Sunday, December 14, 2014
11th Sunday of Luke

Thyrsos, Leucius and Callinicos
Θύρσου, Λευκίου καὶ Καλλινίκου

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 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 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 muzzleth 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 αντίληψιν. Ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματον τη δυνάμει. Και νος αι 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, αιτοτεύχει απορρήτως. Χόρευε, η οικουμένη ακουσθείσα. Δόξασον, μετά Αγγέλων και των Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα επορφήναι, παιδίον νέον, τον προ αιώνων 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 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 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 our 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.’”

Parish Council Elections will be held today following the Divine Liturgies and up till 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!

HOPE children (ages 7 and under) will be meeting at the AMC Theater Tyson’s Corner on Saturday, January 24, 2015, to watch the new movie about PADDINGTON BEAR! If you plan to attend, RSVP (required) by January 21, 2015 to Patricia Rader at pagrader@yahoo.com. Exact movie time will be posted and emailed soon. We hope to see you all there!
Announcements

GOYA has church duty today. Vasiliki Topping is the GOYA Captain and Epistle Reader. 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” project. Please be generous.

Memorial Services are offered this morning for Vasilios Spiridon Kavarligos, husband of Mrs. Demetra Tsantes and brother of Mr. George Kavarligos; for Kaliopi Kavarligos, mother-in-law of Mrs. Demetra Tsantes; for Chrysoula Markogiannakis, mother of Lefkothea, George, Christos and Irene; for Panagiotis (Pete) Karageorge, husband of Mrs. Maria Karageorge, father of Harry Karageorge and Kathy Buddendeck and brother of Mrs. Ermioni Spanos; for Paraskevi (Voula) DeSatnick Morlock, mother of James DeSatnick and Tori Carr, and sister of Mr. Christos Passakos; for Aikaterini Mavromatakis, mother of George Mavromatakis and grandmother of Costa and Manoli; for Fayina Estrina, grandmother of Mr. Vitali Kopylov; and for Liya Estrina, mother of Mr. Vitali Kopylov. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the Tsantes, Fthenos, Karageorge, DeSantnick, Carr, Mavromatakis and Kopylov Families in memory of their loved ones.

Philoptochos Christmas Bake Sale – This morning and on Sunday, December 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 – This Sunday, December 14, 2014 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.

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

Save the Date – Tastes of the Mediterranean! Join Helle Chapter of the Daughters of Penelope for an evening of wine tasting, appetizers and music on Friday, February 6 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. to benefit Fisher House Foundation for Wounded Warriors and their families. Meletis Charuhas Center – $25.00 Advance sales, $30.00 at the Door. Tickets will be available after January 1, 2015. Do not miss out on supporting this worthy cause.

Christmas Pageant is next Sunday, December 21, 2014 immediately following the Divine Liturgy at the Meletis Charuhas Center. There will be only one Liturgy next Sunday, Orthros 9:30 a.m., and Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m. There will be also a children’s Liturgy at the Meletis Charuhas Center at 10:30 a.m. Sunday School will be at 9:30 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 κόσμους της εργασίας μας για την δόξα Σου, προς ελάφρυνση των δοκιμασιών και της πένας, προς δικαιον του λαού Σου, προς συγχώρηση των αμαρτιών και εξίζασιμο 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