



## *Epistle Reading*

*Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.  
For you are just in all you have done.  
The reading is from 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.'"



### **Seniors Κέντρο**

The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA chapter 438 is proud to announce the opening of the new community Seniors Κέντρο (Kentro) located on the ground floor of Founders Hall. Gather with friends, enjoy a cup of coffee while watching the news from Greece, spending some quiet time reading the paper, or enjoying each other's company/parea. Lectures, Bible Studies and presentations of health and wellness are also benefits that will be introduced as part of our Church's new Seniors Ministry.

The Seniors Kentro is carpeted and fully furnished, featuring a 60-inch flat screen television with satellite access to Greek network programming, and has a coffee bar. Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 3:00pm (the Seniors Kentro will open at noon when church services are scheduled). The room is also available to other groups by appointment through the Church Office.

**Philoptochos** – Do you know someone who lives alone, is lonely or needs help? Philoptochos would like your help in identifying these members of our church. We would like to visit them and during the holidays deliver Greek cookies. If you know someone, please call Kathy Cavallo, 571-284-7379. All information is confidential.

*Merry Christmas! Καλά Χριστούγεννα!*

## Announcements

**GOYA** – This morning Zoe Gould will read the Epistle in English in the hall during the Children’s Liturgy, and Sophia Pelekasis will read the Epistle in Greek in the church.

**Tray for GOYA’s Feed and Clothe the Homeless in DC on Christmas Day Ministry** – The proceeds from today’s second tray will be used to purchase items for GOYA’s “Feed and Clothe the Homeless in DC on Christmas Day” ministry. Please be generous. Thank you.

**Saint Katherine’s Christmas Pageant** will take place at 12:00 p.m. in the Meletis Charuhas Center. Please note, Sunday School will not begin at 9:00 a.m. The children will instead meet at 10:00 a.m. for a Children’s Divine Liturgy in the Meletis Charuhas Hall before preparing for the Pageant. Following the Christmas Pageant by the Sunday School students, the Greek School students will sing Christmas carols from different parts of Greece. A Christmas reception with sweets and refreshments will follow. Merry Christmas!

**Parish Council Elections for 2016** – This morning immediately following the Divine Liturgy until 3:00 p.m. in the Meletis Charuhas Center. The candidates are: **Chris Euripides, Rosemary Filou, Costas Mavromatakis, Jim Stoucker, and Maria Wills.** Five members will be elected. Members serve for two years. Eligibility of voting: 1. Members whose stewardship for 2015 has been paid by the Election Day. 2. New Members who have enrolled by September 13, 2015. 3. Family stewardship is allowed two votes. Each spouse must cast his/her own vote. Please come and vote and be active members of our parish.

**Philoptochos Christmas Bake Sale** this morning, immediately following the Divine Liturgy and next Sunday, December 20 in the Meletis Charuhas Center.

**AHEPA Christmas Ornaments** – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce our Eighth Annual Community Christmas Ornament is now available for purchase.



“Evzone

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 “**Evzone Snowman**” is a whimsical portrayal of a classic Christmas image with a Hellenic twist that is sure to delight young and old. Manufactured by the same firm that creates the famous White House Christmas ornaments, they make excellent gifts and are the ideal stocking stuffer. Ornaments will be available for sale after Liturgy during coffee hour while supplies last. Please make your purchases after Liturgy beginning **TODAY**, or by sending requests to [antovi@verizon.net](mailto:antovi@verizon.net) or by calling 703-929-6110.

**2015 Community Christmas Card** – You are invited to participate in the annual Christmas Card of our parish. It has been mailed by the Church Office to everyone on our mailing list for only \$25.00. Please give your name, as you wish it to appear in the card, in English or in Greek, and a check payable to *Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church*, to the Church Office no later than this morning, Sunday, December 13, 2015. Thank you!

**Sunday School is in need of a Kindergarten teacher.** Please contact either Vicki Mowery at ([mowerycrew@gamail.com](mailto:mowerycrew@gamail.com)) or Eleni Porter at ([beporter1@verizon.com](mailto:beporter1@verizon.com)), if you are interested. Please consider volunteering your time to teach our children about their Orthodox faith.

**The HOPE Ministry** – Let’s meet at the movies! Come and watch “*Norm of the North*” on Saturday, January 23, 2016 at Tysons Corner Center at about 3:00 p.m. (the exact movie time will be announced in early January). Please RSVP at [Vaitsa.Bousbouras@yahoo.com](mailto:Vaitsa.Bousbouras@yahoo.com) by Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

## Church Services

Sunday, December 20

**Sunday before Nativity** – Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, December 24

**Eve of the Nativity – Christmas Eve** – Orthros and Great Hours 9:30 a.m.,  
**Vesperal Divine Liturgy** 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 25

**HOLY NATIVITY – Christmas Day** – Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 27

**Sunday after Nativity** – 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 θυμιάμα 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 εξίλασμό 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](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 – John Doulis 703-670-4386

Catechetical School – Bill Porter 703-901-2404

Hellenic Education Center – Eleni Alexopoulou 703-671-7715

Philoptochos President – Eleni Kanakos 703-938-8360

YAL President – Faye Anson 703-437-5747

GOYA President – Theo Karounos 703-321-3009

JOY – Toula Christou 703-533-0055

HOPE – Vaitsa Bousbouras, vsbousbouras@yahoo.com



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Please visit our website at:

[www.saint-katherines.org](http://www.saint-katherines.org)

Facebook: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church