Apolytikion of the Day (1st Tone)

Savior, Your tomb was sealed with a stone. Soldiers kept watch over Your sacred body. Yet, You rose on the third day giving life to the world. Wherefore the powers of heaven cried out, O Giver of Life, glory to Your Resurrection O Christ; glory to Your Kingdom, glory to Your dispensation who alone are the Loving One.

Του λίγου σφραγισθέντος υπο των Ιουδαίων και στρατιωτών φυλασσόντων το ἁρχαντὸν Σου σώμα, ανέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τω κόσμω την ζωήν. Διὰ τούτο αἱ δυνάμεις των ουρανών εβόων σοι σοι ζωοδότα. Δόξα τη αναστάσει Σου Χριστέ, δόξα τη βασιλεία Σου, δόξα τη οικονομία Σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

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 λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβῶν, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και ως μάρτυς του Κυρίου στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι, το μέγα ἐλεος.

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 Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, αποτεκείν απορρήτως. Χόρευε, η οικουμένη ακουτισθείσα. Δόξασον, μετά Αγγέλων και των Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα εποφθήναι, παιδίον νέον, τον προ αἰώνων Θεόν.
Epistle Reading

O Lord, how magnificent are your works.
You have made all things in wisdom.
Bless the Lord, O my soul.
The reading is from Paul’s Letter to the Colossians.

Colossians 3:4-11 – Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you; fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sins of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

Gospel Reading

Luke 14:16-24 – 11th Sunday of Luke - The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

Parish e-mail list – Please subscribe to our Church’s e-mail list. Simply go to our newly redesigned web site at www.saint-katherines.org and click on Join our Email List at the top of the page. We will use this list to communicate more efficiently with you. You can send feedback to webmaster@stkchurch.com. We have more exciting things to come – check back.

The Orthodox Christian Mission Center has announced their 2012 Mission Team opportunities. These short-term mission trips offer evangelism, health care, construction, catechism, and/or youth ministry in eight foreign countries: Mongolia, Kenya, Uganda, Guatemala, Moldova, Romania, Tanzania, South Korea, and Alaska in the U.S. More information is available at www.OCMC.org or contact Gregory McKinney at (571) 338-6929.
**Announcements**

**Christmas Pageant** will be held following the Liturgy at approximately 12:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Coffee Hour** is sponsored this morning by the Parents of the Sunday School and Greek School children. Thank you!

**Parish Council Elections – Congratulations** to Chris Christou, Arthur Dimopoulos, George Moshos, Dr. George Silis, Jim Stoucker, Pierre Tavoularis, and Daphne Vaccarello. God bless you!

**Christmas Caroling** – The students of the Greek School will be caroling this Christmas season at your homes or businesses on December 17 and 18. This is a wonderful way of giving joy to everyone. Please contact Elena Lagos at (703) 241-1176, pedakia@aol.com, or Sophia Tsangali at (703) 671-1515, tsangali@stkchurch.com to make your appointment.

**Philoptochos Bake Sale** will be held next Sunday, December 18, 2011. If you would like to preorder a Vasilopita, order forms are available in the Narthex or you may call Elvira Garnett (703) 425-3675 or Kathy Cavallo (703) 978-1539. Cost is $10 per 2 lb loaf. Orders must be received by December 12.

**AHEPA Christmas Ornaments** – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce the arrival of the Fourth Annual Community Christmas Ornament. These collectable ornaments have grown in popularity from year to year and this year's ornament is no exception! A stunning three-dimensional rendition of *The Star of Bethlehem* serves as the inspiration for our 2011 offering to the community – a perfect ornament for the Christmas season, depicting the divine light that served as a beacon to all mankind heralding the joy of the Nativity. Manufactured by the same firm that creates the famous White House Christmas ornaments, they make excellent gifts and are the ideal stocking stuffer.

**Countdown to New Year’s Eve with Kalomira** – Ring in the New Year with internationally known Greek American recording artist Kalomira performing LIVE for the first time in the Washington, DC area at the Melitas-Charuhas Center along with live music by ZEPHYROS! Purchase tickets after Liturgies in the community center or call 202-409-2302 for more information.

**The Ladies Philoptochos** will serve coffee and sweets after the Liturgy celebrating St. Spyridon on Monday, December 12. Also, the children of Paideia Preschool will treat us to some Greek Christmas carols. All are welcome.

**Many thanks** to all our parishioners who participated in our Community Christmas Card! Merry Christmas and many blessings to all!
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 δέχθηκε 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 δόρα 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 μόνογενος Σου Υιού. Ευλογημένο να είναι το όνομά Σου εις τον αιώνα. Αμήν.

Church Services

Monday, December 12 St. Spyridon the Wonderworker – Αγ. Σπυρίδωνος του Θαυματουργού
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 17 Challenge Liturgy at St. George, Bethesda, Maryland 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 18 Sunday before The Nativity – Κυριακή προ της Γέννησις του Χριστού
Divine Liturgy 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Orthros 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 25 The Nativity of Christ - Η κατά σάρκα Γέννησις του Ιησού Χριστού
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 1 St. Basil the Great – Αγ. Βασιλείου του Μεγάλου
Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Church Organizations

Acolyte Captains – Anastasios Galatis
Protos-Psalter – James Loizou (703) 356-8220
Choir Director – John Doulis (703) 780-0560
Catechetical School – Christian Demeter (703) 534-5669
Greek School – Sophia Tsangali (703) 671-5820
Paideia Preschool – Maria Papathanassiou (703) 527-0942

Philoptochos – Andrea Ballard (703) 250-5419
YAL President – Contact Father Costas
GOYA President – Tiffani Wills (703) 948-7950
JOY – Tina Papamichael (703) 536-4711
HOPE – Kelly Alexis (703) 909-2256

Please visit our website at:
www.saint-katherines.org
Facebook: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church