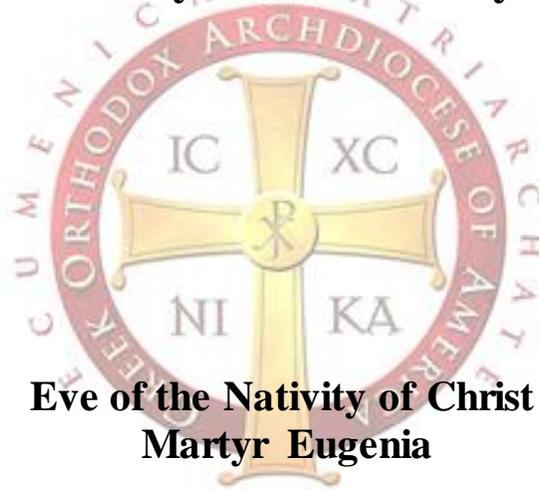


# Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, December 24, 2017

Sunday before Nativity



Eve of the Nativity of Christ  
Martyr Eugenia

## *Apolytikion of the Day (4<sup>th</sup> 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 despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

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

Τὴν πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστοῦ υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν τὴν θεῖαν καὶ πολιούχον Σινά, τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν καὶ ἀντίληψιν. Ὅτι ἐφίμωσε λαμπρῶς, τοὺς κομπούς τῶν ἀσεβῶν, τοῦ Πνεύματος τὴν δυνάμει. Καὶ νυν ὡς Μάρτυς στεφθεῖσα, αἰτεῖται πάσι τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

## *Kontakion of the Day (3<sup>rd</sup> 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 Σηηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰῶνων 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.

## Announcements

***Christ is Born! Glorify Him! Χριστός γεννάται! Δοξάσατε!***

**Christmas Eve Reception** – There will be a reception after Christmas Eve services in the Meletis Charuhas Center. Please stop by and join your fellow parishioners.

**Journey to Orthodoxy** – This is a reminder that the “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults meets 9-10 a.m. 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 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) or Jim Jatras [heraclius13@gmail.com](mailto:heraclius13@gmail.com), 202-375-1007.

“Evzone Nutcracker”



AHEPA Christmas Ornaments – The Peter N. Derzis AHEPA Chapter #438 is proud to announce our Tenth Annual Community Christmas Ornament. These collectable ornaments have grown in popularity from year to year and they will be available for purchase at our Fall Festival. Our latest limited edition ornament, entitled “Evzone Nutcracker” 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. Your purchases help make our philanthropy in support of our community and Hellenic ideals possible! For additional information, call 703-671-7225.

**Congratulations to our GOYANS!** Our Girls' B and Boys' B teams both won the championship and our Boys' A team came in 2nd at the Saint George Basketball Tournament!

**Youth and Young Adults** – Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas! Please enjoy your time with your families and loved ones!

**GOYA Christmas Bags to Homeless** – 12/25 – MON – Meet at 8:00am at Saint Katherine Christmas morning. Please be on time so we can load the cars and head out to distribute the bags!

**2017 Parish Council Elections** – Congratulations to the following members who were elected to run for a two year period, 2018-2019 in the Parish Council: **Andrea Ballard, Dr. Domenic Carr, Costas Mavromatakis, George Moshos, Bill Polizos, Effie Sarantis, Chris Snear, Craig Thomas, Steve Veletsis, and Maria Wills.** May God bless you!

**Interested in going to project Mexico?** – For the 5<sup>th</sup> time, our Church will sponsor a staying at the St. Innocent Orphanage. 15 spots have been reserved for our time, **and 3 are still available!** The trip costs \$1,700.00, which pays for the buildings supplies/materials, food, lodging, flights, and rental van into Mexico. If you are interested in going, please contact Bill Porter at [beporter1@verizon.net](mailto:beporter1@verizon.net) or Nick Junes at [njunes@stkchurch.com](mailto:njunes@stkchurch.com) ASAP!

***Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!***  
***Καλά Χριστούγεννα και Ευλογημένη η Νέα Χρονιά!***

## Church Services

Sunday, December 24 ( <i>evening</i> )	<b>Sunday before Nativity</b> – Orthros, and Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 25	<b>THE HOLY NATIVITY</b> – No Services
Sunday, December 31	<b>Sunday before Theophany</b> – Orthros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Monday, January 1, 2018	<b>St. Basil the Great – NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> – Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.
Friday, January 5 ( <i>evening</i> )	<b>Eve of Theophany</b> – Divine Liturgy and Agiasmos, 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, January 6	<b>HOLY THEOPHANY</b> – Orthros 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy and Agiasmos 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, January 7	<b>St. John the Baptist and Forerunner</b> – 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.

**Προσωνή 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](http://www.saint-katherines.org/about_us/sunday-bulletins).



METROPOLIS OF  
NEW JERSEY

### Church Organizations

Acolyte Captain – Joseph Pashiardis  
Protos-Psalter – James Loizou 703-356-8220  
Choir Director – Nick Kyros (703) 981-2526  
Catechetical School – Bill Porter 703-901-2404  
Hellenic Education Center – Eleni Alexopoulou 703-671-7715

Philotochos President – Mary Varlas 703-965-4161  
YAL President – Faye Anson 703-437-5747  
GOYA President – Maria Wuerker 703- 980-7693  
JOY – Vaitsa 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