.
The Reading is from Saint Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians.

2nd Corinthians 6:1-10 – Brethren, working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, “At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation.” Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel Reading

Luke 5:31-36 – The Lord said: “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 selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.”

Wisdom of the Church Fathers

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

St. John Chrysostom, Unknown
4th century

There is an old saying: 'Excesses meet.' Too much fasting and too much eating come to the same end. Keeping too long a vigil brings the same disastrous cost as ... sluggishness... Too much self-denial brings weakness and induces the same condition as carelessness. Often I have seen men who would not be snared by gluttony fall, nevertheless, through immoderate fasting and tumble in weakness into the very urge which they had overcome. Unmeasured vigils and foolish denial of rest overcame those whom sleep could not overcome. Therefore, 'fortified to right and to left in the armor of justice,' as the apostle says (2 Cor. 6:7), life must be lived with due measure and, with discernment for a guide, the road must be traveled between the two kinds of excess so that in the end we may not allow ourselves to be diverted from the pathway of restraint which has been laid down for us nor fall through dangerous carelessness into the urgings of gluttony and self-indulgence.

St. John Cassian, Conferences, Conference Two: On Discernment no. 16; Paulist Press pg. 76
5th 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
Announcements

Saint Katherine’s Falls Festival TODAY! Please come and taste our delicious homemade Greek foods and pastries! Enjoy live Greek music and dancing from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Admission is free!

Greek School is adding an additional Conversational Greek class to its program every Wednesday 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. beginning October 5, 2011. Tuition will be an additional $125 for children registered in the Greek School or Paideia Preschool. Tuition is $250 for everyone else. Registration is ongoing. Call us 703-671-1515.

Catechetical School - We are adding a new Pre-K 3½ year old class this year. Please call Christian Demeter, 703-534-5669 for additional information.

The Nursery, located on the lower level of the church, is “open for business.” The space is available to parents who need a place to take a break with their babies and toddlers during church services. Children must be supervised at all times.

Fall Weeknight Adult Bible Study meets Wednesdays October 5 – November 16, 7:30-8:45 p.m. in the boardroom of the Meletis Charuhas Center. Come join us as we discuss Love in the Letters of John “the disciple Jesus loved.” What better source could there be for exploring what it means to live in love with our Lord Jesus and our brethren? Can’t make it every week? No problem! Drop-ins are welcome, including our older teens.

Orthodox Christian Mission Center Benefit Banquet will be held at Saint Katherine on Sunday, April 29. The speaker will be Fr. Martin Ritsi. For more information, contact Gregory McKinney, dintym@hotmail.com.

Saint Katherine Choir is looking for a person who is musical or has musical background to help in giving pitches and assisting the choir directors. Community service credit hours are available for teenagers. For more information, contact Dr. William Steele at wsteel27@verizon.net.

GOYA (13-to 18-year-olds) will have basketball practices on Tuesdays, October 4, 11, and 25 (Girls 6:00 p.m. and Boys 7:30 p.m.) and following Liturgy on Sundays, October 9 and 30. They will participate in the Saint George, Bethesda (October 15-16) and Saint Sophia (October 22-23) tournaments.

Interfaith Orthodox Study – Any interfaith married couples (one orthodox and one non-orthodox) interested in participating in a study on interfaith families in the Orthodox Church, please contact Chris Vaccarello at cmv3d@virginia.edu or by phone at 703-307-0563.

Parish e-mail list – Please subscribe to our Church's e-mail list. Simply go to our newly redesigned web site at www.saint-katherines.org and click on Join our Email List at the top of the page. We will use this list to communicate more efficiently with you. You can send feedback to webmaster@stkchurch.com. We have more exciting things to come - check back often!

Clothing for the Homeless Shelter – We are continuing to collect clothing and toiletries for men and women at the Bailey’s Crossroads Homeless Shelter. Clothes may be new or used but must be clean. Toiletries should be unopened. There is a collection receptacle in the foyer of our community center. Please continue to be generous to those less fortunate.

AHEPA Christmas Ornaments - The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce the arrival of the Fourth Annual Community Christmas Ornament. These collectable ornaments have grown in popularity from year to year and this year's ornament is no exception! A stunning three-dimensional rendition of The Star of Bethlehem serves as the inspiration for our 2011 offering to the community – a perfect ornament for the Christmas season, depicting the divine light that served as a beacon to all mankind heralding the joy of the Nativity. They make excellent gifts and are the ideal stocking stuffer. Please visit our booth at the Fall Festival or place your order at jstoucker@verizon.net or 703-929-6110.
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 – Ο Θεός, όπως δέχθηκε τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίες του Νώε και του Αβραάμ, το θυμίαμα του Ααρών και του Ζαχαρία, ας δέχθηκαν 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 εξίλασμο του λαού σου, με την χάρη, το έλεος και φιλανθρωπία του μονογενούς Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένονα είναι το όνομά Σου εἰς τὸν αἰώνα. Ἀμήν.