Apolytikion of the Day (1st Tone)
The stone had been secured with a seal by the Judeans, and a guard of soldiers was watching Your immaculate body. You rose on the third day, O Lord and Savior, granting life unto the world. For this reason were the powers of heaven crying out to You, O Life-giver. Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ; glory to Your eternal rule; glory to Your dispensation, only One who loves mankind.

Του λίθου σφραγισθέντος υπό των Ιουδαίων, και στρατιωτών φιλασσόντων το ἄχραντον Σου σῶμα, ανέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τω κόσμω την ζωήν. Διά τούτο αι δυνάμεις των ουρανών εξών σοι Ζωοδότα. Δόξα τη αναστάσει Σου Χριστέ, δόξα τη βασιλεία Σου, δόξα τη οἰκονομία Σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

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 ημών και αντίληψιν. Ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβῶν, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και νων ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα ἔλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (2nd Tone)
O protection of the Christians unashamed, mediation to the Creator immovable, despise not, the pleading voices of those in sin, but hasten, O good one, to the help of all of us, who in faith cry out to you. Speed up your intercession, and press on your supplication, O Theotokos who always protect, all those who honor you.

Προστασία των χριστιανών ακατάσχυντε, μεσιτεία προς τον Ποιητήν αμετάθετο, μή παρίδης, αμαρτωλών δέησεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον ως αγαθή, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, των πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι. Τάχινων εἰς προσβείαν, καὶ σπεύσων εἰς ἱκεσίαν, ἡ προστατεύουσα αεί, Θεοτόκε των τιμώντων σε.
Epistle Reading

Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.
For You are just in all You have done
The reading is from Saint Paul’s Letter to Titus.

Titus 3:8-15 – Titus, my son, the saying is true. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith.
Grace be with you all. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Luke 8:5-15 – The Lord said this parable: “A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold.”

And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience.” As he said these things, he cried out “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

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."

* * *
"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.

* * *
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. ...

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 55 on Matthew 16, 1. B#54, p.339,
4th Century
22nd Children’s AGAPE Foundation Annual Tea – You are cordially invited to attend the 22nd Annual Tea to benefit The Children’s AGAPE Foundation of the Greater Washington Area Philoptochos Societies (Helping Orthodox children with financial assistance for medical treatment) today Sunday, October 12, 2014, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Speaker: Prof. Peter Kokkinos. Topic: “Lifestyle Modifications for Better Health”. Location: Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 2747 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD 21401. Free admission and door prizes. Donations Welcome. For more information, please contact Stella Katcheves 410-268-8404 or Evangeline Kokkinos 410-268-7639.

Adult Bible Study – Classes began September 21. This year, we will explore The Letters of Saint Paul. Classes are held every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. 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. All are welcome!

Food Pantry – Our next food pantry collection will be on Sunday, October 19, 2015. We have handed out cloth bags for the food collection after church on Sunday, October 5 and October 12. Please use the cloth bags, since paper bags tend to tear. Please bring the food only on Sunday, October 19. Please be generous. The last three collections, we donated more than 1000 lbs. of food each time. Let’s not break our streak!

FAMILY FUN is back with FAMILY FUN DAY! Join us next Sunday, October 19 from 1-5pm for a fun-filled carnival-inspired afternoon complete with catered lunch, magic show, balloon twisting, games activities and much more! Buy tickets online at www.degereeks.com by 10/12 to receive the early bird price – adults $25, children $10, kids age 5 and under free. Don’t forget to enter our raffle for a chance to win amazing prizes, including electronics, merchandise, gift certificates, and big ticket items (1for $5, 3 for $10, 7 for $20). Raffle tickets can be purchased from any PAIDEIA family or staff. FAMILY FUN DAY is organized by The PAIDEIA Preschool with proceeds benefiting The Hellenic Education Center. Get ready for some FUN!

Kenya Short Term Missionary – Mary VanMullekom one of our Saint Katherine parishioners, has been chosen by the OCMC for a short term teaching team to Kenya. Mary and her team will be in Kenya from October 27 to November 8, 2014. The Team will minister in Nairobi, the hub of the Orthodox Church of Kenya, to the students of the Makarios III Seminary, the Orthodox Teachers College of Africa and the Saint Clement of Alexandria School by leading classes, tutoring students and teaching the English language. Please keep Mary and her team in your prayers. Contributions can be sent to Saint Katherine and on the memo line, specify, Mary VanMullekom.

General Assembly Meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lecture Room of the Education Center (downstairs).

Save the Date - Saint Katherine Annual Dinner Gala - November 9, 2014 - Hilton McLean Tysons Corner.

Many thanks to all of our parishioners who helped prior and during the Festival or gave donations and made the Fall Festival a success! May God bless you all!
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 δέχθηκε τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίες του Νώε και του Αβραάμ, το θυμίαμα του Ααρών και του Ζαχαρία, ας δέχθεις 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.

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