Apolytikion of the Day (1st Plagios Tone)

Let us worship the Word who is unoriginated with the Father and the Spirit, and from a Virgin was born for our salvation, O believers, and let us sing His praise. For in His goodness He was pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, and to undergo death, and to raise those who had died, by His glorious Resurrection.

Τον συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρί και Πνεύματι, τον εκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ανυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ και προσκυνήσωμεν. Ὅτι ᾄδηκε σαρκί, ἀνελθείν εν τῷ σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομείναι, καὶ εγείραι τοὺς τεθνεότας, εν τῇ ενδόξῳ Αναστάσει αυτοῦ.

Apolytikion of Saint Katherine the Great Martyr (1st 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 πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημῶν και αντίληψιν, ὅτι εφίμωσε λαμπρῶς, τοὺς κομψοὺς τῶν ασεβῶν, τοῦ Πνεύματος τῇ δυνάμει. Καὶ ως μάρτυς τοῦ Κυρίου στεφθείσα, αἰτείται πάσι, τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Tone)

The very purest abode of the Savior, the most priceless Bridal Chamber and Virgin, the most sacred treasury of the glory of God, today is led inside of, the house of the Lord, the grace bringing in with her of the Holy Spirit. It is her God’s Angels sing in praise. She is in truth, a tabernacle heavenly.

Ὁ καθαρώτατος ναὸς τοῦ Σωτήρος, η πολυτίμητος παστάς καὶ Παρθένος, το ιερὸν θησαῦρισμα τῆς δόξης του Θεοῦ, σήμερον εἰσάγεται, εν τῷ οἶκῳ Κυρίου, τὴν χάριν συνεισάγουσα, τὴν εν Πνεύματι θεῶ. Ην ανυμνούσιν Ἀγγελοί Θεοῦ. Αὐτή υπάρχει, σκηνὴ επουράνιος.
**Epistle Reading**

*O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.*

*To You, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.*

*The reading is from Saint Paul’s Letter to the Galatians.*

Galatians 6:11-18 – Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and not only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in our flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God.

Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

**Gospel Reading**

Luke 18:18-27 – At that time, a ruler came to Jesus and asked him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and your mother.’” And he said, “All these I have observed from my youth.” And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” But he said, “What is impossible with men is possible with God.”

**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 to address them first.

St. John Chrysostom, *Homily 18 on Matthew 5, 4th Century*

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St. Katherine is proud to be a Project Mexico Santa’s Helper this year. I need your help in raising funds to cover Ivan’s wish list this year. Please make your checks payable to St. Katherine with Project Mexico in the memo column. If you have any questions please email rayvazquez1@aol.com.

The National Hellenic Museum – Ms. Connie Mourtoupalas, President of the National Hellenic Museum (NHM) in Chicago, Illinois, will make a presentation on **Thursday, December 5, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.** in Founder’s Hall at St. Katherine. The National Hellenic Museum’s Oral History Project is coming to DC. The project is designed to preserve the history of the Greeks of America by collecting the recorded interviews and memoirs of individuals and/or groups. Persons of Greek descent are eligible to provide an oral history and anyone interested in contributing to this most valuable project can do so by scheduling an interview. Recording will be done on Thursday, December 5, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday, December 6, 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at our Community Center. To reserve a time, please call the Church Office at (703) 671-1515.
Announcements

**Philoptochos Christmas Bake Sale** – Sunday, December 15 and 22, 2013 immediately following the Divine Liturgies. Half trays of Spanakopita are available for sale for $25.00. The trays are uncooked and frozen. If you would like to buy a tray, please contact Mary Varlas at (703) 965-4161 or email at Mary.Varlas@yahoo.com. We will be baking *Tsoureki* and *Vasilopites* for Christmas Bake Sale on Tuesday, December 3, at 10:00 a.m.

**General Assembly Meeting** has been rescheduled for this evening following the Great Vespers for St. Katherine and the Philoptochos reception at approximately 8:30 p.m.

**AHEPA Christmas Ornaments** – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce orders are now being taken for our Sixth Annual Community Christmas Ornament. These collectable ornaments have grown in popularity from year to year and we are extremely proud of this year’s offering. This stunning three-dimensional ornament is entitled “Star of Saint Katherine” and is a testament to the indomitable spirit of our community, its ministries and those who lovingly labor in its behalf. 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 be available for sale after Liturgies during coffee hour. Please place your order after Liturgy beginning, or by sending requests to antovi@verizon.net or by calling 703-929-6110.

**The Daughters of Penelope** are collecting new or in like-new condition winter jackets for infants and toddlers and warm hooded sweatshirts for teens that will be donated to Alternative House and homeless shelters. Male and female infant and toddler jackets are specifically needed in the following quantities and sizes: (10) each 2-4T; (10) each 18-24M; (5) each 12-18M, 9-12M, 6-9M, 3-6M, and Newborn. Hoodies are needed for boys and girls size 4-16, and for male and female teens size Small to X-Large to Adult sizes. Please drop donations in the box labeled DOP in the hall entrance. Monetary donations may be made payable to Daughters of Penelope and mailed to Kathy Cavallo, 6190 Fred’s Oak Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039. Thank you for your generous support!

“It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20-35). Beginning today, November 3, the Sunday school is commencing a canned and boxed dry food drive to give to the adult Homeless Shelter in Falls Church for Thanksgiving. Through November 24th, please have your child bring either canned or boxed dry foods that were recently purchased. Thank you.

**Christmas Caroling** – The Greek School and the Paideia Preschool students of our community will do Christmas caroling on Saturday, December 7 at 11:30 a.m. and on Saturday, December 21 at 5:00 p.m. If you would like the children to do Christmas caroling at your home or business, please contact Martha Lampros, P.T.O. President, at mmlampros@msn.com.

**2013 Christmas Card** – You are invited to participate in the annual Christmas card of our parish. Our community Christmas card brings us together as a family, expressing our prayers and love to all of our brothers and sisters. Donation is $25.00. Please make checks payable to St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church. Deadline for participating is Monday, December 2, 2013. See enclosed letter.

**The Cretan Association of Greater Washington, DC** – December 2013 marks the 100 years of the unification of Crete with Greece. Our Chapter has arranged the presentation of a play by the “Theater of Crete” company that commemorates that anniversary. The play will be performed on Sunday, December 8, at 5:30 p.m. at St. Katherine’s. While the event is free, a $10.00 donation is suggested. Due to space limitation, please secure your seat by December 1st by contacting Manos Coutoulakis at (301) 610-7892 or coutoulakis@yahoo.com.

**Christmas Pageant** will be on Sunday, December 15, 2013 at 12:30 p.m.

Χρόνια Πολλά for Saint Katherine’s Feast Day! Happy Thanksgiving!
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, ὃς δέχθηκες τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίας 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.