Sunday, November 25, 2012

13th Sunday of Luke

Apodosis of the Entrance of the Theotokos
Saint Katherine the Great Martyr
Saint Mercurios the Great Martyr
Αγίας Αικατερίνης Μεγαλομάρτυρος
Αγίου Μερκουρίου Μεγαλομάρτυρος

Apolytikion of the Day (4th Plagios Tone)

Εξ ύψους κατήλθες ο εύσπλαχνος, ταφήν κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ίνα ημᾶς ελευθερώσης των παθών. Η ζωή και η ανάστασις ημῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

You descended from on high O compassionate One, and condescended to be buried for three days, so that from the passions You might set us free. Our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory be to You.

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

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.

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 (4th Tone)

Ο καθαρώτατος ναούς του Σωτήρος, η πολυτίμητος παστάς και Παρθένος, το ιερόν θησαύρισμα της δόξης του Θεού, σήμερον εισάγεται, εν τω οίκω Κυρίου, την χάριν συνεισάγουσα, την εν Πνεύματι θείω. Ην ανυμνούσιν Άγγελοι Θεού. Αύτη υπάρχει, σκηνή επουράνιος.

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.
Epistle Reading

God is wonderful among his saints.
Bless God in the congregations.
The reading is from Saint Paul’s Letter to the Galatians.

Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-5 – Brethren, before faith came, we were confined under the law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

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 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.”

***

Prayer as an Important Aspect of our Spiritual Life

Saint John Chrysostom, commenting of prayer before and after meals, notes that among the reason for these prayers are the following: that we also remember the nourishment of the soul: that we avoid intoxication and over-indulgence; that we develop the discernment of moderation; and that we express our gratitude to God for his gifts.

At prescribed times the Church gathers in common prayer and worship. The prayers of many faithful who have gathered are more readily received and heard by God he is particularly attentive to such petitions. To help us receive the full benefit of ecclesiastical gatherings let us pay close attention to these words of St. Symeon the New Theologian.

“Stand in church as if you are in heaven together with the angels, and consider yourself unworthy to be praying together with your brothers. And be vigilant not be looking back and forth to observe the brothers and sisters, how they are standing or chanting, but observe only yourself, your chanting and your sins.”
Trisagio Prayers are offered this morning for James Poulos, brother of Mr. Pete Poulos; for Cynthia Cuzmanes, niece of Mrs. Irene Moshos; for Michael and Catherine Kakadelis, brother-in-law and sister of Mrs. Irene Moshos; and for John Vlachos, father of Marie Weidman. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the Saint Katherine’s Ladies Philoptochos on the occasion of the Feast day of our patron saint, Saint Katherine the Great Martyr! Χρόνια Πολλά!

Orthodoxy 101 – Six sessions covering the fundamental teaching of the Orthodox Church. These classes provide a friendly and open forum for your questions and concerns on Sundays, November 4 - December 16 (no session 11-25), 9:30-10:30 a.m. in our community center. Contact Fr. Costas, frcostas@stkchurch.com.

Sacraments – Congratulations to Clifford and Ana Rold on the baptism of their daughter Gabriella Patricia, November 25, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.; and to Angelo and Eleni Linardakis on the baptism of their daughter Maria Eleni, November 25, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

The Daughters of Penelope and St. Katherine’s Ladies Philoptochos will host a Christmas Luncheon Sunday, December 2, 2012 at 12:30 p.m. at the Westwood Country Club, Vienna, VA. Cost is $40/adults, $20/children 10 and under. Special Christmas chorale performance and annual charity raffle featured. RSVP to Kathy Anitole-Misleh at (703) 448-0296.

AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce the arrival of our Fifth Annual Community Christmas Ornament. 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. 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.

2012 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 Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church. Deadline for participating is Monday, December 3, 2012.

Junior Choir – Saint Katherine is in the process of starting up a Junior Choir around the beginning of 2013. If anyone is interested in enrolling their children in the Junior Choir, please contact John Doulis at jdoulis@aol.com. Please see the next edition of the DOXA for more information.

St. Katherine Philoptochos Christmas Bake Sale – December 9 and 16 (after Liturgy). Please order your Vasilopita by Sunday, December 2 for pick up December 30. Order forms are available in the Narthex or you may call Elvira Garnett at (703) 425-3675 or Andrea Ballard at (703) 250-5419 to place your order.

Diaper Collection for Area Food Pantries – We will be collecting diapers on Sunday, December 9, 2012 for the area food pantries. Federal food stamps cannot be used to buy diapers, so this is a great help to mothers with infants. Collections will take place in the foyer of our Community Center. Please bring unopened packages of sizes newborn to 6. No pull ups please. The diapers will be distributed to several area food pantries.

Χρόνια Πολλά for Saint Katherine’s Feast Day!
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, ὅπως δέχθηκες τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίες του Νώε και του Αβραάμ, το θυμίαμα του Ααρών και του Ζαχαρία, ας δέχθηκε 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 ἔλεος και την φιλανθρωπία του μονογενοῦς Σου Υιοῦ. Ευλογημένο να είναι τὸ όνομά Σου εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Αμήν.

Church Services

Sunday, December 2
14th Sunday of Luke – ΙΔ΄ Κυριακή Λουκᾶ
Habakkuk the Prophet and Cyril of Phileous
Αββακούμ του Προφήτου και Κυρίλλου Φιλεώτου
1st Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Orthros, Youth and Adult Catechism, 9:30 a.m.
2nd Divine Liturgy, 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 6
St. Nicholas the Wonderworker & St. Nicholas the New Martyr
Αγ. Νικολάου του Θαυματουργού & Αγ. Νικολάου Νεομάρτυρος
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Church Organizations

Acolyte Captains – A. Galatis, N. Issa and D. McKinney
Protos-Psalter – James Loizou (703) 356-8220
Choir Director – John Doulis (703) 670-4386
Catechetical School – Christian Demeter (703) 534-5669
Greek School – Sophia Tsangali (703) 671-5820
Paideia Preschool – Pantelis Psoras (301) 762-1478
Philoptochos – Eleni Kanakos (703) 938-8360
YAL President – TBD
GOYA President – Tiffani Wills (703) 948-7950
JOY – Tina Papamichael (703) 536-4711
HOPE – Toula Christou (703) 533-0055