



SAINT KATHERINE CHRONICLE

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2009

A Word from your Pastor

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory...And from his fullness have we all received, *grace upon grace*. (John 1:14 & 16)

What Saint John is saying in this passage from his gospel, is that the Son of God came to earth and from that time, we have all received one blessing after another. Lately as I look around at our church, I see that our community is constantly receiving grace upon grace. For example:

1. This past year we installed and dedicated our new church bell. We received donations from some generous parishioners, the Laguna West Homeowners association and a \$4,000 donation from the Sacramento Macedonian Society.
2. We have just ordered four new chandeliers and six matching wall sconces with the help of several parishioners, friends and most especially a \$4,000 donation from the Sacramento Peloponnesian Society for the largest chandelier.
3. Recently Nick Vorexis and his son, Paul, of Delta Landscaping donated the installation of new sod and border plants to completely re-landscape the area in front of the church...and it looks simply beautiful. All we had to cover was the cost of the raw materials. The result makes our church look dignified and elegant.
4. Attendance at church services is very strong and the Sunday School is full of eager young children.
5. Parishioners offer generous stewardship gifts, donations and enthusiasm, and the results of their dedication are manifested in the continuous progress of the parish that is evident to the entire community.

I believe that all of these things are the sign of a deep and abiding faith in God that is expressed by the members of our community. As Saint John the Evangelist indicates above, Christ's grace and truth overflows into our own lives. This fullness of God's grace we receive is expressed through blessings in our own lives and in the lives of those around us.

And when receive grace upon grace, our natural inclination is to express our gratitude to God primarily by helping to spread the Good News of faith in Jesus Christ.

May this New Year bring one blessing after another to you and your family.

Faithfully,

Father Dino

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 election of officers was conducted in January and they are: President – Perry Stathos; 1st Vice President – Lydia Howell; 2nd Vice President – Paul Leones; Treasurer – Will Vasilopoulos; and Secretary – Mary Savage. The balance of the Council is comprised of: Eleni Camperos, Athina Holland, Jack Johal, Michael Makrakis, Tom Mouzes and Karen Pantazis. We are grateful for their dedicated service and for all their efforts to carry out the work of Saint Katherine. Congratulations one and all!

STEWARDSHIP – Thank you for your support of Saint Katherine through Stewardship giving. So far, we have received Stewardship commitment cards from 112 families, with an average offering of \$1,391 from each family for the year. That means however, that we have yet to receive an indication of giving from about 185 of our families. Please complete your Stewardship card today and mail to the church. All your gifts and donations are dedicated to doing God's work through our church.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD – We thank everyone who participated in our parish Christmas card in December. The card contained the names of 133 families who offered \$5,470 as their Christmas gift to Saint Katherine...the most families and offerings of any card we have ever sent!

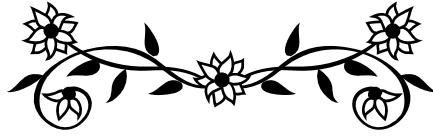
CHANDELIERS TO BE INSTALLED SOON – We look forward to the installation of our new church chandeliers with great anticipation and we would like to recognize the following parishioners and friends for donating all the different components: Large main chandelier – The Sacramento Peloponnesian Society; choir gallery chandelier – John Lourdis (in memory of his parents); south gallery chandelier – Nick and Irene Darras; Narthex chandelier – Ted and Voula Cazanis; Alabaster wall sconces – Helen Gianakakis, George & Koula Cazanis, George & Maro Poulos and Steve & Helen Vathis. We hope to have them all installed by the time Great Lent begins on March 2nd. Our sincere thanks to the Peloponnesian Society and all the donors for stepping forward to add these beautiful components to our church!

THE YOUNGEST ENTOMOLOGIST – Congratulations to Annie Engilis, granddaughter of Andy and Vernie Engilis, who was recently named the Bohart Museum Society's youngest entomologist. Six-year-old Annie recently traveled to Chile with her family, where she spent 3 weeks in December collecting insects in both northern and southern Chile. Since her return, she has deposited her samples at the Bohart Museum of Entomology in Davis for processing and identification.

A WORD ON CHURCH ETIQUETTE – The most important duty that we each have as worshippers attending church services is to do all that is in our power to see that a proper decorum and atmosphere is maintained so that all of the congregation is able to pray sincerely, peacefully and meaningfully. During church services, communicate with God...only. Wait until coffee hour to say "Hi" to friends and family members. It is not appropriate to greet people and have conversations during the services. Talk to God while in church through your prayers, hymns and thanksgivings. He is waiting to hear from you. Also, remember to dress modestly, in a manner that is becoming to a Christian. In all areas of our lives, we should offer Christ our best and on Sunday, our "Sunday best." And finally, when venerating an icon, pay attention to where you kiss. It is not proper to kiss an icon on the face. Rather, you should kiss the hand or the feet of the person depicted in the icon.

Religious Education

Our Sunday School program continues through May and it is not too late to join us! Please bring your children to the Sunday School room promptly at 10 AM. Thanks to all the children that donated supplies during Christmas time to the Sacramento Ronald McDonald House, a nonprofit organization that provides families of seriously ill and injured children a place to stay while their child receives treatment. Thank you also to Sophia Trotter-Goetze for directing an adorable Christmas program with our tiniest Sunday School children. February 8th is Godparents Sunday. Please try to arrange your child's godmother and/or godfather to accompany them to church and to Holy Communion. Also, during the coffee hour that day we will have a delicious barbeque luncheon prepared by the Texas Roadhouse restaurant as a fundraiser for Sunday School books and supplies.



ACOLYTES' SCHEDULE – The team schedule for the next several months is:

Archangel Gabriel

Constantine Johal
Lucas Makrakis
Nicholas Scordakis
Anthony Stathos
Christopher Gergiannakis
John Potiris
Michael Constantinou
Dimitri Dogias

Jan. 4, 18; - Feb. 1 & 15

Archangel Michael

Dimitri Pappademos
Ryan Stralen
Jack Stralen
Manoli Leones
Alexander Leones
Anthony Balalis
Sergio Chipain

Jan. 11 & 25; Feb. 8 & 22



PROSPHORON SCHEDULE

Athanasia Manikas: Jan. 18, March 1

Eleni Camperos: Jan. 25, March 8

Christine Economy: Feb. 1, March 15

Sevasti Hatzopoulos: Feb. 8, March 22

Anna Papajohn: Jan. 4, Feb. 15

Eleni Vathis: Jan. 11, Feb. 22

Philoptochos News

We sincerely thank Nick and Irene Darras for donating the delicious Vasilopeta luncheon in early January which supported the Saint Basil Home for children and other Philoptochos charities.

Membership materials will be mailed to all women of the parish and we invite you to become a member of Philoptochos in 2009.

And finally, on Sunday, March 15th during the coffee hour our Philoptochos will sponsor a special Open House where all the different Circles and ministries of the Saint Katherine Philoptochos will have displays describing all the projects they work and are involved in. Don't miss it!

MEMORIAL FLAME -- If you would like to have the Memorial Vigil 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.

UOn Wednesday, October 8th, Kaliope Michos of Portland, Oregon, offered Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of her mother, Margaret Varkados, 18 years since her passing.

UOn Sunday, November 23rd, the Holy Altar Vigil Flame was offered in memory of Robert Ruppe, 10 years since his passing, by his loving wife, Mireille.

UOn Tuesday, November 25th, the Memorial Flame burned in memory of Catherine Canakes, 22 years since her passing, and was offered by her sister Isabel (Canakes) Granados.

UOn Saturday, November 29th, Helen Gianakakis offered the Memorial Flame in memory of her parents, Constantine Smernes, 38 years since his passing, and Despina Smernes, 28 years.

UOn Tuesday, December 9th, the Memorial Flame burned in memory of Costa Livanos, 5 years since his passing, offered by his mother-in-law Kaliope Michos.

UOn Wednesday, December 10th, Daphne Constantinou offered the Memorial Flame in memory of her father, Paul Makris, on the first anniversary of his passing.

UOn Friday, December 12, the Holy Altar Flame burned in memory of Vlasi Michos, 56 years since his passing and was offered by his loving wife Kaliope.

UOn Thursday, December 25th, the Holy Altar Vigil Flame burned in memory of His Eminence, Metropolitan Anthony of San Francisco, 4 years since his passing, and was offered by Vasili & Chrysoula Antonopoulos and family.

UOn Monday, January 5th, the Memorial Flame was offered in memory of Demetrius Varkados, 3 years since his passing, on what was his birthday, by his daughter, Presvytera Chrisoula Pappademos.

UOn Sunday, January 18, Kaliope Michos offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of her father, George Varkados, 23 years since his passing.

UOn Sunday, February 1st, the Memorial Flame burns in memory of Katherine Nickolson, 6 months since her passing, and is offered by her children, Helen Nickolson and Bill Nicholaou.

UOn Thursday, February 5th, the Memorial Flame will burn in memory of Mary Scourkes, 3 years since her passing and offered by her sister, Helen Gianakakis.

✂

Saint Katherine Philoptochos Easter Bake Sale

Qty.		Sub Totals
_____	Koulourakia x \$5 per dozen	= \$ _____
_____	Tsoureki Bread x \$8 per loaf	= \$ _____
_____	Baklava x \$70 per pan	= \$ _____
_____	Baklava x \$1.50 per piece	= \$ _____

Total Enclosed = \$ _____

Name: _____ Phone # _____

(mail your check to: Philoptochos Bake Sale, 9165 Peets Street, Elk Grove, CA 95758)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 1, Thursday – New Year’s Day & the Feast of Saint Basil the Great, Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.
January 6, Tuesday – Feast of Epiphany, Divine Liturgy & the Great Blessing of the Waters, 10 AM.
January 7, Wednesday – The Feast of Saint John the Baptist, Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.
January 13, Tuesday – Parish Council meeting, 7 PM.
January 24, Saturday – Annual Crab Feed, 6 PM Fellowship; 7 PM Dinner.
January 30, Friday – The Feast of the Three Hierarchs, Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.
February 2, Monday – The Feast of the Presentation of our Lord, Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.
February 3, Tuesday – Bible Study, 10 AM, plus Sr. League luncheon at Annunciation Church, Noon.
February 8, Sunday – Godparent’s Sunday - bring your God-child to church and Holy Communion.
Plus Texas Roadhouse BBQ luncheon (Sunday School fundraiser) following services.
February 10, Tuesday – Bible Study, 10 AM; also Parish Council Meeting, 7 PM.
February 17, Tuesday – Bible Study, 10 AM.
February 21, Saturday – 1st Saturday of the Souls (Psychosabbaton) Liturgy & Mem. Service, 10 AM.
February 24, Tuesday – Bible Study, 10 AM.
February 28, Saturday – 2nd Saturday of the Souls (Psychosabbaton) Liturgy & Mem. Service, 10AM.
Also, **Apokreatiko Glendi (Mardi Gras)** in the Tsakopoulos Hall, 6 PM.
March 2, Pure Monday – GREAT LENT BEGINS.
March 4, Wednesday – Presanctified Liturgy, 10 AM.
March 6, Friday – 1st Stanza of the Salutations to the Virgin Mary (A’ XAIPETISMOI) 7 PM.
March 7, Saturday – 3rd Saturday of the Souls (Psychosabbaton) Liturgy & Mem. Service, 10 AM.
March 8, Sunday – Sunday of Orthodoxy, also Pan-Orthodox Vespers at Annunciation Church, 7PM.



**Saint Katherine
Greek Orthodox Church
9165 Peets Street
Elk Grove, CA 95758**

Time Dated Material

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Elk Grove, CA
Permit No.11