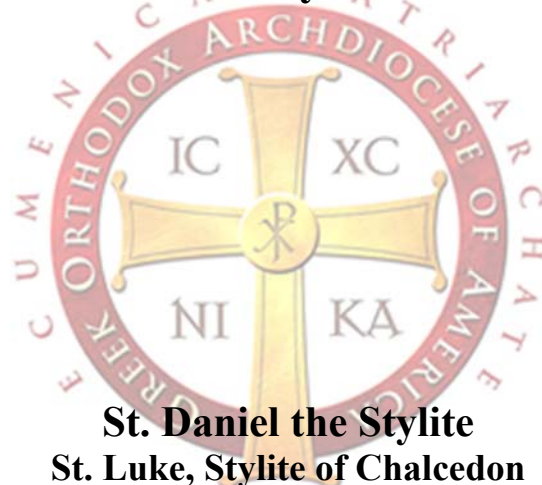


Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, December 11, 2016

11th Sunday of Luke



St. Daniel the Stylite

St. Luke, Stylite of Chalcedon

Apolytikion of the Day (4th Plagal Tone)

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες ὁ εὐσπλαγχνος, ταφὴν καταδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσης τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

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.

Τὴν πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν τὴν θεῖαν καὶ πολιούχον Σινά, τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν καὶ ἀντίληψιν. Ὅτι ἐφίμωσε λαμπρῶς, τοὺς κομψοὺς τῶν ἀσεβῶν, τοῦ Πνεύματος τὴ δύναμι. Καὶ νυν ὡς Μάρτυς στεφθεῖσα, αἰτεῖται πάσι τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (3rd Tone)

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing * the gladsome tidings; * with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him * Who is willing to be gazed on * as a young Child Who * before the ages is God.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν Προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν.

Epistle Reading

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

For you are just in all you have done.

The reading is for Saint 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 sons 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 – 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.'"



AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce our 9th 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. Our latest limited edition ornament, entitled "*Santa's Sleigh*" is sure to delight young and old. They make excellent gifts and are the ideal stocking stuffer. **Ornaments are available for sale after Liturgy** during coffee hour. Please visit our table and make your purchases or sending requests to antovi@verizon.net or by calling 703-929-6110.

\$250,000.00 Scholarship Available for Greek American Undergraduates – The Pan Hellenic Scholarship Foundation will once again offer \$250,000.00 in scholarships awards to exceptional Greek American college students. For more information please see their website, www.panhellenicsf.org. If you are interested please contact Allie Clayman, scholarship coordinator, at (312)357-6432 (office) or (248) 495-3280 (cell). *Building a better America through Education and Hellenism.*

2016 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 for \$25.00. Please send your name, as you wish it to appear in the card, in English or Greek, to the Church Office no later than Monday, December 12. Thank you.

Announcements

This morning, we welcome Father Stefanos Alexopoulos' parents, Father Panagiotis and Presvytera Barbara Alexopoulos from Athens, Greece. We wish them, *Καλή διαμονή!*

Sunday School Christmas Pageant – Please join us for our special presentation of the “Nativity of Christ” this morning in the Chelpon Hall (Founders Hall) at 12:00 p.m. A reception will follow in the Meletis-Charuhas Hall. Also, this morning, the students of the Greek School will sing the traditional Christmas carols at the end of the Divine Liturgy in church. *Merry Christmas!*

Parish Council Elections this morning, following the Divine Liturgy till 3:00 p.m. at the Meletis Charuhas Center. The candidates are: **Tony Alexis, Mark Cherpes, Dr. John Demakis, Nicholas Larigakis, Mallamo Mavromatakis, Dr. Jerry Rich, Pierre Tavoularis, Maria Vargas, and John Ziu.** The elected candidates will serve for two years, 2017 and 2018. Good luck and may God bless them! We encourage you to come and vote, and be active members of our Parish.

Philoptochos Bake Sale for Christmas this morning and on next Sunday, December 18, following the Divine Liturgy.

Memorial Service Procedures – A Memorial Service requires a donation of \$175.00. Your sponsorship includes coffee set up, 100 koulourakia, 100 paximathia, putting koliva in cups and clean up after the event. Checks should be made out to: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church (please make payment in advance). Please remember to schedule the actual memorial service with the Church office.

Our Hellenic Education Center is seeking a Kindergarten teacher, a Preschool teacher and an Assistant Preschool teacher for 2016-2017. Please submit an updated CV to the HEC office at ealexopoulou@stkchurch.com.

Gentle Exercise Class – Reduce stress, lower blood pressure, gain flexibility, balance and circulation. Class includes deep breathing, stretching, balance, meditation and deep relaxation. Open to men and women of all ages and all fitness levels. 6 weeks for \$60, drop-in's \$12, payable to Saint Katherine. Every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m., in the Meletis Charuhas Center (foyer area). Bring an exercise mat, cushion and blanket. All interested please contact Tina Ligelis at (703) 845-0520 or LigelisCPA@aol.com.

Project Mexico 2017 – Our group registration for Home Building 2017 has been confirmed for **August 16-August 22** for 10 participants. If you are interested in going, please contact Bill or Eleni Porter at beporter1@verizon.net.

Journey to Orthodoxy – This is a reminder that the “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults meets 9:00-10:00 a.m. 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 Church. It is also recommended for intending or newly married couples, especially where one spouse is not Orthodox. The class is held in an informal discussion format. Text is provided. We meet at in the Seniors' Kentro room on the ground floor of Founders' Hall. For further information contact the teachers, John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com or Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com, (202) 375-1007.

Women's Book Club – Please join us on Wednesday, December 14th at 10:30 a.m. at the Meletis Charuhas Center in the room two doors from the church office. In December we begin reading “The Way of the Pilgrim”. The book is available for purchase on Amazon and the Church Bookstore. It's not too late to join the club. For further information contact Despina Raizes at 2draizes@gmail.com or (703) 216-8176.

Church Services

Monday, December 12	<i>St. Spyridon the Wonderworker</i> – Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, December 18	<i>Sunday before the Nativity</i> – Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Friday, December 23	<i>Orthros and Great Hours</i> 9:30 a.m.
Saturday, December 24	<i>Eve of the Nativity – Christmas Eve</i> – Vespertal Liturgy 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 25	<i>Holy Nativity – Christmas Day</i> – Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Services: Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Week Day Services: Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

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



METROPOLIS OF
NEW JERSEY

Church Organizations

Acolyte Captains – Nicholas Vazquez and Chad Veleziz
Protos-Psalter – James Loizou 703-356-8220
Choir Director – Nick Kyros (703) 981-2526
Catechetical School – Bill Porter 703-901-2404
Hellenic Education Center – Eleni Alexopoulou 703-674-7715

Philoptochos President – Eleni Kanakos 703-938-8360
YAL President – Faye Anson 703-437-5747
GOYA President – Panos Lagos 703-241-1176
JOY – Vaitsa Bousbouras, vsbousbouras@yahoo.com
HOPE – Doris Mentis, doris@alumni.virginia.edu



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Please visit our website at:

www.saint-katherines.org

Facebook: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church