

# Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church



Sunday, December 22, 2019  
Sunday before Nativity

St. Anastasia the Great Martyr  
St. Chrysogonos the Martyr



## *Apolytikion of the Day (2<sup>nd</sup> Tone)*

When You descended unto death, O Life Immortal, You rendered to Hades a mortal blow by the lightning of Your divinity, and when from the depths of darkness You also raised the dead, all the heavenly powers cried out: O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to You.

Ότε κατήλθες προς τον θάνατον, η ζωή η αθάνατος, τότε τον Άδην ενέκρωσας, τη αστραπή της θεότητος, ότε δε και τους τεθνεώτας, εκ των καταχθονίων ανέστησας, πάσαι αι δυνάμεις των επουρανίων εκκραύγαζον: Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ο Θεός ημών, δόξα σοι.

## *Apolytikion of Saint Katherine the Great Martyr (1<sup>st</sup> Tone)*

Let us praise the all lauded and noble bride of Christ, the godly Katherine, the guardian of Sinai and its defense, who is also our support, assistance and our help; for with the Holy Spirit's sword she hath silenced brilliantly the clever among the godless; and being crowned as a Martyr, she now does ask great mercy for us all.

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 (4<sup>th</sup> Tone)*

On this day the Virgin comes unto the cave to give birth there to the Word before all time: beyond all words is this wonder! Dance with joy, all of creation, hearing these tidings. Glorify, along with angels and with the shepherds, him who willingly appears as a newborn baby, yet he is God before time.

Η Παρθένος σήμερα, τον προαιώνιον Λόγον, εν Σπηλαίω έρχεται, αποτεκείν απορρήτως. Χόρευε, η οικουμένη ακουτισθείσα. Δόξασον, μετά Αγγέλων και των Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα εποφθίηναι, 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 St. 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 Aram, and Aram 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 Amon, and Amon 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 to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel 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.

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**Adult Bible Class** – Classes are held every Sunday at 9:30am in the board room of the Meletis Charuhas Center. Join us each Sunday to learn more about our faith. *"A Journey through the Orthodox Faith Guided by the Words of the Bible"*. This year's topic: *The Gospel of Luke*. For more information or questions, please contact Bill Polizos at 571-434-7790 or [polizos@att.com](mailto:polizos@att.com). Everyone is welcome!

**JOURNEY TO ORTHODOXY** will RESUME JANUARY 5, 2020: The "Journey to Orthodoxy" class for adults meets 9-10am 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 in the Seniors' Kentro room on the ground floor of Founders' Hall. For further information contact the teachers, John Demakis [demakis9931@gmail.com](mailto:demakis9931@gmail.com), Bill Porter [WEPorter1@fcps.edu](mailto:WEPorter1@fcps.edu), or Jim Jatras [heraclius13@gmail.com](mailto:heraclius13@gmail.com) 202-375-1007.



# Announcements



**Memorial Services** are offered this morning for **Alexandra Konstandinidis**, mother of Nick Konstandinidis and Mary Varlas; for **Col. Daniel B. Peyser**, husband of Mrs. Irene Peyser and father of Eleni, Lylianna, and Michael; for **James D. Spirides**, husband of Mrs. Despina Spirides and father of Dionisios and Katherine; for **Nafsika Thomakou**, mother of Katerina Goranitis; for **Yvonne Galifianakis**, wife of Mr. Peter Galifianakis; for **Leah Estrina** and **Fayeena Estrina**, mother and grandmother of Vitali Copylov. May their memory be eternal!

**Coffee Hour** is sponsored this morning by the Konstandinidis, Varlas, Peyser, Spirides, and Goranitis families in memory of their loved ones; and by our Ladies Philoptochos.

**Philoptochos – Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**, the Ladies Philoptochos will be packaging 25,000 dry meals, after the end of the second Liturgy. About 100 volunteers are needed for about 3 ½ hours. Please email [mary.varlas@yahoo.com](mailto:mary.varlas@yahoo.com) or call 703-965-4161. **The Ladies Philoptochos Cookbooks** are still on sale for \$25.00. They make a great Christmas and bridal shower presents. Pick them up at coffee hour, after the second Liturgy.

**GOYA – Merry Christmas!** All are invited to participate in the annual GOYA Christmas Bag Distribution project on Monday and Wednesday. We are filling 200 bags with clothing, food, and personal hygiene items to distribute to the homeless in DC. We are preparing bags on Monday, 12/23, at 6:00 PM, and distributing them, 12/25, at 7:30 AM. Upcoming events: St. George Winter Dance (1/4); Richmond basketball tournament (1/11-12); Bible Study (1/14). New email [SaintKatherineGOYA@stkchurch.com](mailto:SaintKatherineGOYA@stkchurch.com).

**Catechetical Lectures of Saint Cyril of Jerusalem** – A Greek Bible Study led by Professor Ioannis Gkigkitzis. The Adult Catechism and Sacraments class “*Catechetical Lecture of Saint Cyril*” is taking place every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. This includes time for discussion and fellowship.

**Saint Genevieve Book Club** meets the last Sunday of each month following the second Divine Liturgy. If you would like to be included on our mailing list, please email [victoriacherpes@gmail.com](mailto:victoriacherpes@gmail.com).

**Security Announcement** – Please be aware that scammers and cybercriminals may be sending you emails and text messages acting like Father Costa or a member of the Parish Council asking you for money or assistance. Neither Father or a Parish Council Member will send you a direct email requesting money or assistance. These messages are frauds. Do not click or respond to these messages. If you have any questions, please contact Sophia Tsangali at 703-671-1515.

**Church Playroom** – Parents please accompany your children in the playroom downstairs. Regardless of age, all children in the playroom must be supervised by a Parent at all times.

**Attention Parishioners!** When attending church services and events at our church, kindly please park your car properly within the designated parking space lines in the parking lot. This will prevent loss of a space for someone else to park their car. Thank you!

**Stewardship Table** – Please stop by the stewardship table and update your email on record. We are transitioning to mailing statements to save \$2,000 in mailing costs. *Thank you!*

“**AHEPA** – The Brothers will be selling their Christmas Ornaments every Sunday after the second Divine Liturgy till Christmas. Great for stocking stuffers, please stop by and check them out. The proceeds will be used to finance their charities.”

*Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy, Blessed New Year!*

*Καλά Χριστούγεννα  
και  
Καλή, Ευλογημένη Χρονιά!*

## Church Services

Sunday, December 22 **Sunday before the Nativity** – 1<sup>st</sup> Divine Liturgy 8:00am; Orthros 9:30am; 2<sup>nd</sup> Divine Liturgy 10:30am  
Tuesday, December 24 **Christmas Eve** – Orthros/Hours 9:30am; Vespers Liturgy 7:00pm  
Wednesday, December 25 **HOLY NATIVITY – CHRISTMAS DAY** – Orthros 9:30am; Divine Liturgy 10:30am.  
Sunday, December 29 **Sunday after the Nativity** – Orthros 9:30am; Divine Liturgy 10:30am

*Sunday Services:* Orthros 9:30am., Divine Liturgy 8:00am & 10:30am -- *Week Day Services:* Orthros 9:30am, Divine Liturgy 10:30am

**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 at [http://www.saint-katherines.org/about\\_us/sunday-bulletins](http://www.saint-katherines.org/about_us/sunday-bulletins).



METROPOLIS OF  
NEW JERSEY

### Church Organizations

Acolytes – Michael Parrish and Leon Porter, 571-213-1109  
Protos-Psalter – Nicholas Mpras 703-560-7714  
Choir Director – John Slanta 703-307-0142  
Catechetical School – Christina Vazquez 703-728-2657  
Hellenic Education Center – Eleni Alexopoulou 703-671-7715

Philoptochos President – Mary Varlas 703-965-4161  
YAL President – Faye Anson [fanson38@yahoo.com](mailto:fanson38@yahoo.com)  
GOYA President – Iliana Tzafolias,  
[SaintKatherineGOYA@aol.com](mailto:SaintKatherineGOYA@aol.com)

JOY – Vaitza Bousbouras, [vsbousbouras@yahoo.com](mailto:vsbousbouras@yahoo.com)  
HOPE – Doris Mentis, [doris@alumni.virginia.edu](mailto:doris@alumni.virginia.edu)



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Please visit our website at:

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

Facebook: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church