

## EPISTLE AND GOSPEL READINGS

### EPISTLE READING:

#### Prokeimenon. Mode 4.

**Daniel 3.26,27**

**Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.**

**Verse: For you are just in all you have done.**

**The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:9-10; 32-40**

BRETHREN, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundation, whose builder and maker is God.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they

might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

### GOSPEL READING:

#### The Gospel According to Matthew 1:1-25

The book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth,

and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.



## “Sunday Before Nativity”

Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

8:30am-Orthros

9:30am-Divine Liturgy

10:40am- Sunday School

Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>-Eve of the Nativity

9:30am-Vespers Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>-NATIVITY OF OUR  
LORD JESUS CHRIST

8:30am-Orthros

9:30am-Divine Liturgy

Thursday, December 27<sup>th</sup>-St. Stephen the Proto  
Martyr

9:30am- Divine Liturgy

Parish Council Assignment Team #1- Athena,  
Marina, Zoi, Tom

### FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Fellowship Hour this morning is sponsored by  
The Sunday School.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Please join us in the Community Center  
following dismissal of Liturgy for the annual  
Sunday School Christmas program.

### BOOKSTORE

The bookstore is open today for all of your  
last-minute Christmas Gift purchases We have  
a lovely selection of children’s books about  
the Nativity and St. Nicholas as well as the  
beautiful Nativity Icons, Orthodox tree  
ornaments, prayer bead bracelets (or knotted  
bracelets) and other religious gifts. Have a  
Blessed Holy Season. We will be closed on  
Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.

### BIBLE STUDY AND YAL

Bible Study and YAL fellowship will be on a  
recess until Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>.

### OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed on December 24<sup>th</sup>  
and 25<sup>th</sup> in observance of Nativity.

### SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO CLEAN CHURCH

Anyone interested in lending a hand to clean  
the church please contact Vicki Lampropoulos  
at 480-855-9112

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**December 28, 2018- Philoptochos/Agape  
Group “Feed My Starving Children” event.**  
See flier in Narthex for details or contact  
Maria Morton.

**January 6, 2019- Philoptochos Vasilopita  
Sale**

**January 13-Philoptochos General Meeting**

**January 26, 2019 – AGAPE BALL**  
See enclosed flier for details.

#### 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!

#### Additional Parking

Please remember that additional parking is  
available in the lot on the 5<sup>th</sup> acre west of the flat-  
roof building on Comstock Street.

#### Deadline for bulletin announcements

All announcements to be published in the Sunday  
bulletin must be submitted (email is preferred) by  
noon on the Wednesday prior to publication. The  
online version is sent to the webpage manager on  
Wednesday afternoon, anything received after that  
may appear in the print version but not online.

Greek Archdiocese of America:

[www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)

Metropolis of San Francisco:

[www.sanfran.goarch.org](http://www.sanfran.goarch.org)

Download & Print the Bulletin & Spirit at:

[www.st-katherine.org](http://www.st-katherine.org)

## St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church Weekly Bulletin December 23, 2018 Welcome!



2716 N. Dobson Rd., Ste. 101  
Chandler, Arizona 85224

Phone & Fax: (480) 899-3330

Website: [www.st-katherine.org](http://www.st-katherine.org)

E-mail: [office@st-katherine.org](mailto:office@st-katherine.org)

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Closed 12:00 – 1:00p.m. for lunch

Proistamenos:

Rev. Fr. Philip S. Armstrong

Email: [skcpriest@yahoo.com](mailto:skcpriest@yahoo.com)

Assisting Priest:

Fr. Demetrios Kavouras

## SAINTS AND FEASTS

Today we commemorate:

- Sunday before Nativity
- Forefeast of the Nativity of Our  
Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ
- Ten Martyrs of Crete
- Paul, Archbishop of Neo-Caesarea

### READINGS:

#### Ten Martyrs of Crete

These Saints, who were all from Crete,  
contested for piety's sake during the reign  
of Decius, in the year 250. Theodulus,  
Saturninus, Euporus, Gelasius, and  
Eunician were from Gortynia, the capital;  
Zoticus was from Knossos; Agathopus,  
from the port city of Panormus; Basilides,  
from Cydonia; Evarestus and Pompey,  
from Heraklion. Haled before the  
Governor as Christians, they were  
subjected to torments for thirty days,  
being scourged, racked, dragged upon the  
ground through dung heaps, stoned, spit  
upon. They were questioned again, but  
their costancy roused the Governor to  
greater fury. After subjecting them to  
torments more bitter still, he had them  
beheaded.

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.