



SAINT KATHERINE CHRONICLE

JANUARY - APRIL 2011



A Word from your Pastor

I realized recently that we have been producing this newsletter for over 22 years. As my days become busier providing for the pastoral needs of the 300 families of our parish, I am finding that it becomes more of a challenge to produce the newsletter on a regular basis. I also find myself asking, "What purpose should the newsletter provide to our parish?"

In the beginning of our existence, the Saint Katherine Chronicle was a vital link between our young parish and the many Orthodox Christians in the Sacramento Valley. We sent our newsletter to everyone we could think of in those days, in order to spread the word about the new Elk Grove church and what was going on here.

Today however, the newsletter has taken on a different role. Today, Saint Katherine has become a steadfast fixture in the Orthodox community of the Central Valley. As a result, the purpose of the newsletter has also evolved. It has become primarily a tool for information regarding parish programs and schedules, with a smattering of faith-oriented articles appearing from time to time.

Newsletters, however can promote a problem in a parish. While a newsletter is a good source of information for parish ministries, it can also promote a type of spectator participation in the life of a community. In other words, rather than reading about what we are doing, I think it is better that we each come in person to find out what we are doing. After all, the Orthodox Church is concerned with the salvation of our souls. It is not a club filled with activities.

So, from now on, we will continue to produce the newsletter with all of its usual features and calendars, etc. The difference will be that it will not be produced according to a strict period, monthly or bi-monthly. It will arrive in your home as the need arises to fill you in on services and events at Saint Katherine. More frequent updates will be posted on our website: saintkatherine.org

The bottom line is, I think you should come to church on Sunday. Strengthen your faith and be inspired spiritually by the sermon and the Divine Liturgy. Then, listen to the announcements at the end of church services to get the latest details.

Faithfully yours,

Father Dino

Religious Education

Sunday School Schedule of Events

March 7 – Pure Monday

March 13 – The Sunday of Orthodoxy, icon procession following the Divine Liturgy.

April 17 – Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt.

April 24 – Easter Sunday, no Sunday School classes.

May 15 – Sunday School Graduation.

Our Sunday School students are to be congratulated for a very successful and generous Christmas Toy Drive, which benefitted the Sacramento Children's Receiving Home! Our Sunday School students and teachers gathered a huge amount of toys, with something for every age group, from babies to older children. The Children's Receiving Home was very happy to distribute the toys to all the children in their care. May God bless our Sunday School children, parents and teachers for their generosity and thoughtfulness this past Christmas.

On the Sunday of Orthodoxy, March 13th, our children are invited to bring an icon to participate in the procession of holy icons following the Divine Liturgy. In addition, the children will have an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Holy Confession from Father Dino on the Saturday of Lazarus, April 16th, following the Divine Liturgy at 10 AM. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place the next day after the Palm Sunday Liturgy.

Don't forget that all girls aged 6 – 12 are invited to participate in the procession during the evening service of the Lamentations on Holy Friday. They should wear a white dress and sit in the front pew (no candles please) to be ready to sprinkle flower petals during the procession that night.

A SUCCESSFUL CRAB FEED INDEED! – Many thanks to Crab Feed Chairperson, Christine Kockinis, for organizing one of our most successful Crab Feeds in recent years, with just over \$21,500 in net proceeds to Saint Katherine! Christine writes:

I am very proud and happy to report the outstanding success of this year's crab feed. The credit goes to our generous donors, volunteers, committee chairs, parish council, Philoptochos society, GOYA and especially to all those who attended. Each and every member of our church family can be equally proud of the huge success of the Saint Katherine 2011 crab feed. Thank you all very much!

-- Christine Kockinis, 2011 crab feed chairperson

PARISH NOTES

Church Office ☎ 683-3443 / Church fax 683-3389

Father Dino's Home ☎ 684-8731

website: www.saintkatherine.org / e-mail address: pappademos@saintkatherine.org

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW PARISH COUNCIL – We welcome the new members of our Parish Council who were elected this past December and the returning members. The members of the 2011 Saint Katherine Parish Council are as follows:

Michael Makrakis	President
Carol Robinson –	Vice President
Richard Bueche –	Treasurer
Isabel Granados –	Secretary
Enrico Carrieri	
Thomas Mouzes	
Theodore Pantazis	

We are grateful for their dedicated service and for all their efforts involved with the administration of our parish. Thank you and congratulations one and all

STEWARDSHIP – Our Stewardship program remains the mainstay of support for our parish. It provides for over half of the funds we need to pay our bills and continue to do God's work here in Elk Grove. Right now, our parish has about 285 families that continue to provide financial support, with an average Stewardship offering from each family of about \$800 for the year. Thank you for your continued support of our parish through your Stewardship giving, whether it is weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually. If you haven't pledged yet, please send your card in this week and officially join our Saint Katherine family. In addition, this year we were disappointed to see the very poor quality of Stewardship monthly envelopes from our supplier. We apologize for any inconvenience the excessive glue has caused. Please know that we are currently communicating with a new envelope company that will provide better quality envelopes (without any binding glue) for next year. For now, just make sure to put your envelope number on the memo portion of your checks for Stewardship and feel free to use any envelope to send it to the office.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD – Sincere appreciation is expressed to everyone who participated in our Parish Christmas card in December. The card contained a record number of names of families who offered a record amount as their Christmas gift to Saint Katherine. Please note that the following families also send their holiday wishes together with those on the card: George, Kim and Blake Demas; Helen Giannakakis; Ann and Sam Marandos; Elaine Pavlatos; Valentin and Opritsa Popa; Andreas and Barbara Toupadakis; Stefanos and Chrisoula Skouritakis; Chrisi Demos; the Vrame Family; and Georgia Zampathas and Family. We thank them and everyone who participated, for their generous Christmas offering.

NEW LOUKOUMATHES MACHINE!—We want to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to everyone who made donations toward our new Loukoumathes Machine! We now have it completely paid for and will be ordering it for delivery soon. This machine will prove indispensable for fund-raising and future festivals for many years. Thank you again to everyone who made donations for this!

SAINT KATHERINE BIBLE STUDY GROUP – Our Bible Study sessions are usually held at 10 AM each Tuesday morning at the church office conference table. All parishioners are invited to attend these informative one-hour sessions that offer many opportunities to study Holy Scripture and learn more about the various facets of the Orthodox Christian faith. Each session begins and ends with a prayer, and is led by Father Dino, but the informal atmosphere encourages participation from all who attend. The Bible Study is currently examining our Church, using the book *The Orthodox Church* by Katherine Clark.

Philoptochos News

Membership materials have been mailed to all women of the parish and we invite you to become a member of Philoptochos in 2011. Our Saint Katherine Philoptochos is comprised of a number of Circles, each of which has special interests and allows each Circle to focus on its particular cause or charity. Additionally, the Philoptochos general fund contributes to the following local charities: WIND (Homeless teens), Elk Grove Food Closet and WEAVE. Please contact Alison Alemán, President, or one of the Circle leaders listed below for information about becoming a member.

On Sunday, March 20th, we will be holding our Philoptochos Open House and Membership Drive during the coffee hour following church services. A representative from each Circle will present a brief synopsis of the good and charitable work they do throughout the year and you will be able to peruse the booths of each Circle to find out more information and sign up as a member of the Circle in which you'd like to participate.

- ✦ **Abigail Circle** – Athina Holland / Jamie Carrieri
- ✦ **Anna Circle** – Alison Alemán / Kia Balalis
- ✦ **Mary Magdeline Circle** – Presvytera Chrisoula / Dina Scordakis
- ✦ **Rachel Circle** – Mary Kondos / Eleni Camperos
- ✦ **Rebecca Circle** – Diane Petersen / Christine Economy
- ✦ **Susanna Circle** – Elaine Pavlatos / Kathy LaGiusa / Sophia Stathos

Finally, please note the dates of the wonderful activities we have planned so far for this year:

- Sunday, March 20th, Philoptochos Open House and Membership Drive during coffee hour.
- Sunday, April 17th, Our Annual Palm Sunday Luncheon.
- Saturday, May 7th, Our Annual Philoptochos Mothers Day Luncheon.
- August (all month) Helping to cook for our parish annual festival
- "A Weekend in Greece" will be this year on Saturday and Sunday, September 24th & 25th.

PROSPHORON SCHEDULE

Athanasia Manikas:	Jan. 2,	Feb. 13,	Mar. 27,	May 8	June 19
Eleni Camperos:	Jan. 9,	Feb. 20,	April 3,	May 15	June 16
Christine Economy:	Jan. 16,	Feb. 27,	April 10,	May 22	July 3
Sevasti Hatzopoulos:	Jan. 23,	Mar. 6,	April 17,	May 29	July 10
Anna Papajohn:	Jan. 30,	Mar. 13,	April 24,	June 5	July 17
Eleni Vathis:	Feb. 6,	Mar. 20,	May 1,	June 12	July 24

SAINT KATHERINE ACOLYTES – One of the most consistent and unique youth ministries at Saint Katherine has been the Acolyte program. All boys from age 7 through 18, are eligible to serve as Acolytes in the Holy Altar during the Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning, as well as during other special services and holidays throughout the year. Serving in the Altar can be a very positive experience that will stay with a young man for the rest of his life. Nothing else can convey a sense of appreciation for holy things, a reverence for God and the spiritual life quite the same as serving as an Acolyte in the Holy Altar. Each acolyte should alternate one Sunday of service in the Holy Altar with one Sunday in attendance in Sunday School. For more information and to enroll your son as an Acolyte, simply contact Father Dino.

Saint Katherine Philoptochos Easter Bake Sale

Orders must be submitted by Sunday, April 10th. Items can be picked up on Palm Sunday, April 17th.

Qty.		Sub Totals
_____	dz. Koulourakia - \$5 per dozen =	\$ _____
_____	ea. Tsoureki Bread x \$8 per loaf =	_____
_____	Baklava x \$100 per whole sheet =	_____
_____	Baklava x \$50 per half sheet =	_____
_____	ea. Baklava x \$1.50 per piece =	_____
_____	dz. Red Easter Eggs - \$3 per dozen =	_____
Total Enclosed =		\$ _____

Name: _____ Phone # _____
 Return in person by April 10th or mail to Philoptochos, 9165 Peets Street, Elk Grove, CA 95758
 ✂ - - - - -

Orthodox Memorial Services

Set me as a seal upon your heart; for love is as strong as death. (Song of Songs 8:6)

Prayer for the dead is seen by Orthodox Christians as an essential component of our faith in Jesus Christ. Praying for those who have died is not merely an expression of mourning, it is a proclamation that Christ has risen from the dead and that, in His love, even death cannot separate us from one another! Forty days after the death of a loved one (or on the Sunday nearest to the 40 days), it is the custom of our Church to celebrate a prayer service in remembrance of the deceased known in English as a Memorial Service. In this service we ask God to “grant rest” to the deceased “in the bosom of Abraham” (Luke 16:22-23) and to place him or her “in a place of light, a place of happiness, a place of refreshment, where there is no pain, no sorrow and no suffering” (Revelation 21:4) as we did during the funeral service.

A tray of boiled wheat, raisins and powdered sugar called “*kolyva*” in Greek is prepared for the service and is later, at the parish coffee hour, distributed to the community. This practice is based on the words that the Lord Jesus used to describe His own death and resurrection, “Amen, I say to you: unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a single grain of wheat. But if it dies, it brings forth a good harvest” (John 12:24). The tray of *kolyva* is a symbol of our faith in the life-giving death and resurrection of Christ.

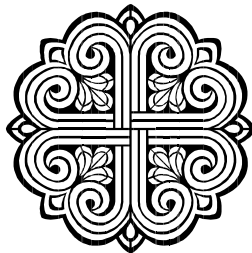
*“For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord.
 So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.”
 (Romans 14:8)*

MEMORIAL FLAME -- If you would like to have the Memorial Flame on the Holy Altar Table burn in memory of a loved one on a specific day, please send your donation together with a note of explanation and the date requested to the church office.

- † On Tuesday, November 16th, the Holy Altar Vigil Flame burned in memory of Jennifer Elizabeth Jenkins, 10 years since her passing on what would have been her 27th birthday, and was offered by her mother Georgia Jenkins-Wenger and grandmother Isabel Granados.
- † On Thursday, November 25th, Mel Bouzos offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in honor of his mother Catherine Pavlatos, and his daughter Katerina Bouzos, for their name days for Saint Katherine.
- † On Thursday, December 9th, Kaliope Michos offered the Memorial Flame in memory of her son-in-law Costa Livanos, 8 years since his passing
- † On Sunday, December 12th, Popi Anagnos offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of her beloved husband Gus Anagnos, 3 years since his passing.
- † Also on Sunday, December 12th, the candelabra on the Holy Altar table were offered in memory of Vlasi Michos, 56 years since his passing and were offered by his loving wife, Kaliope.
- † On Tuesday, December 21st, the Memorial Flame burned in memory of Dennis Varkados, 35 years since his passing and was offered by his sister, Kaliope Michos.
- † On Saturday, December 25th, Georgia Jenkins-Wenger offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of her beloved daughter Jennifer Elizabeth Jenkins.
- † On Saturday, December 25th, the Holy Altar Vigil Flame burned in memory of Metropolitan Anthony, 6 years since his passing, and was offered by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Chrisoula and Vasili Antonopoulos.
- † On Saturday, December 25th, James and Eleni Camperos offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of their beloved father Peter Camperos.
- † On Tuesday, December 28th, Mary Savage offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of her beloved father George Andro, 3 years since his passing.
- † On Sunday, December 26th, The Memorial Flame burned in memory of Emmanuel Tzanakakis, 2 years since his passing, and was offered by his daughter, Sophia Stathos.
- † On Tuesday, January 18th, Kaliope Michos offered the Memorial Flame in memory of her father, George Varkados, 25 years since his passing.
- † On Tuesday, January 25th, the Holy Altar Vigil Flame burned in memory of Angelo Zogopoulos on what was his birthday and was offered by his loving wife, Sophie.
- † On Wednesday, January 26th, Fran Koulos offered the Memorial Flame in memory of her friend, Mary Marangos, 40 days since her passing.
- † On Sunday, January 30th, the Memorial Flame burned in memory of Angeliki Boulmetis, 3 months since her passing and was offered by her niece, Vernie Engilis.
- † On Friday, March 25th, Kiki Allison will offer the Memorial Flame in memory of her husband, Alexander, 9 years since his passing.

2011

holy week and pascha services



April

15	FRIDAY EVENING	Tie Palm Crosses	6 PM
16	LAZARUS SATURDAY	Divine Liturgy Confessions following	10 AM
17	PALM SUNDAY	Divine Liturgy & luncheon Bridegroom Service	10 AM 7 PM
18	HOLY MONDAY	Bridegroom Service	7 PM
19	HOLY TUESDAY	Bridegroom Service	7 PM
20	HOLY WEDNESDAY	Holy Unction Service	5:30 PM
21	HOLY THURSDAY	Divine Liturgy Holy Passion Service	10 AM 7 PM
22	HOLY FRIDAY	(Decorate Epitaphios) Descent from the Cross Service of Lamentations	9 AM 3 PM 7 PM
23	HOLY SATURDAY	Divine Liturgy Resurrection Service	10 AM 11:45 PM
24	EASTER SUNDAY	Resurrection Liturgy* Agape Vespers	12:01 AM 12 NOON

*(Paschal supper follows in Tsakopoulos Hall)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

February 26, Saturday – 1st Saturday of Souls (Psychosabbaton), Liturgy & Mem. 10 AM.
March 5, Saturday – 2nd Saturday of Souls (Psychosabbaton), Liturgy & Mem. service, 10 AM.
March 7, Monday – GREAT LENT BEGINS.
March 8, Tuesday – Parish Council meeting, 7 PM.
March 9, Wednesday – Presanctified Liturgy, 7 PM.
March 11, Friday – 1st Stanza of Salutations to the Virgin Mary, Α' XAIΠETIΣMOI, 7 PM.
March 12, Saturday – 3rd Psychosabbaton (Memorial Saturday), Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.
March 13, Sunday – The Sunday of Orthodoxy and procession of icons. Also, the Pan-Orthodox Vesper Services & reception here at Saint Katherine. Area clergy and Orthodox faithful attending, 7 PM.
March 16, Wednesday – Presanctified Liturgy, 7 PM.
March 18, Friday – 2nd Stanza of Salutations to the Virgin Mary, Β' XAIΠETIΣMOI, 7 PM.
March 23, Wednesday – Presanctified Liturgy, 7 PM.
March 25, Friday – Annunciation of the Theotokos, Divine Liturgy at Annunciation parish in Sac'to, 10 AM. Also, 3rd Stanza of Salutations to the Virgin Mary, Γ' XAIΠETIΣMOI, 7 PM.
March 27, Sunday – The Veneration of the Holy Cross. Procession of the Holy Cross adorned with Spring flowers.
March 30, Wednesday – Presanctified Liturgy, 7 PM.
April 1, Friday – 4th Stanza of Salutations to the Virgin Mary, Δ' XAIΠETIΣMOI, 7 PM.
April 3, Sunday – Annual Spring General Assembly following the Divine Liturgy.
April 6, Wednesday – Presanctified Liturgy, 7 PM.
April 8, Friday – The Akathist Hymn in its entirety, Ο ΑΚΑΘΙΣΤΟΣ ΥΜΝΟΣ, 7 PM.
April 12, Tuesday – Parish Council meeting, 7 PM.
April 13, Wednesday – Presanctified Liturgy, 7 PM.
April 16th to 24th – HOLY WEEK AND EASTER. Please refer to the Holy Week Schedule in this issue of the newsletter for a complete listing of services throughout the week.

St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church
9165 Peets Street
Elk Grove, CA 95758

Time Dated Material

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