

The monthly newsletter of Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church Falls Church, Virginia Volume 9, Number 3



MARCH 2011

LENT CAN BE GREAT!

THE PURPOSE OF GREAT LENT is to prepare the faithful to not only commemorate, but to enter into the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus. The totality of the Orthodox life centers around the Resurrection. Great Lent is intended to be a "workshop" where the character of the believer is spiritually uplifted and strengthened, where his life is rededicated to the principles and ideals of the Gospel, where fasting and prayer culminate in deep conviction of life, where apathy and disinterest turn into vigorous activities of faith and good works. Lent is not for the sake of Lent itself, as fasting is not for the sake of fasting. Rather, these are means by which we can renew our relationship with God.

The observance of many spiritual activities during Lent afford us the opportunity to call this time of life *great*. I hope that all of you give your soul a taste of spiritual joy and come to our Annual Lenten Retreat. This retreat is for adults, college students, teenagers, and, yes, there will even be a program for children ages 8 to 12. Please see page 10 for more information about the retreat and page 4 for information on the children's retreat.

The season of Great Lent is the time of preparation for the feast of the Resurrection of Christ. It is the living symbol of man's entire life which is to be fulfilled in his own resurrection from the dead with Christ. It is a time of renewed devotion: of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a time of repentance, a real renewal of our minds, hearts and deeds in conformity with Christ and his teachings. It is the time, most of all, of our return to the great commandments of loving God and our neighbors.

In the Orthodox Church, Great Lent is not a season of morbidity and gloominess. On the contrary, it is a time of joyfulness and purification. We are called to "anoint our faces" and to "cleanse our bodies as we cleanse our souls." The very first hymns of the very first service of Great Lent set the proper tone of the season:

Let us begin the lenten time with delight . . . let us fast from passions as we fast from food, taking pleasure in the good words of the Spirit, that we may be granted to see the Holy Passion of Christ our God and His Holy Pascha, spiritually rejoicing.

Thy grace has arisen upon us, O Lord, the illumination of our souls has shown forth; behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the time of repentance (Vesper Hymns).

It is our repentance that God desires, not our remorse. We sorrow for our sins, but we do so in the joy of God's mercy. We mortify our flesh, but we do so in the joy of our resurrection into life everlasting. We make ready for the resurrection during Great Lent, both Christ's Resurrection and our own.

Make Lent Great, come to the Monday night Complines, the Wednesday night Pre-Sanctified Liturgies, and the Friday Night Salutations to the Theotokos. I ask you to

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CHURCH MINISTRIES

Adult Bible Study (Tuesdays)	Bill Polizos	571-434-7790	polizos@att.com
	Bill Porter	703-901-2404	beporter@verizon.net
Adult Bible Study (Saturdays)	Gregory McKinney	571-338-6929	dintym@hotmail.com
Adult Catechetical (Sunday) School	Bill Polizos	571-434-7790	polizos@att.com
Youth Catechetical (Sunday) School	Christian Demeter, Principal	703-534-5669	cdemeter@excite.com
Greek School	Sophia Tsangali, Principal	703-671-5820	stsangali@stkchurch.com
Greek School Auxiliary	Elena Lagos, President	703-241-1176	pedakia@aol.com
Journey to Orthodoxy	Elena Ziu	703-825-7245	Dogwood_Academy@cox.net
(An intro class to the Orthodox Faith)	Georgia Kazakis		
PAIDEIA Bilingual Preschool	Marilena Tsirigotakis, Director	703-671-7715	marilena@gopaideia.org
Acolyte Captains	Anastasios Galatis (First Liturgy)		
	John Polizos (Second Liturgy)		
AHEPA #370 (Mt. Vernon)	George K. Eliades, President	703-383-0073	geliades@verizon.net
AHEPA #438 (P. Derzis)	Vasilis Fotopoulos, President	703-723-6229	fuhuaxi@gmail.com
Audit Committee	Jim Stoucker, Chairman	703-690-1050	jstoucker@aol.com
Bookstore	Christopher and Frances Kalavritinos	703-671-1515	
Book Club	Christina Vazquez	703-723-7424	czvmail@aol.com
Choir	TBD		
Daughters of Penelope Helle #283	Lynn Francis, President	703-978-4370	elfran@cox.net
DOXA	Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos	703-239-2627	przpauline@stkchurch.com
GOYA (ages 13-18)	Dimi Kosmakos, President	703-451-0978	d.kosmakos@gmail.com
	Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos, Advisor	703-239-2627	przpauline@stkchurch.com
GRACE	Maria Papageorgiou	703-631-9430	times8@cox.net
HOPE (ages 7 and under)	Kelly Alexis	703-909-2256	kalexis76@gmail.com
JOY (ages 8-12)	Tina Papamichael, Director	703-536-4711	athena02@verizon.net
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Psalters	James Loizou, Protopsaltis	703-356-8220	dimitri14@verizon.net
Safeway Rewards	Elvira Garnett	703-425-3675	villa45@hotmail.com
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PARISH COUNCIL

DEAR SAINT KATHERINE FAMILY,

In a few days we will begin the most important period in our Greek Orthodox faith—Great Lent! There will be many services and lectures, as well as the Lenten Retreat on March 19. Together, as one family, we renew ourselves and journey towards Easter.

March 13 is the celebration of the Sunday of Orthodoxy. All the youth of our community are invited to bring their favorite Icon and join in the procession of Icons at either Liturgy. It is a wonderful sight to see our children proudly holding their Icons as a testament to their faith.

The plaques honoring our faithful stewards are up in the Meletis Charuhas Center. We thank all those who generously donated towards the construction of the Center which has greatly benefited our community.

We are looking for our Greek Orthodox teens! We have a great high school Sunday School program as well as many GOYA activities. Remember, GOYA is not just basketball. GOYA stands for Greek Orthodox Youth of America. We do many service projects, sporting activities, dances, etc.

Thank you to all who fulfilled your 2010 stewardship pledges and have sent in your 2011 pledges. When you submit your cards, please feel free to include ideas and suggestions about programs you'd like to see in the coming year or programs you'd be interested in leading. When we work together only then can we reach our goals.

Wishing you a blessed Great Lent, I am

Yours in Christ's service, Daphne Papamichael



OCF will not meet at GMU this month. Instead, Fr. Costa encourages all college students to attend our Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 19. Please see page 10 for more information.

	CHURCH DU	JTY ROSTER	
Bill Polizos, Captain Andrea Ballard	Pierre Tavoularis Christina Vazquez	March 6, 2011 Martha Lampros, Captain Frances Campbell Chris Christou Korinna Garbis	Daphne Papamichael Pierre Tavoularis Christina Vazquez
March 13, 2011 Dr. John Demakis, Captain Frances Campbell Chris Christou Korinna Garbis	Daphne Papamichael Pierre Tavoularis Christina Vazquez	March 13, 2011 Steve Doulis, Captain John Andre Antonia Chelpon Christian Demeter	Chris Euripides Costas Mavromatakis
March 20, 2011 Christian Demeter, Captain John Andre Antonia Chelpon Korinna Garbis	Maria Papathanassiou Bill Polizos George Silis	March 20, 2011 Bill Porter, Captain Frances Campbell Chris Christou Dr. John Demakis	Martha Lampros Pierre Tavoularis Maria Wills
Frances Campbell	Costas Mavromatakis George Silis Pierre Tavoularis		

CATECHETICAL (SUNDAY) SCHOOL

DURING THIS MONTH OF MARCH a primary focus for the Catechetical (Sunday) School will be Great Lent. Our young people will focus on what Great Lent means and what is crucial during this significant period in preparation for Holy Week and Pascha. Major emphasis will be given on this period of fasting and, more significantly, this period of repentance and prayer. Our teachers are giving each child a mission box from the Greek Orthodox Mission Center in Saint Augustine, Florida. We are asking each child to put offerings in the box throughout Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha. Right after Pascha, on Thomas Sunday, May 1, each child will give their box of offerings to their teacher. The mission box is another Catechetical School activity to emphasize the Biblical Lesson that It is more blessed to give than to receive. We strongly encourage our parents to discuss these important topics with their child/children.

Bible Jeopardy is back on March 6 for our Fourth through Sixth Grades and on the March 20 for our Seventh through Twelfth Grades. Mr. John Moses continues his many years of service as our Master of Ceremonies.

On March 13, our church will conduct its Parish Oratorical Festival from 9:30 to10:30 a.m. in the Lecture Room located in the Catechetical School area. Young people who wish to enter the Oratorical Festival as a contestant should complete a registration form. Registration forms are available through the Chairman of our local Oratorical Festival, Mr. Ray Vazquez; the Catechetical School teachers; and the Church Office. On the day of our Parish Festival, parents of participants and interested members of our church community are invited to hear the presentations. In addition to the formal speeches of our orators, some of our younger children will contribute short presentations that will enhance the Festival. For any additional information, please feel free to contact Mr. Ray Vazquez at 703-723-7424.

March 13 is also the first Sunday of Lent, is the Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy commemorating the restoration of Icons for use in services and in private devotional life. Our children and young adults should bring the icons of their Patron Saint or parish Saint to Church and join with our clergy in the procession celebrating this decision of the Seventh Ecumenical Council.

On March 27 and continuing into April, our interim choir director, Ms. Antonia Chelpon will be conducting Church Music sessions with our youth in the First through Sixth Grades. This instruction provides students with experiences that round out their knowledge of the Greek Orthodox Church.

> We trust that God will bless and guide us all as we welcome the religious experience of Great Lent.

JOY (ages 8-12)

THE JOY LENTEN RETREAT is Saturday March 19, 10:00am to 3:00pm. Children, ages 8-12 year old, are welcome to join us for learning, fellowship, and fun! Snack and lunch provided. You must register your child in order to attend the retreat. Please contact JOY Director Tina Papamichael to register at 703-536-4711 or athena02@verizon.net.

Note: The JOY retreat is scheduled at the same time as the adult retreat so that parents may bring their 8-12 year olds to our retreat while they attend the adult retreat.

PAIDEIA BILINGUAL PRESCHOOL

THE FIRST MONTH OF SPRING is coming our way! We should note that March 21 is officially the first day of Spring. March, with its unpredictable weather, is a month of double celebration—the observance of the Annunciation and Greek Independence Day.

As we all know, on March 25, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to the Theotokos to announce that she will be give birth to our Savior. Also, as history tells us, Bishop Germanos of Patra chose this day to raise the Greek flag, inciting the people to rise against the 400-year oppressive rule of the Ottoman Empire. This, to all Greeks, is symbolic. The coming of Jesus Christ meant salvation for mankind, but also with this day came the salvation of our nation from Turkish rule.

Our Preschool will celebrate this day and honor our ancestors' sacrifices on two occasions. First, our Preschool children will join in the celebrations of the March 25 program which will take place Saturday, March 26 at our Church Theatre. Second, we will participate in the Greek Parade which will take place in Baltimore on Sunday, March 27. Our teachers have been working with our children and have been practicing poems, songs, and traditional folk dances. We invite you to attend both events and to bring your children. It is only by participating in our religious and cultural traditions that our children experience first-hand the spirit and legacy of Hellenism, and grow closer to their proud Greek-American heritage that continues to strengthen our communities and enrich our society.

Also, one correction on the last issue of *DOXA*, we would like to thank Mr. Pete Marketos for playing music at our Family Fun Night in January. Your support is greatly appreciated!



PARISH ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

Our Parish Oratorical Festival will be on Sunday, March 13, 9:30am to 10:30am. Information regarding topics have been posted on the Archdiocese website and have been passed out to students in the Catechetical School. If your son or daughter is interested in expressing their faith and representing Saint Katherine in the parish, and, hopefully, regional and/or national levels, please send a note to Rayvazquez1@aol.com and he

will arrange to provide the information.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

REGISTRATION FOR THE SAINT KATHERINE 2011 Vacation Bible Camp has begun. The camp will run from June 27 through July 1. If you are interested in signing up your children, please do so soon. Space is limited, so registration will close once all of the seats have been filled. You can find applications in your child's Sunday School or Greek School class. Additionally there are forms in the narthex. If you would like an application sent to you electronically, please email Christina Vazquez or Daphne Papamichael (czvmail@aol.com or cyprusd@aol.com). Please note that there is a \$20 fee for the camp, and we ask that all forms/checks be mailed directly to Christina Vazquez. Once your completed form is received you will be sent an e-mail confirming your child's registration. If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail, then you child has not been registered. Contact Christina or Daphne if you have any questions.

GOYA

GOYA WILL GO COSMIC BOWLING on Friday, March 11, 10:45pm-11:30pm, at the Burke Bowl America, 5615 Guinea Road. Details will be forthcoming. Please participate in the First Salutations to the Theotokos at 7:00pm prior to bowling.

Check our online calendar, http://calendar.yahoo.com/ goya st katherine, frequently. If you are between 13 and 18 years of age (or the parent of that GOYA-aged person) and are not receiving our e-mails or would like more information about GOYA, please contact Presv. Pauline at GOYA St Katherine@msn.com.

GOYA TOURNAMENT AD BOOK

SAINT KATHERINE GOYA will host their Basketball Tournament on Saturday and Sunday,



April 30-May 1, 2011. GOYA will be selling ads their Tournament Book (full page \$50.00, half page \$30.00, sponsor \$10) after Liturgies through Sunday, March

27. For more information or to place an ad, please contact Dimi Kosmakos, GOYA President, at d.kosmakos@gmail.com or 703-451-0978.

GOYA truly appreciates the love and support of our church families.

REGISTRY

Baptisms

Janella Nanihaukeakea (January 30) daughter of Jordan and Adeline Dungna Godparent: Lambros Lambrou

Theodossios (February 5) son of Konstantinos and Athina Kohilas Godparents: Maria Papaloizou and Panagiotis Foraķis

George Stavros (February 12) son of Steven and Stephanie Christacos Godparents: James and Niki Bouloukos

Stacie Maria (February 13) daughter of Cary W. Scott and Eleni N. Boosalis Godparents: Theodoros and Christianna Brotsis

Dimitrios Kollias (February 19) son of Konstantinos and Isabelle Kollias Godparent: Christina Kollia

Constantinos Theodoros (February 20) son of Theodoros and Christianna Brotsis Godparent: Anastasia Brotsis

Callie (February 26) daughter of Adam and Pam Caskey Godparent: Anastasia Scafetta

Chrismation

Anastasia Demis Young (December 28, 2010) Sponsor: Angela Voyiaziakis McNamara

Wedding Petranda Alevrofas Darrell Simmons (January 2) Koumbara: Carolyn E. Maloney

Congratulations!

Funeral

Rolandi Constantinides (January 29)

May his memory be eternal.

ΧΑΡΙΝ ΤΗΣ ΠΑΤΡΙΔΑΣ!

Σοφία Δ. Τσαγκάλη

ΕΙΚΟΣΤΗ ΠΕΜΠΤΗ ΜΑΡΤΙΟΥ! Μέρα τρισένδοξη! Μέρα νίκης και θριάμβου! Μέρα που αντινοβολεί το μεγαλείο και τη δόξα, που χάρισε στην Πατρίδα-Ελλάδα πρώτα ο Θεός και, εξ ονόματός του, η γενναιότητα, η ανδρεία, η αυτοθυσία και ο ηρωϊσμός ηρώων και ηρωϊδων! Στον εκτενή κατάλογο των ηρώων δεν έχουν θέση μόνο οι άνδρες, αλλά και οι γυναίκες. Είναι οι ηρωϊκές Σουλιώτισσες, οι αρχόντισσες του Μεσολογγίου, οι καπετάνισσες της Μάνης, οι θρυλικές νησιωτοπούλες, γνωστές και άγνωστες! Σε μιά, άγνωστη γιά τους περισσότερους, ηρωϊδα, χωρίς ξεχωριστό όνομα με φανταχτερούς τίτλους, θα αναφερθούμε σήμερα.

Ήταν κόρη οπλαρχηγού, σύζυγος καπετάνιου και μητέρα ήρωα, του Γέρου του Μωριά, ο οποίος ενσάρκωνε την ιδέα της Ελευθερίας. Όταν ο σοφός δάσκαλος, ο Σολωμός Μαρτελάος, συναντούσε τον γιό της, έλεγε: «Χαιρετώ την Ελλάδα» και υποκλινόταν με σεβασμό. Όνειρο του συζύγου της, του καπετάνου Κωνσταντίνου Κολοκοτρώνη, ήταν η απελευθέρωση της Ελλάδας, την οποία πραγματοποίησε ο γιός της, ο Θεόδωρος Κολοκοτρώνης. Κι εκείνη, σύζυγος και μητέρα, έγινε η γέφυρα, απ΄ όπου πέρασε η μεγάλη ιδέα στην πραγμάτωσή της.

Να λοιπόν τί γράφει η ιστορία γι' αυτή την αφανή ηρωϊδα! «Ξεχωρίζω ένα όνομα. Ούτε καν όνομα, αλλά ένα επίθετο. «Η Καπετάνισσα». Ξέρεις ποιά είναι; Ρώτα τον Γέρο του Μωριά να σου το πει. Είναι η μητέρα του. Η κόρη του οπλαρχηγού της Αλωνίσταινας Κωτσάκη, Ζαμπέτα Κωνσταντίνου Κολοκοτρώνη». Και ο ιστορικός συνεχίζει γι' αυτήν: «Ο βίος της υπήρξε πλήρης περιπετειών και αγώνων. Βίος αυταπαρνήσεως, στοργής, ηρωϊσμού. Είδε, σε διάστημα πενήντα ετών, δύο επαναστάσεις, την επανάσταση του 1770 και την επανάσταση του 1821. Και στην μία και στην άλλη βρισκόταν στην πρώτη γραμμή, ως μητέρα δύο πρωταγωνιστών, και Κωνσταντίνου και του Θεοδώρου Κολοκοτρώνη. Με το παράδειγμά της, την μεγάλη αφοσίωση και την ευθυκρισία της ενίσχυε και τους δύο. Ήταν η σύντροφος του Κωνσταντίνου και η έμπιστη σύμβουλος του γιού της Θεοδώρου, ο οποίος άνοιγε σ' αυτήν την καρδιά του, στις δυσκολώτερες περιστάσεις του βίου του. Σύζυγος και μητέρα ιδεώδης! Ο Θεόδωρος είγε απεριόριστο σεβασμό σ΄ αυτή».

Μας συγκινεί η μαρτυρία της ιστορίας! Ζωή, που πέρασε στην καταδίωξη, στην στέρηση, στον ηρωϊσμό, στην έξοδο της κλεφτουριάς από την Αρκαδία στην Μάνη γιά να σωθούν από το σπαθί των Τούρκων. Στον δρόμο, στις 3 Απριλίου 1770, δεύτερη μέρα του Πάσχα, γεννήθηκε ο πρωτότοκος γιός της Θεόδωρος. Γεννήθηκε σ' ένα βουνό, κάτω από ένα δέντρο, στην παλαιά Μεσσηνία, που ονομαζόταν Ραμαβούνι. Περιπλανήθηκε σε πολλά μέρη, όπως, στην Μάνη, στην Γορτυνία, στην Μονή της Κερνίτσας, όπου εκεί ο Γέρος του Μωριά, παδάκι, έμαθε να συλλαβίζει τα πρώτα γράμματα στο Ψαλτήρι, Οχταήχι,

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ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ

ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΟΥΜΕ ΘΕΡΜΑ ΟΛΟΥΣ που μας τίμησαν με την παρουσία τους στο Αποκρεάτικο Γλέντι! Ήταν πράγματι μιά ξεχωριστή βραδιά γεμάτη κέφι και γλέντι. Περάσαμε όμορφα όλοι, αλλά πιό πολύ χάρηκαν τα παιδιά μας, αφού το γλέντι αυτό είναι πιό πολύ δικό τους. Ο clown, the door prizes, the silent auction, η διακόσμηση της αίθουσας, η εξαιρετική μουσική του DJ Liakos, το νόστιμο φαγητό μας χάρισαν μιά ξεχωριστή βραδιά. 'Ολα τόσο όμορφα και υπέροχα, ακριβώς πριν την έναρξη της Μεγάλης Τεσσαρακοστής. Πόσο όμορφα η Εκκλησία μας τα έχει θεσπίσει!

Θερμά ευχαριστώ σ' όλους τους γονείς και δασκάλους, ιδιαίτερα στη πρόεδρο, κ. Λένα Λαγού, καθώς και σ' όλα τα μέλη του Greek School Auxiliary, που είχαν την κύρια ευθύνη. Θερμότα ξεχωριστά ευχαριστώ στην κ. Ευδοξία Μίτσελ γιά το υπέροχο δείπνο που εθελοντικά μας ετοίμασε, στην κ. Ελένη Παπαστεργίου γιά το υπέροχο γαλακτομπούρεκο, καθώς και σ' όλους που βοήθησαν με τις δωρεές τους. Το Αποκρεάτικο Γλέντι είναι το μεγαλύτερο γεγονός που βοηθιέται το σχολείο μας οικονονικά. Βοηθώντας το σχολείο μας, βοηθούμε στην διαιώνιση των πατροπαραδότων της φυλής μας, γλώσσας, πολιτισμού, θρησκείας.

Συγχαίρουμε τους μαθητές μας, Σταύρο και Ελένη Βουδούρη που συμμετείχαν στον εορτασμό των Ελληνικών Γραμμάτων με όλα τα σχολεία της περιοχής, που διοργάνωσε η Μητρόπολή μας και η εκκλησία του Αγ. Γεωργίου, την Αλεξάνδρα και την Αργυρώ Κοσμάκου που τιμήθηκαν με τα βραβεία του Προμηθέα γιά την καλή τους επίδοση στα Ελληνικά, γιά τα παιδιά που πήραν τα πιστοποιητικά Ελληνομάθειας, καθώς και την διευθύντριά μας, κ. Σοφία Τσαγκάλη, γιά την εμπνευσμένη ομιλία της γιά τους Τρεις Ιεράρχες και τα Ελληνικά Γράμματα στην Ελληνική Πρεσβεία κατά την απονομή των πιστοποιητικών Ελληνομάθειας.

Ο Μάρτιος είναι ξεχωριστός μήνας γιά το σχολείο μας λόγω της $25^{ης}$ Μαρτίου που γιορτάζουμε την ανεξαρτησία της Ελλάδας με το υπέροχο πρόγραμμα που ετοιμάζουμε. Θα είναι μαζί μας και το Paideia Preschool. Η προσοχή μας, εκτός των μαθημάτων βέβαια, γιατί αυτό είναι δεδομένο, επικεντρώνεται φυσικά στην προετοιμασία του προγράμματος αυτού, στην εκμάθηση των ύμνων γιά τους Χαιρετισμούς, καθώς και επίσης και στην παρέλαση της Βαλτιμόρης. Οι μαθητές μας θα συμμετέχουν και στο πρόγραμμα «Επιστροφή στις Ρίζες μας» με την κ. Ρένα Παπαποστόλου στις 12 Μαρτίου 2011.

Θερμά Συλλυπητήρια στην οικογένεια της κ. Ρολάνδης Κωνσταντινίδου, η οποία έφυγε απ΄την ζωή στις 23 Ιανουρίου 2011 και ανήκει τώρα στην θριαμβεύουσα εκκλησία. Πάντα θα την θυμόσαστε με πολλή αγάπη κι ευγνωμοσύνη γιά όλα που πρόσφερε στην κοινότητά μας και ιδιαίτερα στο Ελληνικό σχολείο επί σειρά ετών ως εξαίρετη καθηγήτρια και ως τέλεια διευθύντρια! Μας λείπει! Αιωνία να είναι η μνήμη της!

GREEK SCHOOL

WE THANK EVERYONE who came to the Apokreatiko Glendi! It was really an exceptional evening filled with joy and entertainment. Everyone had a good time, most of all our children. The Glendi was mostly for them. Many things added to the success of the party: the clown, the door prizes, the best DJ Liakos music, the delicious dinner! It was the perfect affair, just before the Great Lent begins! How perfectly our Church has decreed everything!

Many thanks to all parents and teachers, especially to Mrs. Lena Lagos, the president, and all members of the Greek School Auxiliary who worked so hard for the success of this event. Many special thanks to Mrs. Evdoxia Mitchell for the excellent dinner she voluntarily prepared for us and to Mrs. Eleni Papastergiou for the delicious galaktompoureko, as well as to everyone who helped with donations. The Apokreatiko Glendi is the largest fundraiser for our school. Helping our school is a way of perpetuating our Greek identity—the language, civilization, and faith.

We congratulate our students, Stavros and Eleni Voudouris, who participated at the program of the Greek Letters with all the schools of the area, which was organized by our Metropolis of New Jersey and Saint George Church; to Alexandra and Argyro Kosmakos who were honored by the Prometheas Society for their excellent progress in Greek; to the children who received their certificates of Ellinomathia, as well as our principal, Ms. Sophia Tsangali, for her inspired speech on the Three Hierarchs and the Greek Letters at the Greek Embassy during the bestowal of the Ellinomathia certificates to the students.

March is an exceptional month for our school because of March 25th Greek Independence Day Program. The Paideia Bilingual Preschool will be with us also. Our attention this month, besides our classroom learning, is centered on preparation for the March 25th program and on learning the Salutations' hymns. Also, we are looking forward to the parade in Baltimore. Furthermore, our students will participate in the Return to Origins program with Mrs. Rena Papapostolou on March 12, 2011.

CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD 2011

The Linwood-MacDonald YMCA Center Branchville, New Jersey

July 10-16: JOY (ages 8-12) July 17-23: GOYA 1 (ages 13-18) July 24-30: GOYA 2 (ages 13-18)

GOYA campers (ages 13-18) can register for one or both GOYA sessions. For more information, please contact the Metropolis Youth Office at youth@nj.goarch.org or 908-301-0500.

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Mrs. Rolandi Constantinides, who passed away on January 23, 2011 and belongs now in the triumphant church. We will remember her always with love and gratitude for all she has offered to the community of Saint Katherine, especially to the Greek School for many years as an excellent teacher and a perfect principal! We miss her! May her memory be eternal!

Important Dates to Remember in March

- 05 Teachers' Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
- 11 First Salutations
- 12 Return to the Origins
- 18 Practice for March 25th Program 2nd Salutations
- 19 Practice for March 25th Program
- 20 The Annunciation of the Theotokos Greek Independence Day Preparation for the March 25th Program Third Salutations
- 26 March 25th Greek Independence Day Program, 11am
- 27 Greek Independence Day Parade in Baltimore, 2pm

EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION IN MODERN GREEK

THE EDUCATIONAL OFFICE OF THE GREEK EMBASSY announces that the examinations for the 2011 Certification in the Modern Greek Language, organized by the Center for the Greek Language in Thessaloniki, Greece, will take place at our Saint Katherine Greek School (the Center of these examinations in our area) on May 10, 11, and 12. The examinations will be both oral and written with different levels of difficulty. For information and applications, please call the church office, 703-671-1515 and speak to Ms. Sophia Tsangali, Greek School Principal. The deadline for applications is Monday, March 21.

ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT

Holy Ancestors of Christ Intercede on Our Behalf: A Visit to Baltimore by the Blessed Theotokos and Saints Joachim and Anna

with retreat master, Rev. Christopher Flesoras, Ph.D. Saint Anna Greek Orthodox Shrine, Roseville, CA

Saturday, April 2 | 8:30am-4:30pm Annunciation Cathedral, Baltimore

During the retreat, we will be blessed by God to venerate a myrrh-streaming icon of Saint Anna and the Theotokos. We will also venerate the Holy Relics of Saints Joachim and Anna.

> Information: www.goannun.org org Jeanne Tsakalos at410-252-6021

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Greg McKinney Chosen for Alaska OCMC Trip to Alaska. Greg McKinney, our new co-Chair of the Mission and Outreach Committee, has been chosen to go to Alaska with an OCMC Mission team from July 29-August 8. The team will travel to Kodiak Island and participate in a youth camp program in Old Harbor. This team will offer youth group activities to strengthen faith, deepen understanding of the Church, and teach about worship. Congratulations Greg!!

Want to Join an OCMC Mission Team? The OCMC is sponsoring 12 short term mission teams this year. However, the teams are rapidly filling up. Teams that are still open include Uganda and Tanzania Health Care teams (MDs needed) and the Madagascar teaching team. To find out more about teams that are still available, contact Andrew Lekos or Pres. Renee Ritsi by phone at 1-877-GO-FO RTH (463-6784) or by e-mail at teams@ocmc.org for more information. Visit http://teams.ocmc.org for additional details about, or to apply for, 2011 OCMC Orthodox Mission Teams.

OCMC Family Mission Trips: For the first time, the OCMC, in collaboration with the Center for Family Care (of the Greek Archdiocese) is offering family mission trips this summer. Families from North America, along with Albanian families, will participate in this outreach assisted by OCMC missionaries and Albanian church leaders. The primary focus is to offer a "family witness" while sharing the faith and growing as a family in Christ. In addition, there are opportunities for youth (middle school age) to participate when accompanied by a parent. The Teams available for this are: an outreach Team will travel to Hoonah Alaska (just miles from Juneau) to help the community with general maintenance projects in the parish, a youth ministry Team in Romania where the university student group from Cluj sponsors an annual camp for middle school age students to encourage them in their Christian walk and S. Korea where the Team will offer English as a second language lessons and offer casual conversation with middle school age kids. More information is available on the OCMC website or call Andrew Lekos or Pres. Renee Ritsi (see contact information under II above).

Mission Presentations Following Salutation Services. On each of the first four Fridays of Lent, the Mission and Outreach committee will feature a speaker on missions immediately after the Salutation services (Heretismoi). These will primarily include experiences of our Saint Katherine parishioners who have gone on mission trips in 2010.

- March 11 John Demakis on Why Missions?
- March 18 Korinna Garbis on her 2010 mission trip to South Korea
- March 25 Taso and Irene Sakkas on their 2010 mission trip to Tanzania
- April 1 Antonia Chelpon on her 2010 Mission trip Guatemala

Maria Roeber Nears Her Goal. Ms. Roeber, RN need to collect two years of living expenses before she can leave for Tanzania. Ms. Roeber is now close to her goal and expects to leave by the end of March. The Saint Katherine Parish Council has pledged \$100.00 a month for two years. Please consider supporting Ms. Roeber as she dedicates a part of her life to our Lord's ministries. You can mail a check, made out to OCMC, with Maria's name, in the memo line, or make an online donation at http://mroeber@ocmc.org. You can make a one-time donation or monthly pledges, but prayer and pledges are the most helpful to long term missionaries. Ms. Roeber is a delivery room nurse and expects to work to improve maternal and child health in the Orthodox hospital and clinics in Tanzania.

Guatemala Mission Trip. Fr. Costa along with a St. Katherine team will be returning to the Hogar Rafael Ayau Orphanage in Guatemala City on November 3-10, 2011. If you have missed out on previous teams and would like to participate this year, please contact Antonia Chelpon at 703-258-5437. Although it is important to have some returning team members on the team, priority will be given to new member applications. Team project likely to be painting or light construction. The team will fill up quickly so please do not delay. Don't miss out on this exciting and fulfilling experience.

Food for the Homeless Shelter. On January 11, 2011 our GOYA prepared food and served 150 people at the Bailey's Crossroads Homeless Shelter. The Daughters of Penelope will be serving on February 22 and the parish council will serve on March 22. We are encouraging all organizations at St. Katherine to take a month. Last year, we covered ten months. We hope in 2011 to do it once each month. If your organization is interested in participating, please contact, John Demakis at jgd11@erols.com for more information.

Clothing and Toiletries Collection for the Homeless Shelter. We are continuing to collect clothing and toiletries for men and women at the Bailey's Crossroads Homeless Shelter. Clothes may be new or used but must by clean. Toiletries should be unopened. The shelter has recently informed us that with the cold weather, the shelter is especially short of men's and women's coats, gloves and scarves. There is a collection receptacle in the foyer of the Meletis Charuhas Center. Please continue to be generous to those less fortunate.

Red Cross Blood Drives. Two blood drives will be scheduled for 2011. Dates have not yet been set but should be available in the next issue of DOXA.

Samaritan's Feet. Shoe collections for the poor will be done the entire month of September.

Diapers for Area Food Pantries. We will collect diapers in December.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19).

ICONOGRAPHY & BEAUTIFICATION

EVEN AFTER ALL THIS TIME, there are still many instances of people staring at the our Icons and finding aspects previously unseen or unnoticed. Or, perhaps they are lost in thought and contemplation. When we began the Iconography and Beautification Project at Saint Katherine, we undertook a work of faith. The work continues as we just recently hung the doors from the previous iconostasion in the narthex. The benefits of the enlarged narthex are felt each Sunday as people can enter church, light their candles and, venerate the ncons in comfort.

The icons tell us about the lives of Christ and Saint Katherine and we are blessed to have them. Many of the icons are still available to be pledged. What a lasting witness to one's faith to pledge towards an icon. For those of you who have fulfilled your pledges, thank you so much. For those who have pledged, but have yet to fulfill your pledge, we encourage you to do so. When you do, you will greatly assist us in meeting the many financial obligations that we face each month. If you would like to find out more about our icons, please contact Father Costa, Jim Stoucker (jstoucker@aol.com), or Daphne Papamichael (CyprusD@aol.com). As always, thank you for your faith and support!

BOOKSTORE

THIS MONTH WE ARE FEATURING TWO BOOKS to aid you in your Lenten journey:

Love Chapter: The Meaning of First Corinthians 13 by Saint John Chrysostom. One of the most important teachings of Saint Paul, the "Love Chapter" is now rendered in contemporary English for the first time. An exegetical commentary written by Saint John Chrysostom (347-407), archbishop of Constantinople, named the "goldenmouthed" for the beauty of his preaching. \$20.00.

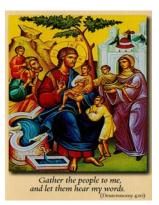
Thoughts for Each Day of the Year by Saint Theophan the Recluse. Saint Theophan (1815-1894) was one of the most prolific spiritual writers of 19th century Russia. In this book Saint Theophan takes us through the yearly cycle of Gospel and Epistle readings, humbly and reverently offering us brief but powerful daily meditations on the word of God, penetrating deeply into Holy Scripture. A grace-filled book that can change us by the power of our Savior through the renewing of our minds. Originally published in 1881 by Saint Panteleimon Monastery on Mount Athos, Greece. \$20.00.

BOOK CLUB

THE WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB continues to read through and discuss *Encountering Women of Faith: St. Catherine's Vision Collection Volume 1*, edited by Kyriaki Fitzgerald. This month we will focus our talks on Mary Magdalene and Saint Catherine. The group will meet on March 9 and 23. The group would also like to thank Marilyn Rouvelas for sharing with the group the inspiration behind *St. Catherine's Vision*. Marilyn worked as a consultant/editor of the book. If you are interested in learning more about the book, please visit www.orthodoxwomen.org.

THE CHALLENGE LITURGY PROGRAM

THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH of Saint George, Bethesda(7701 Bradley Boulevard, 301-469-7990) celebrates Liturgy on the 3rd Saturday of each month for Washington metropolitan area developmentally and physically challenged Orthodox Christians and their families. We also warmly welcome families with members who have Alzheimer's.



The Challenge Liturgy is cosponsored by Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church of Northern Virginia. Challenged individuals and their families are invited to attend these services. Liturgy begins at 9:30am. The date for March is Saturday, March 19. A fellowship hour immediately follows the Divine Liturgy.

For more information, please contact Fr. Costa at 703-671-1515 or frcostas@stkchurch.com.

POSTHUMOUS

by Jean Nordhaus

Would it surprise you to learn that years beyond your longest winter you still get letters from your bank, your old philanthropies, cold flakes drifting through the mail-slot with your name? Though it's been a long time since your face interrupted the light in my door-frame, and the last tremblings of your voice have drained from my telephone wire, from the lists of the likely, your name is not missing. It circles in the shadow-world of the machines, a wind-blown ghost. For generosity will be exalted, and good credit outlasts death. Caribbean cruises, recipes, low-interest loans. For you who asked so much of life, who lived acutely even in duress, the brimming world awaits your signature. Cancer and heart disease are still counting on you for a cure. B'nai Brith numbers you among the blessed. They miss you. They want you back.

Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church offers grief support: GRACE (Grief Recovery: Accepting, Coping, and Evolving). If you are having a difficult time after the loss of a loved one, please call Fr. Costa Pavlakos at 703-671-1515. Thanks to Maria Papageorgiou for starting and continuing this ministry.

ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT SATURDAY, MARCH 19 8:30am-4:00pm

Theme: The Magnificent but Forgotten
Path of Christian Spirituality

Speaker: Kyriakos C. Markides. Ph.D.

Author of

Mountain of Silence

and

Gifts of the Desert

The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality

Dr. Markides will discuss
Orthodox Spirituality in the 21st century.

The program is as follows:

8:30am Registration

Continental Breakfast

9:30am Prayer Service

10:00am Welcome and First Presentation

11:30am Lunch

1:00pm Second Presentation

2:00pm Break 2:30pm Discussion 3:30pm Vespers

If you would like to attend, please register with our church office at 703-671-1515. College students, GOYA members, and all teenagers of our community are encouraged to participate. There is no charge for the retreat, but there will be a free-will offering.

There will also be a program for children ages 8-12 years old from 10:00am to 3:30pm. Please contact Tina Papamichael at 703-536-4711 or athena02@verizon.net if your children will participate in the children's program, so that she can plan accordingly.

SOME WORDS ON OUR RETREAT AND DR. KYRIAKOS MARKIDES

FOR THE LAST 27 YEARS, Kyriacos C. Markides has been exploring the lives and teachings of Christian mystics and healers around the world. In his last two books, The Mountain of Silence (Doubleday, 2001) and Gifts of the Desert-The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality (Doubleday, 2005), he continues his exploration of Christian mysticism through his participant observation work with charismatic monks, hermits and celebrated living saints of Eastern Christianity. During our retreat, he will expose us to this mystical Christian spirituality that has been practiced for hundreds of years by mystics and saints of the Christian East yet is little known to Western scholars and spiritual seekers. He will explore this tradition in depth and demonstrate its relevance and application for contemporary living. Furthermore, Professor Markides will also offer a pictorial presentation of Mount Athos and other places where he conversed with leading contemporary saints of Orthodox Christianity.



Kyriacos C. Markides, Ph.D. is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Maine and author of eight books published by leading publishers in the United States and the UK such as Random House/ Doubleday, Penguin, Viking and Yale University Press. Six of his books are on Christian mystics and Eastern Orthodox spiritual guides and elders. In his last two books, The Mountain of Silence: A Search for Ortho-

dox Spirituality (Doubleday paperback) and Gifts of the Desert: The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality (Doubleday), he explores mystical Christianity through his association with the charismatic elder "Father Maximos," a monk from Mount Athos. Professor Markides' books are widely read and have been published in thirteen other countries and languages. He has also given regular lectures and workshops around the United States, Canada and overseas. Furthermore, he has appeared on national television and has been interviewed on national and international radio stations as well as newspapers and magazines. Professor Markides' books are available in major bookstores and in Amazon.com. He lives in Stillwater, Maine with his wife Emily from Famagusta, Cyprus. They have two grown children, Constantine and Vasia.

MARCH 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Adult Greek School 6:00pm Introductory II 7:30pm Introductory 7:30pm Adult Bible Study	2 8:00pm AHEPA B-Ball	3 Adult Greek School 6:00pm Intermediate 7:30pm Advanced	4 5:00pm Greek School	5 2nd Saturday of Souls 9:00am Orthros 10:00am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Greek School Adult Bible Study fol- lowing Divine Liturgy 1:30pm GS Tchrs' Mtg.
6 Forgiveness Sunday 8:00am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Orthros and Cate- chetical School 10:30am Divine Liturgy	7 Great Lent BeginsΚαθαρά Δευτέρα6pm Holy Confession7:00pm Compline	8 Adult Greek School 6:00pm Introductory II 7:30pm Introductory I 7:30pm Adult Bible Study	9 10:30am Wmn's Book Club 7pm <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> Lenten Pot-Luck Dinner Missions Meeting 8:00pm AHEPA B-Ball	10 Adult Greek School 6:00pm Intermediate 7:30pm Advanced	11 5:00pm Greek School 7:00pm Ist Salutations Lecture (Demakis) 9:45pm GOYA Cosmic Bowling in Burke	12 3rd Saturday of Souls (Saint Theodore) 9:00am Orthros 10:00am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Greek School
13 Sunday of Orthodoxy 1st Sunday of Lent 8:00am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Orthros, C,S., and Oratorical Festival 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Children, bring icons.) 5:00pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers at SS. Peter and Paul, Potomac, MD	14 8:00pm YAL Δεύτερη Δευτέρα (sandwich- making for the homeless) 6pm Holy Confession 7:00pm Compline Deadline for April DOXA Submissions	15 1:00am GMU OCF Adult Greek School 6:00pm Introductory II 7:30pm Introductory I 7:00pm Philoptochos	16 7pm Presanctified Liturgy Lenten Pot-Luck Dinner 8:00pm AHEPA B-Ball	17 Adult Greek School 6:00pm Intermediate 7:30pm Advanced	18 5:00pm Greek School 7:00pm 2nd Salutations Lecture (Garbis)	8:30am Annual Lenten Retreat 9:30am Challenge Lit- urgy at Saint George, Bethesda (co-sponsored by Saint Katherine) 9:30am Greek School
20 Sunday of Saint Greg- ory Palamas 2nd Sunday of Lent 8:00am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Orthros and Cate- chetical School 10:30am Divine Liturgy	21 6pm Holy Confession 7:00pm Compline Registration Deadline for Certification in Modern Greek Exam	22 Adult Greek School 6:00pm Introductory II 7:30pm Introductory I	23 10:30am Women's Book Club 7pm <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> Lenten Pot-Luck Dinner 8:00pm AHEPA B-ball	24 Adult Greek School 6:00pm Intermediate 7:30pm Advanced 7:00pm Vespers for the Annunciation to the Theotokos	25 Annunciation to the Theotokos 9:00am Orthros 10:00am Divine Liturgy 5:00pm Greek School 7:00pm 3rd Salutations Lecture (Sakkas)	26 9:30am Greek School 11:00am March 25th Program
27 Sunday of the Holy Cross 3rd Sunday of Lent 8:00am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Orthros and Catechetical School 10:30am Divine Liturgy 2pm Greek Independence Day Parade in Baltimore	28 6pm Holy Confession 7:00pm <i>Compline</i>	29 3:00pm GMU OCF Adult Greek School 6:00pm Introductory II 7:30pm Introductory I	30 7pm <i>Presanctified Liturgy</i> Lenten Pot-Luck Dinner 8:00pm AHEPA B-ball	31 Adult Greek School 6:00pm Intermediate 7:30pm Advanced Deadline for ordering tsourekia and kou- lourakia (see p. 12)		

PHILOPTOCHOS

OUR ANNUAL VALENTINE'S LUNCHEON for seniors was a tremendous success! We were happy that the weather cooperated this year and the little amount of snow did not prevent people from attending. Thank you to Evdoxia Mitchell, Dino Papaminas, Georgia Chronis, and Eleni Papastergiou for preparing such an excellent meal. The desserts were plentiful thanks to Denise Garbis, Chris Eskinzes, and Diana Argerson. We wouldn't have been able to have as nice a luncheon without all who helped prep, serve, pass appetizers, pour wine, and clean up. It takes many hands to have a successful event. Thank you (and I apologize if I have forgotten anyone) Irene B, Irene K, Popi, Demetra, Rena, Lynn, Marina, Elvira, Katerina, and Frank B. Also a great big round of applause goes to Ken Kunic and Athanasios Chronis who provided the wonderful music. A great time was had by all!

This month our National Philoptochos commitments are for Orthodox Christian Mission Center, Support a Mission Priest (SAMP), and Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology. The OCMC commitment provides financial support to missionary teams, strengthening their ability to empower the Orthodox Church worldwide to carry its message to those who have yet to hear it. The SAMP program provides financial support, enabling Orthodox bishops and priests in mission areas to build and restore churches, community centers, and medical facilities as well as to participate in training, teaching, and field management therefore increasing productivity. The Hellenic College/Holy Cross commitment awards scholarships to worthy dedicated students to assist with their tuition and to the school's operational expenses.

It is not too early to plan for purchasing tsourekia and koulourakia for Easter. To help us plan, we ask that tsourekia and koulourakia be ordered in advance. Due to the economic times, we have kept our prices the same as last year. The price is \$12.00 for 1 tsoureki (1½ lb. loaf) or 2 loaves for \$20.00 with egg or without egg. Koulourakia are \$6.00 per dozen. Order forms will be available in the narthex or call Irene Burton at 703-256-5531 or Chris Eskinzes at 703-978-3061. Please order by March 31 to be sure that you will get your tsoureki and/or koulourakia.

Please send your 2011 Philoptochos stewardship to Saint Katherine Philoptochos, 3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church, VA 22041.

Philoptochos elections will be held in May. In order to be a candidate for election to the Board, the member must have been a member in good standing with the parish and chapter for a period of at least one year prior to the date of the election and must have attended a minimum of 4 meetings held in the previous year.

The next meeting of the Philoptochos will be March 15 at 7:00pm. We look forward to welcoming both old and new members.

May you have a blessed Lent. Kali Sarakosti.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

HELLE CHAPTER BEGAN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY with a Heart Health Seminar in recognition of Heart Health Month, co-sponsored with AHEPA Chapter 438. Members and friends of Saint Katherine community enjoyed a light breakfast and presentations that inspired all of us to take better care of our health by becoming aware of the risks and symptoms of heart disease and stroke, eating properly, exercising, and practicing stress management. We also learned that classes for the new CPR techniques begin this month and those who were previously certified will need to get updated before they can be re-certified. In addition, we learned about programs sponsored by the Health Department of Fairfax County. We would like to thank everyone for their generous donations, all of which will be sent to the American Heart Association.

Helle Chapter sisters also cooked and served dinner at Bailey's Crossroads Homeless Shelter last month, as part of the Outreach Program organized by the Saint Katherine community.

This month, we begin with a mid-year district conference in Richmond on Saturday, March 5 to begin working in committees to prepare for the AHEPA Family Convention in Newport News in May. Several sisters from Helle Chapter will be attending.

In addition, Helle sisters will be cooking dinner this month for families of sick children who are staying at Ronald McDonald House. This is in conjunction with programs initiated by Volunteer Fairfax. Please contact Rosalie Georgeadis at 703-532-1723 for more information or if you would like to help.

For our March meeting, we will first attend Lenten services together. Then Father Costas will join us for a lecture on the role of faith and prayer in healing. Please refer to the chapter newsletter for the exact date.

We are also planning an outing to the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History to see the exhibit, *Cyprus: Crossroads of Civilization*. We welcome anyone interested in seeing the exhibit to join us. Please contact Kathy Cavallo at 703-978-1539 for more information.

Have a blessed Lenten season.

LENTEN POT-LUCK DINNERS ON WEDNESDAYS

All parishioners are encouraged to come together for fellowship and dinner following the Wednesday church services on March 9, 16, 23, and 30. Please bring your favorite Lenten food—enough to feed you (or your family) plus one additional person.

2011 AHEPA SCHOLARSHIPS

by Jim Stoucker

The American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association's commitment to education has been well documented throughout its history. Over \$4 million is endowed at the local, district and national levels toward the use of scholarships and a half-million dollars is awarded annually. Thousands of young men and women have benefited as recipients of AHEPA scholarships at these various levels.

Our local AHEPA family is proud to claim a robust scholarship program to promote, encourage, induce and advance education at the college and university level for eligible and deserving youths in our community. We are indeed fortunate to have 4 distinct AHEPA scholarships immediately available to our community in the Washington Metropolitan area. Although we are blessed to have so many scholarship opportunities available for our young students, each year, one or two applicants fail to pay close attention to submission instructions and are eliminated. *Please do not let this happen to you!*

Each of the following scholarships are separate and distinct, requiring submission of individual applications with differing requirements. What follows is pertinent information provided to make all those eligible aware of their scholarship opportunities and to eliminate confusion about the various scholarship programs available:

Washington Metro Area Scholarships have been awarded by DC metropolitan area AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope Chapters since 1970. This competitive program has recognized 1452 area students and awarded over \$736,125 since its inception. Last year, 34 students were honored with just under \$33,600 in scholarship awards. Scholarship presentations will be made at an awards program on Sunday, May I5, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. at the Hilton Washington, DC/Rockville Hotel in Rockville, Maryland. In addition to a cash award, each recipient receives a plaque and is individually honored during the award banquet. The award banquet is an exceptional affair and many parents and grandparents attend. Applications and additional information is available in the Church office and also on the Saint Katherine website). Submission deadline is April 2, 2011.

The Peter N. Derzis Chapter 438 Community Scholarship is awarded to a student from the local community who best exemplifies attributes of scholarship and community involvement. This \$1,500 award is made on AHEPA Sunday (May 15) during ceremonies after the second Divine Liturgy in the church. Applications and additional information is available in the Church Office, from any Chapter officer, and also on the Saint Katherine website. Applications and additional information are available in the Church Office and also on the Saint Katherine website. *Submission deadline is April 2, 2011.*

AHEPA Capital District 3 Scholarships are awarded to high school seniors throughout the Capital District 3 region (Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina and Washington, DC). Scholarships are funded through the AHEPA Family District No. 3 Scholarship Foundation. The winners are determined by a scholarship committee which convenes at the District Convention (this year to be held May 19-22 in Newport News, VA). Award recipients are notified shortly thereafter. The number of awards varies depending on availability of funds, but typically 20-25 awards are made. Additional information may be found on the District website http://www.district3ahepa.com/scholarship.html. Applications and additional information are available in the Church Office and also on the Saint Katherine website. Submission deadline is April 1, 2011.

AHEPAcademy for High School Juniors. Apply for the opportunity to be one of a small, select group of Greek-American high school students selected from all over the country to participate in AHEPAcademy, an interactive leadership and networking seminar to be held on the campus of George Mason University outside Washington, DC from June 26-July 2, 2011 and August 7-13, 2011. Applications for AHEPAcademy are now available on www.AHEPAcademy.com. The final deadline for submission of completed applications to AHEPAcademy is April 1, 2011, but please contact AHEPAcademy and your local AHEPA Chapter as soon as possible to indicate your interest in applying for the program and regarding your eligibility to receive a scholarship from your local AHEPA Chapter for your participation in the AHEPAcademy oncampus program.

Multiple *AHEPA National Scholarships* are also offered to a wide variety of students. Recipients are: traditional and non-traditional students; seminarians, including those entering Holy Cross Greek School of Theology; and high school seniors, college and post-graduate students who are looking to become tomorrow's leaders in the Hellenic American community. For additional information or to download applications for over a dozen additional AHEPA scholarships, please go to http://www.ahepa.org/uploads/pdf/ahepa_scholarship_2011.pdf. *Submission deadline is March 31, 2011.*



Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 13. Set your clocks ahead one hour at 2:00am (or before retiring on Saturday night.)





AHEPA Metro Golf Classic Supported by Redskin Celebrities

THE PETER DERZIS AHEPA CHAPTER 438 invites all golfers in the community to join them and **celebrities from the Washington Redskins** for their annual Metro Golf Classic, in support of Fisher House and AHEPA charities on Wednesday, May 25, 2011. This **exclusive** celebrity event will be played on the picturesque and challenging par 71 course at Westfields Golf Club in Clifton, VA and is limited to 25 lucky foursomes who will play with past and present Washington Redskins players.

The Captain's Choice tournament begins with a shot gun start at 1:00 PM and will feature closest to the pin and long drive contests, as well as hole in one contests featuring new 2011 cars as grand prizes on all four par 3 holes! The day's activities end with an awards reception and sumptuous banquet following the tournament. Larry Michael, voice of the Redskins and fellow Greek, will be our celebrity host for the evening's gala festivities to be held in Westfield's newly renovated banquet room.

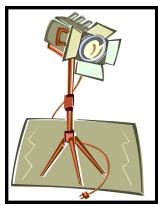
Entry fees include green fees, cart, range balls, box lunch, souvenirs and admission to the awards reception and banquet. All registered players will also receive new FootJoy golf shoes as a special gift! FootJoy representatives will fit each player individually in the club house before play begins, so everyone should plan on arriving early enough to allow for these fittings.

Registration couldn't be easier! The tournament website, ahepagolf.com, has detailed information on all aspects of the tournament and allows easy on-line registration and payment for players and those wishing to help sponsor the event. All golfers, individuals and foursomes, are especially encouraged to take advantage of Early Bird Registration before April 1 in order to receive discount registration pricing for what promises to be a very memorable event.

Of course, in addition to a great day of golf with friends, this event is all about raising much needed funding for worthy AHEPA charities. The Fisher House program is a unique private-public partnership that supports America's military in their time of need. The program recognizes the special sacrifices of our men and women in uniform and the hardships of military service by meeting a humanitarian need beyond that normally provided by the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs.

Because members of the military and their families are stationed worldwide and must often travel great distances for specialized medical care, Fisher House Foundation donates "comfort homes," built on the grounds of major military and VA medical centers. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful times—during the hospitalization for an unexpected illness, disease, or injury.

The co-chairmen for this year's AHEPA Metro Classic, Jim Stoucker, Pete Chambers and Steve Nicholakos, issued the following statement: "This marks the second year we have been honored to support Fisher House as an AHEPA charity. Their work on behalf of our seriously wounded soldiers and their families is awe inspiring and a most worthy cause that we readily embrace. We invite everyone to be part of this wonderful event at a great golf course in support of a truly deserving charity."



SPOTLIGHT ON STEWARDSHIP

OUR SAINT KATHERINE COMMUNITY enjoys many blessings. Our dynamic clergy, schools, Bible studies, youth groups, Missions and Outreach Committee, Philoptochos, and chanters and choirs barely begin to scratch the surface of the many programs our talented stewards and clergy provide and continuously work to improve. Your stewardship provides the foundation for these parish ministries.

Stewardship is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, express our thankfulness and grow in grace. Please take time to make your Stewardship commitment today. (The stewardship form is on page 19.) Come and see what we can do together with your support.

THE HOLY PRIEST MARTYRS

Rev. Theodore H. Chelpon

DURING THE MATINS SERVICE on Sundays and following the Gospel reading, the deacon or priest reads a long litany of saints names and categories of saints. One of these categories is, "The Holy Priest Martyrs." Two such martyrs are then named, Charalambos and Eleutherios. Certainly, over the centuries many thousands of priests have been martyred. The Soviets themselves must have murdered thousands. Yet in this category only two named above are mentioned. Why are these two singled out for distinction? Let's look at this together.

At first sight these two men could not be more dissimilar. Eleutherios was born in Rome at the end of the second century during the reign of the emperor Hadrian. Charalambos was born early in the second century and lived in Magnesia, Asia Minor.

Specific facts about Charalambos are difficult to find other than the details of his martyrdom. He was ordained a priest to serve the needs of his home town, Magnesia, a small Christian community in a sea of idolatry. The provincial governor of Magnesia was Lucianos, a man who cared nothing for the welfare of his people. During difficult times of drought, famine, pestilence, etc., it was Charalambos who ministered to the needy without regard to their religious affiliation. He ministered to their needs, period. This he did all his life and he lived more than 100 years.

By contrast, Eleutherios has left quite a paper trail. A Roman, he was born to a high ranking official who saw to it that his immensely talented son had the finest tutors who would provide him the best of education. He was a child prodigy, a Mozart of Christian letters.

His father died while he was quite young and it was left to his mother to continue his education. Unlike his father, his mother Anitha was a Christian. She saw to it that her son's talents were applied to Christian endeavors. She took him to Anikitos, the bishop of Rome who took him under his personal supervision. At age 15 Eleutherios was ordained a deacon and at 17 a priest. At age 20, he became the youngest bishop ever, the bishop of Illyricum, which encompassed most of what today is northern Italy. It is here that the stories of these two saints begin to merge.

Just as Charalambos, so, too, Eleutherios used his position to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of the people regardless of their religious affiliation, and during periods of fierce persecutions. Eventually his ministry reached the ears of the emperor. Hadrian sent his most trusted centurion, Felix, to arrest the bishop and bring him to trial. When Felix arrived at Eleutherios's church, the bishop was in the midst of his sermon. Felix was converted by the saint's words and refused to make the arrest. Eleutherios feared for Felix's life and insisted that he return with him for trial. The actual court records show he was executed on December 15th, the day he is commemorated.

So, too, with Charalambos, it was not long before he came to the attention of the governor Lucianos who saw the saints ministry to the needy as a reflection on himself. But the governor was also fearful of the people whose love for the aged priest was overwhelming. The governor initially threatened the saint with torture. He was sure that the old man, like most elderly, would do most anything to avoid pain - perhaps even recant his faith in Christ whom he served all his life!!! The tortures he was put through are too horrid to relate, but he remained steadfast.

When it became apparent that Charalambos would not recant, Lucianos had the saint removed to far away Antioch, Syria, far from the loving populace of Magnesia. After even more brutalities, he was ordered beheaded. As the executioner raised his blade to strike, everyone heard a voice, "Well done, my good and faithful servant, enter into my kingdom." He died immediately before the blow could be struck. Two executioners were converted on the spot and were beheaded themselves. The date was February 10, 192 AD.

Thus we see how the story of two priest martyrs, one young, one old; one in Rome, one in Asia Minor converge to teach generations of priests that priesthood means service born of love and sacrifice, following the example of the Master who Himself stood faithful to the end. Saint Charalambos is the patron saint of all priests.

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AXIOS: FIRST GRADUATES OF SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR THE DIACONATE ORDAINED

by Marilyn Rouvelas

Over lunch at the Spartans Family Restaurant in the spring of 2009, Harry Chelpon excitedly told me about his inspiring experience at the new Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Special Program for the Diaconate which he had attended the summer before at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. He was headed back again for another two weeks that August to study such subjects as liturgics, chanting, and scripture. God-willing, after another two weeks in 2010 and the completion of three years of mentoring by his parish priest, Rev. Fr. Konstantinos Pavlakos, his call to become a deacon might happen.

God's will was manifest on January 9, 2011, with Harry's ordination to the diaconate by His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey at St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Falls Church, Virginia. Deacon John Mamangakis, one of Harry's program mates from New Rochelle, New York, assisted with the ordination; and exclaiming "Axios" with the rest of the congregation were four other program mates (not yet ordained): George Kaloroumakis of Saint George, Ocean City, Maryland; Gary Kent of Saint George, Bethesda, Maryland; Nick Pappas, Nativity of the Theotokos, Fredericksburg, Virginia; and Louis Zagami, Annunciation Cathedral, Baltimore.

That day Harry joined a small, but growing group of laity that has been called to serve our communities as deacons. Recognizing both a sincere desire of the laity to serve in this special capacity and the needs of churches and priests for assistance, the Holy Eparchial Synod of the GOA started the Special Program for the Diaconate in 2007. Already this grassroots movement is putting down deep roots; and Dr. Jim Skedros, Special Program Coordinator, is pleased and surprised at its growth. When the program began in August, 2007, only four students attended; but by August, 2010, there were 49 students enrolled, 12 of whom were from the Metropolis of Atlanta.

Now some of the graduates of those early classes have been ordained to the diaconate:

Deacon Sal Fazio in December, 2009, by His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston at Saints Constantine and Helen in Andover, Massachusetts; Deacon John Mamangakis in May, 2010, by His Grace Bishop Andonios of Phasiane at Holy Trinity, New Rochelle, New York; and Deacon Dimitri Belsito in October, 2010 by His

Grace Bishop Andonios of Phasiane at Holy Trinity at Waterbury, Connecticut.

At the ordination reception for Deacon Chelpon, Deacon Mamangakis, clearly inspired by his participation in the ordination service, explained that his experience so far as a deacon was everything he had hoped it would be: He is helping with church services, visiting the sick; and, thanks to his understanding priest, Rev. Fr. Nicholas Anctil, he is still able to balance his family life and work as a hospital administrator. For Deacon Fazio, an electrical engineer, working with the youth ministry, especially the younger GOYAns and JOY group, has been especially meaningful.

The service that these men are now providing reflects the original purpose of the ordained diaconate, a misunderstood ministry as many people wrongly assume that it is simply a steppingstone to the priesthood. However, the diaconate is a distinct ministry in itself rooted in service (diakonia), following Christ's example: "For the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve. . . (Mark 10:45)." Thus, since the Apostles chose the first seven deacons (Acts 6:1-6) to help with their work, the ordained ministry in the Orthodox Church has been comprised of three distinct orders: deacon (male and female), priest and bishop. For the ordained ministry of the Church to be fully expressed in all of its potential, all three offices should be vigorous.

Laity who are interested in exploring the GOA Special Program for the Diaconate may go to www.hchc.edu/holycross/academics/spd.html, and then prayerfully discuss the possibility with their priest, and if so advised, their Metropolitan. For in-depth history about the diaconate, read the following seminal books: John Chryssavgis, Remembering and Reclaiming Diakonia: The Diaconate Yesterday and Today (Brookline, MA: Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 2009) and Kyriaki Karidoyanes FitzGerald, Women Deacons in the Orthodox Church: Called to Holiness and Ministry (Brookline, MA, Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 1998).

Marilyn Rouvelas is the author of A Guide to Greek Traditions and Customs in America.



(Continued from page 1)

bring a Lenten Pot-Luck Meal (enough for you and your family, plus 1) for after the Wednesday Pre-Sanctified Liturgies so that we can share a Lenten meal together. This will also make Lent great. Another way that Lent will be great is that we will have a speaker share his/her experience of faith after each of the Salutation Services.

I ask you to recite and personally experience the Prayer of Saint Ephraim:

O Lord and Master of my life!

Take from me the spirit of sloth, faint-heartedness, lust of power, and idle talk.

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.

Yea, Lord and King! Grant me to see my own errors and not to judge my brother, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Come and see how great Lent can be!

Kali Sarakosti, A. Costa

NURSERY WISH LIST

Toddler-Sized Table and Chairs (2-4 chairs)

Two Small Toddler-Sized Bean Bag Chairs

Bookshelf or Book Display Organizer

Toy Storage Bin Unit

Wall Art (Religious or Greek Language Theme)

Play Rugs/Mats (i.e., car tracks pattern or alphabet)

Adult Rocking Chair

Small Flat Screen TV (for watching church services)

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If you are able to donate any of these items, please contact Tina Papamichael at 703-536-4711 or athena01@verizon.net.

(Continued from page 6)

Μηναίο, καθώς και στην Καστάνιτσα, όπου εδώ ζει την τραγωδία της εξόδου.

«Πολύ κακό που πάθανε οι Κολοκοτρωναίοι, που τους εσκλάβωσε η Τουρκιά, τ' Αλήμπεη τ' ασκέρι. Την ταπεινή Αναγνώσταινα, την πήραν οι Λαλιώτες, την δόλια την Γιωργάκαινα την παν' στην Καλαμάτα. Κι η Κωνσταντού ήταν πονηρή και ντύθηκε τ' αντρίκια.

Επήρε τ' αλαφρό σπαθί και το βαρύ τουφέκι και με τους άντρες έσμιξε, και πάει στη μέσα Μάνη».

Ο Θεόδωρος ήταν δέκα χρονών και μαζί με μία από τις αδελφές του και με την μητέρα τους σώθηκαν. Δύο της παιδιά, το ένα τριών ετών και το άλλο ενός έτους, σκλαβώθηκαν, μαζί με άλλα δύο ακόμη, που αργότερα ελευθερώθηκαν. Τον καπετάνιο Κωνσταντίνο, τον σύζυγο δηλαδή, τον σκότωσαν με προδοσία και τον έθαψαν στην Μηλιά.

Χήρα, με τα μικρά ορφανά, κυνηγημένη από τους Τούρκους στο δρόμο της Αλωνίσταινας, περιπλανιόταν στα όρη της Πιάνας και κανένας χριστιανός δεν τολμούσε να την βοηθήσει. Ύφαινε κρυφά, έκοβε ξύλα στο λόγγο, που ο Θοδωράκης της 13 ετών μετέφερε τα ξύλα με το γαϊδουράκι του στην Τρίπολη και τα πουλούσε. Και έτσι ζούσαν, ώσπου ο ατρόμητος γιός της, νεαρός αρματωλός, ξαναφέρνει τους Κολοκοτρωναίους στα παλιά τους λημέρια, μαζί και την Καπετάνισσα, την μητέρα του δηλαδή. Από το 1785 μέχρι το 1806 βουϊζουν τα διάσελα της Πελοποννήσου από τα έπη των Κολοκοτρωναίων. Οι γυναίκες τους, υπό την αρχηγία της Καπετάνισσας, μάχονται τους εχθρούς με ανδρεία και θάρρος.

Το 1806 πάλι πρόσφυγες, στην Ζάκυνθο. Πόσο ψυχικό σθένος θα είχε αυτή η γυναίκα γιά να μη καμφθεί ανάμεσα σε τόσες θυσίες της γενιάς της! Από το 1762-1806 εβδομήντα Κολοκοτρωναίοι σκοτώθηκαν, έλεγε στον εγγονό της Γενναίο. Είδε και τον γιό της κουρσάρο των Τούρκων στο Αιγαίο και του συμπαραστάθηκε, όταν το 1820 η σύζυγός του Αικατερίνη πέθανε, γιά να μη τον αφήσει να μαραθεί από την λύπη του. Με την ευχή της, στις 6 Ιανουρίου 1821, τον πρόπεμψε ελευθερωτή της Ελλάδας στην Πελοπόννησο, με ανοιχτή την σημαία! Ευτύχησε να δει και τους αγώνες του, και του συμπαραστεκόταν πάντοτε στις πολλές δύσκολες μέρες. Ευτύχησε να δει και τις δάφνες του!

Το όνειρο του εθνομάρτυρα συζύγου της Κωνσταντίνου είχε εκπληρωθεί με του

πρωτότοκου γιού της την ακάματη γενναιοψυχία!

Το όνειρο της αναστάσεως του Γένους! Δεν ήταν και δικό της κατόρθωμα;

HOLY CONFESSION

As we take our Lenten journey, Fr. Costas and Fr. Ted are available for Confession on Mondays, 6:00pm to 7:00pm (prior to the Compline Service). No appointment needed. As always, Fr. Costas and Fr. Ted are available for Holy Confession by appointment throughout the year.

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES IN MARCH

COME AND MAKE LENT GREAT!

Saturday, 05	2nd Saturday of Souls	9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Sunday, 06 Monday, 07 Wednesday, 09 Friday, 11 Saturday, 12	Forgiveness Sunday 1st Monday of Lent 1st Wednesday of Lent 1st Friday of Lent 3rd Saturday of Souls	8:00am Liturgy, 9:30am Orthros, 10:30am Liturgy 7:00pm Compline 7:00pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00pm Salutations 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Sunday, 13	Sunday of Orthodoxy	8:00am Liturgy, 9:30am Orthros, 10:30am Liturgy
Sunday, 13	Sunday of Orthodoxy	5:00pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers at SS. Peter/Paul, Potomac
Monday, 14	2nd Monday of Lent	7:00pm Compline
Wednesday, 16	2nd Wednesday of Lent	7:00pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
Friday, 18	2nd Friday of Lent	7:00pm Salutations
Sunday, 20	Sunday of Gregory Palamas	8:00am Liturgy, 9:30am Orthros, 10:30am Liturgy
Monday, 21	3rd Monday of Lent	7:00pm Compline
Wednesday, 23	3rd Wednesday of Lent	7:00pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
Thursday, 24	Forefeast of Annunciation	7:00pm Vespers
Friday, 25	Annunciation	9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Friday, 25	3rd Friday of Lent	7:00pm Salutations
Sunday, 27	Sunday of the Holy Cross	8:00am Liturgy, 9:30am Orthros, 10:30am Liturgy
Monday, 28	4th Monday of Lent	7:00pm Compline
Wednesday, 30	4th Wednesday of Lent	7:00pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

FASTING

JUST AS THERE ARE TIMES FOR FEASTING, there are also times set aside for fasting. During these periods, certain foods are prohibited. These are, in order of frequency of prohibition, meat (including poultry), dairy products, fish, olive oil, and wine. Fruits, vegetables, grains, and shellfish are permitted throughout the year. Of course, the Orthodox Church never reduces the practice of fasting to a legalistic observance of dietary rules. Fasting, that is not accompanied by intensified prayer and acts of charity, inevitably becomes a source of pride. The Church also recognizes that not everyone can fast to the same degree, and assumes that individual Christians will observe the fast prescribed for them by their spiritual fathers. The following are fasting days and seasons:

- + All Wednesdays and Fridays, except for those noted below
- + The day before the Feast of Theophany (January 5)
- + Cheesefare Week (the last week before the Great Lent, during which meat and fish are prohibited, but dairy products are permitted even on Wednesday and Friday)
- + Great Lent (from Clean Monday through the Friday before Lazarus Saturday, olive oil and wine are permitted on weekends)
- + Great and Holy Week (note that Great and Holy Saturday is a day of strict fasting, abstain from olive oil and wine)
- + Holy Apostles' Fast (from the Monday after All Saints' Day through June 28, inclusive)
- + Fast for the Dormition of the Theotokos (August 1-14, excluding August 6 [Holy Transfiguration], on which fish, wine and olive oil are permitted)
- + Beheading of Saint John the Baptist (August 29)
- + Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14)
- + Nativity Lent (November 15-December 24, although fish, wine and olive oil are permitted, except on Wednesdays and Fridays, until December 17). Dispensation is given for Thanksgiving Day.



Become a 2011 Steward of Saint Katherine Today!



In faith, prayer, and sacrifice, my family and I wish to share in the support and work of our Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Katherine. Out of our love and gratitude to God for all His blessings, we would like to pledge the amount of

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Address:						
Telephone and	d e-mail addro	ess:				
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Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org. U. S. POSTAGE **Paid** Falls Church, VA Permit No. 19

ATTENTION POSTMASTER: Please expedite. Dated material.

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00am Divine Liturgy

9:30am Orthros

10:30am Divine Liturgy

CATECHETICAL (SUNDAY) SCHOOL CLASSES

9:30am Nursery - 12th Grade

9:30am Adult (in board room of M/C Center)9:30am Journey to Orthodoxy (in Founders' Hall)

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

10:30am Wednesdays, March 9 and 23



