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 φυλασσόντων το άχραντόν Σου σώμα, ανέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τω κόσμω την ζωήν. Διά τούτο αι δυνάμεις των ουρανών εβόων σου Ζωοδότα. Δόξα τη αναστάσει Σου Χριστέ, δόξα τη βασιλεία Σου, δόξα τη οικονομία 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 αντιληπτήν. Ότι εφίμωσε λαμπράς, τους καμψότας των ασεβών, του Πνεύματον τη δυνάμει. Και νως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα έλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Tone)

Today the Virgin comes, unto a Cave, to give birth ineffably to the Word pre-eternal. Hearing this, be of good cheer, all earth and its people; glorify Him, with the Angels and the Shepherds, whose will was to be made, manifest as a young child, the pre-eternal God.

Η Παρθένος σήμερον, τον προαιώνιον Λόγον, εν Σπηλαίω έρχεται, αποτεκείν απορρήτως. Χόρευε, η οικουμένη ακουσθείσα. Δόξασον, μετά Αγγέλων και των Ποιμένων, βοηθήθηντα επορφήναι, παιδίον νέον, τον προ αιώνων Θεόν.
Epistle Reading

Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.
The reading is from Saint Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians.

Ephesians 5:8-19 – Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said,

“Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead,
and Christ shall give you light.”

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:10-17 – At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your infirmity.” And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.” Then the Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?” As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

The Philoptochos and the Daughters of Penelope are once again collecting winter coats/jackets for homeless and abused children. The angel tree will be in the foyer of the Meletis-Charuhas Center every Sunday till today December 7, 2014. We will have a box for the collection. Coats/jackets will be collected through today Sunday, December 7, 2014. The coats and jackets will be delivered the week of December 8, 2014 to local area shelters. Thank you for your support!

Parish Council Elections will be held next Sunday, December 14, 2014 following the Divine Liturgies and until 3:00 p.m. in the Meletis Charuhas Center. The following members are eligible and have agreed to run for the years 2015-2016. Kelly Alexis, Peter Karounos, Nick Larigakis, Mallamo Mavromatakis, Bill Polizos, Dr. Jerry Rich, Maria Vargas and Mary Varlas. Good luck to you!
A Second Tray will be passed this morning by our Ladies Philoptochos at both Liturgies. All proceeds will benefit our Patriarchate in Constantinople.

Philoptochos Christmas Bake Sale – December 14 and 21, 9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-12:30 a.m. following church services at the Educational Center. Please buy your Christmas sweets: koulourakia $8/dozen, kourambiehes $16/dozen, melomakarona $16/dozen, diples $20/4-jumbo, baklava $18/6pieces, kataifi $18/6pieces, spanakopita $24/dozen, and tiropita 24/dozen. Please make checks to: Saint Katherine Ladies Philoptochos and mail to: Saint Katherine Philoptochos, 3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church, VA 22041. Order forms are available in the narthex. To order, please email lpbakesale@yahoo.com or call Mary Varlas at (703) 965-4161. No credit cards are accepted.

Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon and Fashion Show – Next Sunday, December 14 at the River Bend Country Club, Great Falls, VA. For information and reservations please contact Trish Kapsidelis at (703) 356-5905 or Eleni Kanakos (703) 938-8360.

HOPE (The Holy Orthodox Primary Education) ministry is an opportunity for children (ages 7 and under) to meet, socialize and interact with one another. This morning, after the 2nd Liturgy in the Founder’s Hall, the activity will be Christmas Rotations including games and prizes for the children! Please contact Patricia Rader at pagrader@yahoo.com to register. For more information, see the HOPE announcement on the church’s home page, saint-katherine.org.

Our November 2nd YAL Retreat/Discussion has been rescheduled for today, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The retreat will take place in the Meletis Charuhas Center. There is no cost and lunch will be served during the retreat. The theme for this retreat will be: Is Orthodoxy Relevant in the 21st Century? Come and join us to find out how the faith of our Parents and Grandparents is still relevant 2000 years since the time of Christ. Please RSVP by completing the registration form and for further questions contact Father Panagiotis: frphanley@stkchurch.com and/or 571-421-6595. Please support the Saint Katherine YAL and come together in fellowship with your peers by attending.

2014 Community 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 tomorrow Monday, December 8, 2014. Forms are available at the pangari.

The Women’s Book Club will meet on Wednesday, December 10, from 10:30 a.m. to noon to finish Father Arseny’s book and decide which new book to start in January, 2015.

Mission and Outreach Committee – We are pleased to report that our missionary to Kenya, Mary VanMullenkom recently returned from her mission in Nairobi, Kenya. She will make a report at our mission meeting this Tuesday, December 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the lower level of our Community Center. All are welcome to attend.

The Diaper Collection finishes today and the diapers will be delivered to three local charities for distribution. Thanks to all who contributed.

The items for the Hygiene and Survival Kits for the Bailey’s Crossroads Shelter are still being collected. The kits will be assembled next Sunday, December 14th by our Sunday School Children after the second Liturgy. If you haven’t turned in your items yet, please do so this week.
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 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

Church Organizations

Acolyte Captains – Anastasios Galatis & Daniel McKinney
Protos-Psalter – James Loizou 703-356-8220
Choir Director – John Doulis 703-670-4386
Catechetical School – George Charuhas 703-999-2109
Hellenic Education Center – Eleni Alexopoulou 703-671-7715

Philoptochos President – Eleni Kanakos 703-938-8360
YAL President – Olivia Carr 401-633-2072
GOYA President – Demetrios Karounos 703-321-3009
JOY – Toula Christou 703-533-0055
HOPE – Vaitza Bousbouras vsbousbouras@yahoo.com

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