

EPISTLE AND GOSPEL READINGS

EPISTLE READING:

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 2.

Psalm 27.9,1

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Verse: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 4:5-8

TIMOTHY, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry.

For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Προκείμενον. Ήχος πλ. β'.

ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 27.9,1

Σῶσον, Κύριε τὸν λαὸν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου.

Στίχ. Πρὸς σέ, Κύριε, κεκράξομαι ὁ Θεός μου.

Πρὸς Τιμόθεον β' 4:5-8 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα εἶναι απο

Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, νῆφε ἐν πᾶσιν, κακοπάθησον, ἔργον ποιήσον εὐαγγελιστοῦ, τὴν διακονίαν σου πληροφόρησον. Ἐγὼ γὰρ ἤδη σπένδομαι, καὶ ὁ καιρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀναλύσεως ἐφέστηκεν. Τὸν ἀγῶνα τὸν καλὸν ἠγώνισμαι, τὸν δρόμον τετέλεκα, τὴν πίστιν τετήρηκα· λοιπὸν, ἀπόκειται μοι ὁ τῆς δικαιοσύνης στέφανος, ὃν ἀποδώσει μοι ὁ κύριος ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, ὁ δίκαιος κριτῆς· οὐ μόνον δὲ ἐμοί, ἀλλὰ καὶ πᾶσιν τοῖς ἡγαπηκόσιν τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν αὐτοῦ.

GOSPEL READING:

The Gospel According to Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John was baptizing in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Μάρκον 1:1-8 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀρχὴ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ὡς γέγραπται ἐν τοῖς προφήταις, ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω τὸν ἄγγελόν μου πρὸ προσώπου σου, ὃς κατασκευάσει τὴν ὁδόν

σου ἔμπροσθέν σου· φωνὴ βοῶντος ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, ἐτοιμάσατε τὴν ὁδὸν Κυρίου, εὐθείας ποιεῖτε τὰς τρίβους αὐτοῦ, ἐγένετο Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ καὶ κηρύσσων βάπτισμα μετανοίας εἰς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν. Καὶ ἐξεπορεύετο πρὸς αὐτὸν πᾶσα ἡ Ἰουδαία χώρα καὶ οἱ Ἱεροσολυμίται, καὶ ἐβαπτίζοντο πάντες ἐν τῷ Ἰορδάνῃ ποταμῷ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἐξομολογούμενοι τὰς ἁμαρτίας αὐτῶν. Ἦν δὲ ὁ Ἰωάννης ἐνδεδυμένος τρίχας καμήλου καὶ ζώνην δερματίνην περὶ τὴν ὀσφύν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐσθίων ἀκρίδας καὶ μέλι ἄγριον. Καὶ ἐκήρυσσε λέγων· ἔρχεται ὁ ἰσχυρότερός μου ὀπίσω μου, οὗ οὐκ εἰμι ἰκανὸς κύψας λῦσαι τὸν ἱμάντα τῶν ὑποδημάτων αὐτοῦ· ἐγὼ μὲν ἐβάπτισα ὑμᾶς ἐν ὕδατι, αὐτὸς δὲ βαπτίσει ὑμᾶς ἐν Πνεύματι Ἁγίῳ.

SAINTS AND FEASTS:

On this day we commemorate:

- Sunday before Epiphany
- Apodosis of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ
- Melania the Younger, Nun of Rome
- The Martyr and Presbyter Zoticus of Rome, Patron of Orphans

Melania the Younger, Nun of Rome

Saint Melania the Younger, who was born in 388, was the grand-daughter of Saint Melania the Elder (see June 8). Her father Publicola was an Eparch of Rome. She was joined in wedlock to a husband and became the mother of two children, both of which she lost shortly thereafter. Thus, having agreed with her husband to pass the rest of their lives in abstinence and chastity, and taking her mother Albina with her, she went off to Africa. They ransomed 8,000 captives; furthermore, they built two monasteries - one for men and one for women - in the city of Tagaste, which was in the district of Tunis. After seven years they

moved to Jerusalem. Thereafter Melania shut herself up in a small and narrow hermitage by the Mount of Olives, and wearing away her body with fasting and vigil, she reposed in 434.

Because of the Apodosis of the Feast of the Nativity on the 31st of this month, the hymns of Saint Melania the Younger are transferred to December 30th along with the Martyr Anysia.



“Sunday before Theophany”

Sunday, December 31st, 2017

8:30am - Orthros

9:30am - Divine Liturgy

Monday, January 1st – St. Basil the Great

9:30am–Divine Liturgy of St. Basil

Friday, January 5th –Eve of Theophany

9:30am-Vesperal Liturgy of St. basil the Great with Lesser Blessing of the Waters

Saturday, January 6th –Holy Theophany

8:30am- Orthros

9:30am-Divine Liturgy with Great Blessing of the Waters

Parish Council Assignment Team #1-Elaine, Mena, Athena

MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Memorial Service this morning is for the 5 year memorial of Constantina Deliz (mother), the 72 year memorial of Euthemios Kotronis (grandfather), the 77 year memorial of Paraskevi Kotronis (grandmother), the 71 year memorial of Dimitrios Jimmy Kotronis (uncle) and the 96 year memorial of Caesar Lialiamos (great uncle) of Demetrios Deliz. May their memories be eternal!

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Fellowship Hour this morning is being hosted by the Parish Council.

CHURCH OFFICE TO BE CLOSED

The Church office will be closed on Monday, January 1st in observance of the New Year’s Day holiday.

BIBLE STUDY AND YAL

Bible Study will be on recess until Tuesday, January 9th.

INQUIRER’S CLASS

Class will begin on Tuesday, January 2nd and will run for 10 weeks. Class will meet in the church.

JOY/HOPE

The JOY/Hope will be meeting this Wednesday from 4:15-5:45pm. This program is geared toward all children ages 5-12. Fr. Phil will provide instruction on the Orthodox Faith. A complimentary meal will be served and parental supervision will be provided.

YOUTH CHOIR

The Church Youth Choir began in September. If you are interested and would like more information please contact: Alexandra.af@cox.net

ST. IRENE PHILOPTOCHOS NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The ladies of the St. Irene Philoptochos are seeking sponsors to help with funding of a pre-Lenten retreat. If you would like to help sponsor this event please Linda Blazev (480) 766-9487. Thank you to those who have already donated!

VOLUNTEERS TO SPONSOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR Would you like to sponsor a fellowship hour? Please contact the church office at 480 899-3330.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Arizona Hellenic Foundation has scholarships available for qualified students. For applications and eligibility requirements please visit our website: azhellenic.org Applications must be mailed by April 1, 2018.

GREEK SCHOOL

From Sept. 2017- May 2018, St. Katherine Church offers a series of Greek Language classes for children ages 4.5 - 5 (by September 1st, 2017). Classes began on September 15th. More information is available at the Church narthex.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 6th - Fifth Acre House Blessing, 11:45am

January 7th - Philoptochos Vasilopita Sale

January 7th - The Parish Council will be sponsoring a Fellowship Hour Luncheon of Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries and Drink. \$10.00 per person, Children 8 and Under Free. Proceeds will be applied toward the costs of the preparation & improvements to the 2828 N Dobson Building which is to be used for our Saint Katherine Sunday School, our Groups & Organizations.

January 14th - Stewardship Kick-off Breakfast

PLEASE NOTE...

It costs \$100 dollars per week per family to operate Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church. Please prayerfully consider your stewardship. We certainly appreciate all those who give of their time, talent & tithings. Thank you for your love and commitment to Saint Katherine!

Download & Print the Weekly Bulletin & Spirit at:

www.st-katherine.org/bulletin.htm

www.st-katherine.org/spirit.htm

**St. Katherine
Greek Orthodox Church
Weekly Bulletin
December 31, 2017
Welcome!**



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Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Lunch: 12:00 – 1:00p.m.

Proistamenos:

Rev. Fr. Philip S. Armstrong

Email: skcpriest@yahoo.com

Assisting Priest:

Fr. Demetrios Kavouras

**APOLYTIKION AND KONTAKION
HYMNS**

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal of the First Tone

To the Word coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Apolytikion for Christmas

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.

Apolytikion for Godbearing Fathers

Annunciate the miracles to David the ancestor of God, O Joseph. You saw the Virgin pregnant. You glorified with the shepherds. You worshipped with the Magi. And you were warned by an Angel. Entreat Christ God to save our souls.

Apolytikion of St. Katherine

Let us sing the praise of the Bride of Christ renown, the Patroness of Sinai, Katherine Divine. Our assistance and protection, for she has brilliantly subdued, the impious refine, by the power of the Spirit. She was crowned as a martyr of the Lord, and for all, she entreats the great mercy.

Τὴν πανεύφημον νόμφην Χριστοῦ ὑμνήσωμεν, Αἰκατερίναν τὴν θεῖαν καὶ πολιοῦχον Σινᾶ, τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν καὶ ἀντίληψιν, ὅτι ἐφίμωσε λαμπρῶς, τοὺς κομψοὺς τῶν ἄσεβδων, τοῦ Πνεύματος τῆ μαχαίρα, καὶ νῦν ὡς Μάρτυς στεφθεῖσα, αἰτεῖται πᾶσι τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Kontakion

On this day the Virgin Maid goes to the grotto to give birth to the pre-eternal Word in an ineffable manner. Dance for joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing. Glorify along with Angels and with the shepherds Him who willed that He appear as a newborn Child, the pre-eternal God.

**Welcome to all our visitors worshipping with us today!
We're glad you're here! Please join us at our Fellowship Hour immediately following the Divine Liturgy to meet fellow parishioners and learn more about the community.**