Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, October 14, 2012
Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

Nazarius, Gervasius, Protasius & Celsus of Milan
Cosmas the Hagiopolite
Praised Ignatius, Archbishop of Methymna
Righteous Paraskeve of Serbia
Justinian the Emperor and his wife Theodora
Panteleimon the New Martyr of Asia Minor

Apolytikion of the Day (Second Tone)

When You descended to death, O Immortal Life, then, the light of Your divinity destroyed Hades. When You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out, "Glory to You our Christ, the Giver of Life."

Ὅτε κατῆλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ Ζωή ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἁδην ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος, ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πάσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον·Ζωοδότα Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion of the Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

Most glorified art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast established our Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to Thee.

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 Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιού χον 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.
Epistle Reading

St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15 - TITUS, my son, the saying is sure. 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, have nothing more to do with him, 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 greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Luke 8:5-15 - Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council - 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 He signifies also that the error comes after the truth, which the actual event testifies. For so after the prophets, were the false prophets; and after the apostles, the false apostles; and after Christ, Antichrist. For unless the devil sees what to imitate, or against whom to plot, he neither attempts, nor knows how.

* * *

So here again sleep occasions our ruin; so that there is need of continual watchfulness. Wherefore He also said, "He that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved."

St. John Chrysostom, Homily 46 on Mathew 13
4th Century

Lives of the Saints

Saint Cosmas the Hagiopolite

Saint Cosmas was from the Holy City, Jerusalem, and was a contemporary and peer of Saint John of Damascus (Dec. 4), with whom also he was reared when, because of his orphanhood he was adopted by Sergius, Saint John's father, and with whom he had the same instructor. About the year 743, he was elected Bishop of Maiuma, a coastal city of Palestine, aforetime under the jurisdiction of Gaza, with the name Port Gaza. During the reign of Saint Constantine the Great, it became a separate township and at that time was renamed Constantia, after Constantine, the son of the Emperor. Cosmas became an excellent hymnographer, from whence he is called "the Composer and Melodist," Among his many compositions are the Canon of the Cross (Sept. 14) and the Canon for the Nativity of Christ, "Christ is born, give ye glory." (As space permits in future Bulletins, we will feature stories on lives of Saints being commemorated that week.)
Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a way of life, which acknowledges accountability, reverence, and responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote spiritual growth and strengthen faith. Becoming a Steward begins when we believe in God, to whom we give our love, loyalty and trust and act on those beliefs. As Stewards, we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from Him. Stewardship calls on the faithful to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts with which they have been blessed.

Stewardship Sunday is October 28...please reflect on your blessings in preparation for this date. We are honored to have Bill Marianes deliver the homily and address the Adult Catechism Class on this day.

Memorial Services are offered this morning for John Tsemplae and Katherine Vlahos, brother and godmother of Mr. George Tsemplae; and for Nausika Vovalous, mother of Sakellarios Vovalous and Helen Forte. May their memory be eternal! Coffee Hour is sponsored by the Tsemplae and Vovalous families in memory of their loved ones.

Catechetical (Sunday) School – We begin music for the first through sixth grades today. Music begins at 9:35 a.m. and ends at 10:05 a.m. and occurs downstairs in the music room across from the board room.

The Philoptochos Agape Foundation Tea will take place this year at Saint Sophia’s Cathedral, Washington, DC, on Saturday, November 3rd, 2012, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. All ladies are invited to attend. On Sunday, November 4th, our Philoptochos will pass a second tray during both Liturgies on the feastday of Saints Cosmas and Damianos (November 1st), their patron Saints. All proceeds will benefit our Patriarchate in Constantinople. The coffee hour will be sponsored by our Philoptochos.

JOY and HOPE families (children age 5-12) – Please join us for a family picnic and outdoor fun and hiking, on Sunday, October 28, from 12:00-5:00 p.m. at Sky Meadows State Park. Hot dogs and burgers will be served from 12:30-2:30 p.m. at a reserved picnic shelter at this beautiful park located 1 hour west of church near Delaplane, VA. RSVP to John and Elena Ziu at eziu@cox.net. Please join us!

The Daughters of Penelope Helle Chapter #238 is sponsoring a drive for new winter jackets for abused and homeless children. Last year, 150 jackets were donated to needy children. This year, there will be a box and an Angel Tree in the foyer of the Meletis Charuhas Center from October 21st – November 11th. Please “Be an Angel and Pick Out an Angel!” Jackets can be dropped off on Sundays. Checks payable to Helle Chapter #238 are also welcomed. Thanks for your support!

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

AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce the arrival of 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 with record sales during our recent festival! This stunning three-dimensional ornament is entitled “Snowflakes from Mt. Athos” and depicts the Byzantine Eagle among 25 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 – an ideal stocking stuffer. Ornaments are available for sale after Liturgies. Supplies are limited...start your Christmas shopping early! Contact antovi@verizon.net or call 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 – 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.

Church Services

Wednesday, October 18  Saint Luke the Evangelist
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, October 21  Sixth Sunday of Luke
Divine Liturgy 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.; Orthros and Catechetical School 9:30 a.m.

Friday, October 26  Saint Demetrios, the Great Martyr
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, October 28  Seventh Sunday of Luke (Stewardship Sunday)
Divine Liturgy 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.; Orthros and Catechetical School 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, November 4  Fifth Sunday of Luke
Divine Liturgy 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.; Orthros and Catechetical School 9:30 a.m.

Sacraments

Congratulations to Chad and Jessica Gorman on the baptism of their daughter Isabella Mackenzie on October 14, 2012; and to Tasos and Natalie Sgardelis on the baptism of their daughter Dimitra Alexia on October 14, 2012.

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.

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