Sunday, December 8, 2019
10th Sunday of Luke

Forefeast Conception of Theotokos
St. Patapios of Thebes

Apolytikion of the Day (4th Plagal Tone)

From on high You descended, Most Merciful; for us You condescended to a three-day burial to set us free from the passions. O Lord, our Resurrection and our life, glory to You!

Εξ ύψους κατήλθες ο εύσπλαγχνος, ταφήν κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ίνα ημάς ελευθερώσης των παθών. Η ζωή και η ανάστασις ημών, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

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

Let us praise the all lauded and noble bride of Christ, the godly Katherine, the guardian of Sinai and its defense, who is also our support, assistance and our help; for with the Holy Spirit's sword she hath silenced brilliantly the clever among the godless; and being crowned as a Martyr, she now does ask great mercy for us all.

Την πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστού υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημών και αντίληψιν. Ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και νυν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα έλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Tone)

On this day the Virgin comes unto the cave to give birth there to the Word before all time: beyond all words is this wonder! Dance with joy, all of creation, hearing these tidings. Glorify, along with angels and with the shepherds, him who willingly appears as a newborn baby, yet he is God before time.

Η Παρθένος σήμερον, τον προαιώνιον Λόγον, εν Σπηλαίω έρχεται, αποτεκείν απορρήτως. Χόρευε, η οικούμενη ακουτισθείσα. Δόξασον, μετά Αγγέλων και των Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα εποφθήναι, παιδίον νέον, τον προ αιώνων Θεόν.
Epistle Reading

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.

The reading is from St. Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians.

Ephesians 4:1-7 – Brethren, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

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 donkey 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.

2019 Parish Council Elections – This morning, in the Meletis Charuhas Center immediately following the Divine Liturgies until 3:00 p.m. The candidates, in alphabetical order, are the following: Andrea Ballard, Domenic Carr, Bobby Demson, Costas Mavromatakis, Dean Metropoulos, Bill Polizos, Chris Snear, Craig N. Thomas, Steve Veletsis, Maria Wills, and Andreas Xenos. You can vote for the ones you want, but no more than ten. Eligibility of voting: Members whose stewardship for 2019 has been paid by the Election Day; new members who have enrolled by September 8, 2019; and, family stewardship is allowed two votes. Each spouse must cast his/her own vote. Members serve for two years. Good luck!

Sunday School students along with the St. Katherine choir will present the nativity of our Lord according to Saint Luke on Sunday December 15, after the second liturgy.

Adult Bible Class - Classes are held every Sunday at 9:30am in the board room of the Meletis Charuhas Center. Join us each Sunday to learn more about our faith. “A Journey through the Orthodox Faith Guided by the Words of the Bible”. This year’s topic: The Gospel of Luke. For more information or questions, please contact Bill Polizos at 571-434-7790 or polizos@att.com. Everyone is welcome!

Journey to Orthodoxy – The “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults meets 9:30am-10:30am Sunday, before Liturgy, (concurrently with the Sunday School). The class is designed for non-Orthodox inquirers into Orthodoxy as well as for Orthodox Christians who want to know more about the teachings, practices, history, and contemporary life of our Orthodox faith. It is also recommended for intending or newly married couples where one spouse is not Orthodox. The class is held in an informal discussion format. Text is provided. We meet in the Seniors’ Kentro room on the ground floor of Founders’ Hall. For further information, please contact the teachers, Dr. John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com or Mr. Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com, 202-375-1007.

"AHEPA – The brothers will be selling their Christmas Ornaments every Sunday after the second Liturgy till Christmas. Great for stocking stuffers, please stop by and check them out. The proceeds will be used to finance their charities.”

PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation – We are pleased to share with you that the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation will once again offer $250,000 in scholarship awards to 40 exceptional Greek American undergraduates. The application is currently on our website, panhellenicsf.org, and the deadline to apply is Friday, January 31, 2020. The scholarships will be distributed at our Awards Ceremony and Gala, which will be held on Saturday, June 13, 2020.
Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by our Ladies Philoptochos.

General Philoptochos meeting will take place on Sunday December 8th in the boardroom.

Sunday, January 12th, the Ladies Philoptochos will be packaging 25,000 dry meals, after the end of the second Liturgy. About 100 volunteers are needed for about 3 1/2 hours. Please email mary.varlas@yahoo.com or call 703-965-4161. **Sunday, December 15th and 22nd**, bake sale will start after the 2nd Liturgy. Please call Mary Varlas at 703-965-4161 or email lpbakesale@yahoo.com. **The Ladies Philoptochos Cookbooks** are still on sale for $25.00. They make a great Christmas and bridal shower presents. Pick them up at coffee hour, after the second Liturgy.

GOYA – Today is Youth Sunday and meeting after church. A big thanks to all the GOYAns and parents who participated in our Christmas party. All are welcome to participate in the Christmas bag distribution project for the homeless. Upcoming events: Christmas Bag Preparation 12/23 and Distribution 12/25. New GOYA email SaintKatherineGOYA@stkchurch.com.

Catechetical Lectures of Saint Cyril of Jerusalem – A Greek Bible Study led by Professor Ioannis Gkigkitzis. The Adult Catechism and Sacraments class “Catechetical Lecture of Saint Cyril” is taking place every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. This includes time for discussion and fellowship.

Saint Genevieve Book Club meets the last Sunday of each month following the second Divine Liturgy. If you would like to be included on our mailing list, please email victoriacherpes@gmail.com.

Security Announcement – Please be aware that scammers and cybercriminals may be sending you emails and text messages acting like Father Costa or a member of the Parish Council asking you for money or assistance. Neither Father or a Parish Council Member will send you a direct email requesting money or assistance. These messages are frauds. Do not click or respond to these messages. If you have any questions, please contact Sophia Tsangali at 703-671-1515.

Church Playroom – Parents please accompany your children in the playroom downstairs. Regardless of age, all children in the playroom must be supervised by a Parent at all times.

Attention Parishioners! When attending church services and events at our church, kindly please park your car properly within the designated parking space lines in the parking lot. This will prevent loss of a space for someone else to park their car. Thank you!

Stewardship Table – Please stop by the stewardship table and update your email on record. We are transitioning to mailing statements to save $2,000 in mailing costs. Thank you!

2019 Community Christmas Card – You are invited to participate in the Annual Christmas Card of our parish. It will be mailed by the Church Office to everyone on our mailing list, and your donation is only $25.00. Checks must be payable to *St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church*. Please send your name, as you wish it to appear in the Card, English of Greek, to the Church Office, no later than Monday, December 9, 2019. *Pick up a form from the pangari.* Thank you!

Culmore Clinic, an interfaith non-profit medical clinic serving uninsured adults, is seeking a full time executive director to lead the organization through exciting growth and change. The ideal candidate will be an experienced manager with significant development experience. Please email search@culmoreclinic.org for the full position announcement and salary/benefit details.

**FOOD PANTRY** – In keeping with our Christmas tradition of helping others in need, on Sunday, Dec. 15 we will be collecting food for the local Food Pantry located at the Columbia Baptist Church near St. Katherine. Please return the food to the foyer of our community center. Please place food items in the blue cloth bags that we will hand out on today. The blue cloth bags will be handed out in the foyer of our community center. Food items can include: canned fruit, soup, and canned pasta, cereal/cereal bars, peanut butter, rice, spaghetti/pasta sauce, chili, canned tomatoes, tuna, canned beans, canned vegetables and macaroni & cheese. If you are unable to fill a bag, write a check to “Columbia Baptist Church” with “Food Pantry in the corner and give it to one of the food pantry volunteers. Thank you!

**Sunday School** – Students will assemble packages after the 2nd Divine Liturgy.
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 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.