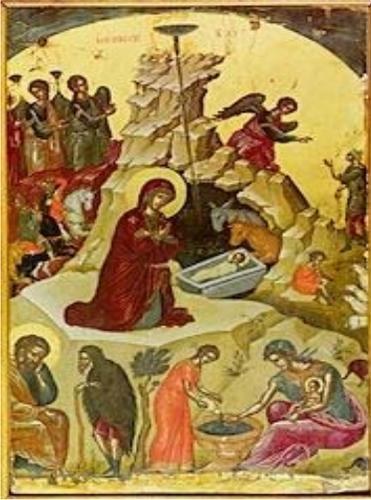


Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church



Sunday, December 23, 2018
Sunday before Nativity



Apolytikion of the Day (1st Plagal Tone)

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰς σωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶ καὶ προσκυνήσωμεν, ὅτι ἠυδόκησε σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγειραὶ τοὺς τεθνεώτας, ἐν τῇ ἐνδόξῳ Ἀναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

Apolytikion of Sunday before Nativity (2nd Tone)

Great are the accomplishments of faith. In the fountain of flame the three Holy Youths rejoiced as though they were resting by the waters. And the Prophet Daniel showed himself to be a shepherd to the lions, as though they were sheep. Through their prayers O Christ our God, save our souls.

Μεγάλα τὰ τῆς πίστεως κατορθώματα! ἐν τῇ πηγῇ τῆς φλογός, ὡς ἐπὶ ὕδατος ἀναπαύσεως, οἱ ἅγιοι τρεῖς παῖδες ἠγάλλοντο, καὶ ὁ Προφήτης Δανιήλ, λεόντων ποιμὴν, ὡς προβάτων ἐδείκνυτο, ταῖς αὐτῶν ἱκεσίαις, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς.

Apolytikion of Saint Katherine the Great Martyr (1st Tone)

Let us praise the most auspicious bride of Christ, the divine Katherine, protectress of Sinai, our aid and our help. For, she brilliantly silenced the eloquence of the impious by the sword of the spirit, and now, crowned as a martyr, she asks great mercy for all.

Τὴν πανεύφημον νόμφην Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν τὴν θεῖαν καὶ πολιούχον Σινά, τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν καὶ ἀντίληψιν. Ὅτι ἐφίμωσε λαμπρῶς, τοὺς κομψοὺς τῶν ἀσεβῶν, τοῦ Πνεύματος τῆς δυνάμει. Καὶ νυν ὡς Μάρτυς στεφθεῖσα, αἰτεῖται πᾶσι το 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 ἢ 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 from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.

Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40 – BRETHERN, 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.

Adult Bible Study – This year's topic is *Who We are and What We Believe: A Journey through Examination of the*

Orthodox Faith Guided by the Words of the Nicene Creed. The objective will be to broaden the understanding of our own Orthodox faith and deepen our spiritual outlooks. We will explore the significance of the Creed for how we live our faith now as individuals and as “one, holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.” Classes are held every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the board room of the Meletis Charuhas Center. For more information or questions, please contact Bill Polizos at 571-434-7790 or polizos@att.com. Everyone welcome!



Announcements



Memorial Services are offered this morning for **Christina Pavlakos**, mother of Father Costas Pavlakos; for **John Calamos** and **Hariklia Ioannou**, husband and mother of Mrs. Evangeline Calamos; for **George Vroustouris**, husband of Mrs. Demetra Vroustouris and father of Nia and Nick; and for **Liya** and **Fayeena Estrina**, mother and grandmother of Vitali Kopylov. May their memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour is sponsored this morning by the families of Mrs. Evangeline Calamos and Mrs. Demetra Vroustouris in memory of their loved ones; and by our Ladies Philotochos.

HEC – This morning, the Greek School students will sing Christmas carols in church, following the Divine Liturgy. *Καλά Χριστούγεννα! Merry Christmas!*

Philotochos – Sale of handmade hats and scarves – This morning, after the Divine Liturgy.

Christmas Bake Sale – This morning, following the Divine Liturgy. For more information see us at Coffee Hour or call Mary Varlas at 703-965-4161.

GOYA – Upcoming events: Christmas bags preparation 12/23 after church, and bags distribution 12/25. For more information, email: saintKatherineGoya@aol.com.

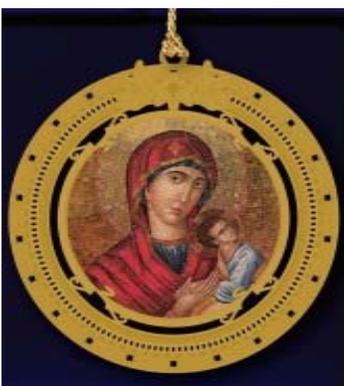
JOY (Junior Orthodox Youth) ages 8-12 – Please join us at the movies! We will meet at AMC Tysons Corner Center to watch “The Lego Movie 2” on Saturday, February 9th (time is TBD). Please RSVP by Thursday, January 24th at vsbousbouras@yahoo.com.



Our Capital Campaign begun in September to address the abundant needs of our community. We solicit your support and encourage your prayerful consideration of this most worthy endeavor in support of “our families, our church, our future.” Please contact us at capcampaign@stkchurch.com with your questions.

JOURNEY TO ORTHODOXY – The “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults has concluded for this year. A new class will convene on Sunday, January 6, 2019. We meet at 9am Sunday (concurrently with the youth Sunday School before 10am Divine Liturgy) in the Seniors’ Kentro room on the ground floor of Founders’ Hall. 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, this class is also recommended for intending or newly married couples, especially where one spouse is not Orthodox. Informal discussion format, text provided. For further information contact the teachers, John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com or Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com, 202-375-1007.

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 on Wednesdays. Meetings are at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. This includes time for discussion and fellowship.



AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce our 11th **Annual Community Christmas Ornament**. These collectable ornaments have grown in popularity from year to year. Our latest limited edition ornament, entitled “**Theotokos & Child**” is a classic and revered icon and mosaic appearing over our sanctuary entrance that, for the first time

ever, will be available in the *beautiful “sun catcher” format* that makes a brilliant display allowing daylight to further enhance the icon’s classic beauty, enabling its use year round. Manufactured by the same firm that creates the famous White House Christmas ornaments, they make excellent gifts and are the ideal stocking stuffer. Your purchases enable our philanthropy in support of our community and Hellenic ideals! For additional information, call 703-671-7225.

Daughters of Penelope – Please join us January 13, 2019 for the Daughters of Penelope annual community lecture. This year the lecture is: Culinary medicine and The Mediterranean Lifestyle with Chef Amy Riolo and Dr. Sam Pappas. Please join us after church on the 13th; light (and Healthy!) refreshments will be served.

Church Services

Monday, December 24	Christmas Eve – Orthros and Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 25	Holy Nativity – Christmas Day – Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, December 30	Sunday after Nativity – Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, January 1, 2019	St. Basil the Great – Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m. – New Year’s Day
Saturday, January 5	Eve of Theophany – Divine Liturgy and Agiasmos 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 6	Theophany of our Lord – Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy and Agiasmos 10:00 a.m.
Monday, January 7	Synaxis of St. John the Baptist – Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, January 13	Sunday after Epiphany – Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, January 17	St. Anthony the Great – Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, January 20	12th Sunday of Luke – Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, January 27	13th Sunday of Luke – 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 Αβελ, 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.



METROPOLIS OF
NEW JERSEY

Church Organizations

Acolytes – Joseph Pashiardis & Teddy Stathopoulos

Protos-Psalter – James Loizou 703-356-8220

Choir Director – John Slanta 703-307-0142

Catechetical School – Bill & Eleni Porter 703-901-2404

Philoptochos President – Mary Varlas 703-965-4161

YAL President – Faye Anson 703-437-5747

GOYA President – Maria Sarantis

IOY – Vaitsa Boushouras vshoushouras@yahoo.com