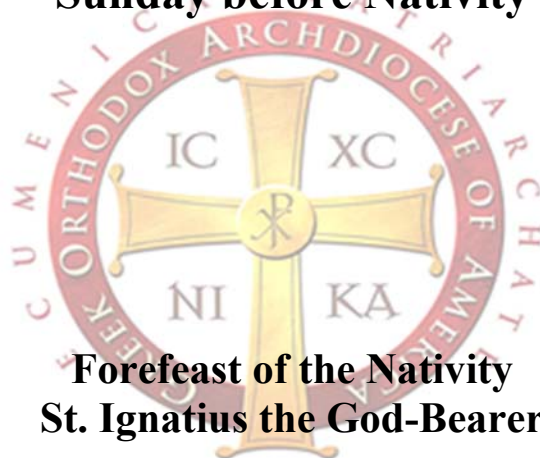
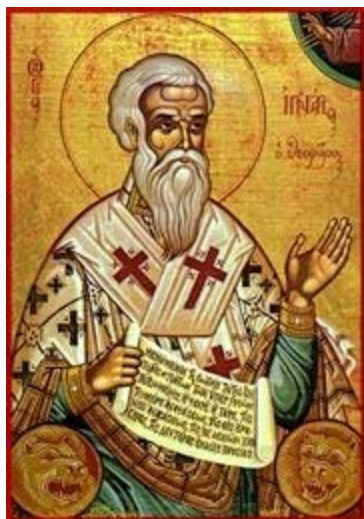


Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, December 20, 2015

Sunday before Nativity



Forefeast of the Nativity
St. Ignatius the God-Bearer

Apolytikion of the Day (4th Tone)

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spoke to the Apostles exultantly. Death is spoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Το φαιδρόν της Αναστάσεως κήρυγμα, εκ του Αγγέλου μαθούσαι αι του Κυρίου Μαθήτριάι, και την προγονικήν απόφασιν απορρίψασαι, τοις Αποστόλοις καυχώμεναι έλεγον. Εσκύλευται ο θάνατος, ηγέρθη Χριστός ο Θεός, δωρούμενος τω κόσμω το μέγα έλεος.

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.

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 (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.

Η Παρθένος σήμερα, τον Προαιώνιον Λόγον, εν Σπηλαίω έρχεται, αποτεκείν απορρήτως. Χόρευε η οικουμένη ακουτισθείσα, δόξασον μετά Αγγέλων και των Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα εποφθηναι, παιδίον νέον, τον προ αιώνων 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 from Saint Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.

Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundation, whose builder and maker is God.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets – who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated – of whom the world was not worthy – wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:1-25

The book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation of Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.



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.

Seniors Κέντρο

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.

Announcements

Memorial Services are offered this morning for **Dr. Spiro C. Manolas**, husband of Mrs. Carol F. Manolas, and father of Constantine and Stavroula; for **Alexandra 'Alex' Diapoulis**, sister of Margo Buda and Nicholas Diapoulis; for **Vasilios Kavarligos**, husband of Mrs. Demetra Tsantes and brother of George Kavarligos; for **Kaliopi Kavarligos**, mother-in-law of Mrs. Demetra Tsantes; for **Ioannis and Chrysoula Markogiannakis**, parents of Lefkothea, Irene, George and Christos; and for **Maria Lambros**, mother of Kaliope and Thanassi. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the Manolas, Diapoulis, Buda, Tsantes, Markogiannakis and Lambros families in memory of their loved ones.

Parish Council Elections – Congratulations to the newly elected Parish Council members who will serve for a two year period, 2016-2017. They are: **Chris Euripides, Rosemary Filou, Costas Mavromatakis, Jim Stoucker, and Maria Wills.** Good luck to you!

Philoptochos Christmas Bake Sale this morning, immediately following the Divine Liturgy at 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. 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 or by calling 703-929-6110.



"Evzone

2015 Community Christmas Card – Many thanks to all our parishioners who participated in our Saint Katherine's Christmas Card! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

Sunday School is in need of a Kindergarten teacher. Please contact either Vicki Mowery at (mowerycrew@gamail.com) or Eleni Porter at (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 by Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

Save the Date! Tastes of the Mediterranean – February 5, 2016, 7:00-10:00 p.m., Meletis Charuhas Center. Please join Helle Chapter of the Daughters of Penelope for an evening of wine tasting, delicious appetizers, and live Greek music. Proceeds benefit Fisher House Foundation and other DOP Philanthropies. Cost: \$25.00. Contact Karen Polizos, 571-434-7790, or Rosalie Georgeadis, 703-532-1723. Tickets on sale now!

Teach Youth Basic Orthodoxy in Guatemala This Summer – In Guatemala there are hundreds of children and young adults hungry to learn more about their Orthodox Christian Faith. A short-term OCMC mission team has been invited to offer a summer Church school program for two communities outside Nuevo Conception in Southwest Guatemala to teach basic Orthodoxy. If you have a heart for youth or teaching, please prayerfully consider joining this team which will serve from June 15th to the 28th, 2016. To learn more or apply, visit http://www.ocmc.org/about/view_team.aspx?TeamId=170, e-mail teams@ocmc.org, or call 1-877-463-6784, ext. 141.

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!

Church Services

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 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 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



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



3149 Glen Carlyn Road Falls Church, Virginia 22041 Phone 703-671-1515 Fax 703-671-1385

Please visit our website at:

www.saint-katherines.org

Facebook: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church