Apolytikion of Great and Holy Pascha (1st Plagal Tone)
-Christ is Risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.
-Χριστός Ανέστη εκ νεκρών, θανάτω θάνατον πατήσας, και τοις εν τοις μνήμαις ζωήν χαρισάμενος.

Apolytikion of the Day (2nd Tone)
-When you descended unto death, O life immortal, You destroyed Hades with the splendor of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers shouted: O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You.
-Ότε κατήλθες προς τον θάνατον, η ζωή η αθάνατος, τότε ον Άδην ενέκρωσας, τη αστραπή της θεότητος. Ότε δε και τους τεθνεώτας, εκ των καταχθόνων ανέστησας, πάσαι αι δυνάμεις των επουρανίων εκραύγαζον: Ζωοδότα Χιστέ, ο Θεός ημών, δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion of Saint Katherine the Great Martyr (1st Tone)
-Let us praise the all lauded and noble bride of Christ, the godly Katherine, the guardian of Sinai and its defense, who is also our support, assistance and our help; for with the Holy Spirit's sword she hath silenced brilliantly the clever among the godless; and being crowned as a Martyr, she now does ask great mercy for us all.
-Την πανεύφημον νύμφην Χριστού υμνήσωμεν, Αικατερίναν την θείαν και πολιούχον Σινά, την βοήθειαν ημών και αντίληψιν. Ότι εφίμωσε λαμπρώς, τους κομψούς των ασεβών, του Πνεύματος τη δυνάμει. Και νυν ως Μάρτυς στεφθείσα, αιτείται πάσι το μέγα έλεος.

Kontakion of the Day (4th Plagal Tone)
-Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.
-Ει και εν τάφω κατήλθες αθάνατε, αλλά του Άδου καθήλες την δύναμιν, και ανέστης ως νικητής, Χριστέ ο Θεός, γυναιξί μυροφόροις φθεγξάμενος, χαίρετε, και τοις σοις Αποστόλοις ειρήνην δωρούμενος, ο τοις πεσούσι παρέχων ανάστασιν.
Epistle Reading

The Lord is my strength and my song.
The Lord has chastened me sorely.
The reading is from Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 6:1-7 – In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "it is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Gospel Reading

Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8 – At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

To celebrate the arrival of Spring and the easing of some COVID restrictions, we are holding a post Pascha used books blowout sale. This not-to-be missed event takes place this morning in the covered awning area next to the Chelpon Hall. Thanks to the generous donations of the several parishioners, we have a wide assortment of gently used tomes in Greek and English, including meditations from Orthodox spiritual leaders, cookbooks, art books, history studies, and beautifully photographed guidebooks to key tourist sites in Greece. You choose your price for these items and we hope you will be generous as we use these proceeds to fund important projects as books for the children in Kenya and catechism books for converts to Orthodox.

Saint Katherine will have a Food Drive to benefit Columbia Baptist Church Hunger Ministry’s Food Pantry on Sunday, May 23, 9:30am-11:30am in the circular driveway in front of the Church. (No paper bags, please.) Requested items include: Oatmeal, canned meat and fish, unsweetened cereal. Thank you for your support.
Memorial Services are offered this morning for Katherine Katinas-Canard (40-days), mother of Maria Linden; for Antonia (Antoinette) Demeres (3-years), aunt of John Douli and George Charuhas and for The Deceased Brothers of AHEPA, Chapter Peter N. Derzis #438. May their memory be eternal!

AHEPA Sunday Today – As in every year he 3rd Sunday of May is a day which was established to promote the good work of AHEPA in our communities, the Greek Orthodox Church and to memorialize our departed Brothers. Since its inception AHEPA has been instrumental in educating the Greek-American Community showing the way to blend in our new environment without losing our Greek heritage and supporting our churches. If you are not already an Ahepan this is the time to become a member. For this our local chapter, the Peter N. Derzis Chapter 438 has made available (across from the Candle’s stand) membership applications. Pick up one, fill out and submit it via email at ahepachapter438@gmail.com. Please join us.

Philoptochos Elections will take place this morning immediately following the Divine Liturgy. We encourage you to vote in person. You can also vote by zoom. Only members in good standing will be allowed to vote. If you are running for the board you must be present. The state for the Board of Directors for 2021-2023 is as follows: Sophia Varlas Bohle, Tori Carr, Denise Garbis, Anastasia Kanakos, Patty Karounos, Martha Lampos, Linda Moratis, Daphne Papamichael, Karen Polizos, Deana Simons, Mary Smaragdis, Andrea Snedegar, Nia Vroustouris, and Mary Varlas. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. The Election Committee: Andrea Ballard, Presvytera Pauline Pavlakos and Maria Will.

Journey to Orthodoxy – Beginning Monday, February 1, the “Journey to Orthodoxy” class for adults resumes ONLINE Via Zoom, on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00pm Eastern Time. 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. The class follows an informal discussion format. For further information, and to receive links class materials and to be placed on the Zoom invitation list, please contact the teachers, John Demakis demakis9931@gmail.com, Jim Jatras heraclius13@gmail.com, 202-375-1007, or the Zoom technical coordinator James Class, classj@gmail.com.

Adult Bible Studies class – In this time of social distancing, let us continue our weekly Adult Bible Studies online. Join us each Thursday evening at 7:00pm. We will take up a new topic each week on Thursdays, with: “What is the Meaning of Resurrection?”

Catechetical Lectures of Saint Cyril of Jerusalem – A Greek Bible Study led by Professor Ioannis Gkigkitzis. The Adult Catechism and Sacraments class “Catechetical Lecture of Saint Cyril” is taking place every Tuesday online at 7:15 p.m. This includes time for discussion and fellowship.

Greek School – Please check our Church’s website, www.saint-katherines.org or our HEC website, www.stkhec.org for an application. For more information on our Saint Katherine’s Greek School please contact Sophia Tsangali at 703-671-1515 or stsangali@stkchurch.com.

Saint Katherine Day School – We are excited to announce that the Saint Katherine Day School is now open and accepting enrollments. We currently offer part-time (3 days/week) and full-time (5 days/week) options for children between the ages 2 to 5. Should you have any questions, or wish to enroll in our program, please feel free to reach out to us at hec-administraton@stkchurch.com or 703-671-7715.

Warm Thanks to all our parishioners who helped our Church with voluntary work or with monetary donations during the Great Lent, the Great Holy Week and the Great and Holy Pascha! May our Risen Lord bless you and your families now and always!
Offertory Prayer. O God, as you welcomed the gifts of Abel, the sacrifices of Noah and Abraham, the incense of Aaron and Zachariah, do welcome also, from the hands of us sinners, these offerings, so that in clear conscience we may always offer to you gifts and the resources of our labor, for your glorification, for the alleviation of sufferings and hunger, for the ministry to your people, by the grace, mercy and philanthropy of your only begotten Son with whom You are blessed from ages to ages. Amen.

Προσευχή Προσφοράς. Ω Θεέ, όπως δέχθηκες τα δώρα του Άβελ, τις θυσίες του Νώε και του Αβραάμ, το θυμίαμα του Ααρών και του Ζαχαρία, ας δεχθείς από τα αμαρτωλά μας χέρια και τις προσφορές αυτές έτσι, ώστε πάντοτε να μπορούμε να Σου προσφέρουμε δώρα και τους κόπους της εργασίας μας γιά 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.