



SAINT KATHERINE CHRONICLE

1988 - 20th Anniversary - 2008

JULY / AUGUST 2008

A Word from your Pastor

When we started 20 years ago, we were known as a “struggling young parish.” The ironic thing is, however, that even today we could still be considered a struggling young parish. Compared to our sister parishes celebrating their 100th anniversary, we’re still young...and the Lord knows, we’re still struggling.

Organization was a challenge back then. It is today. Money was a challenge back then. Today, too. But I think that part of the essence of living the Christian life is realizing that it involves challenges and a continuous struggle. We are challenged to focus on God in a world that constantly seeks to distract us from His goodness. And we struggle to do the right thing daily in the face of so many temptations.

The Christian struggle identifies us and marks us as children of God.

That is why I am so proud see how our financial struggle as a parish this summer has been met head-on by so many dedicated and faithful parishioners. We were headed for serious trouble, and you responded with generosity and a commitment to help Saint Katherine continue its work. That proves that this parish and its commitment to God and the nurturing of families means something to the members of our Saint Katherine community...and that makes me proud.

Next month, in the newsletter, I would like to include your name in what I hope will be an even longer list of families who provided extra help to Saint Katherine this summer. If you haven’t had the chance to respond yet, please send your offering soon and mark the memo section of your check with the words “summer offering.”

Also, don’t forget that our next community activity will be our annual Pre-festival Glendi on August 16th. It will be a great opportunity for fellowship, dining and dancing for the whole family. May God bless you and keep watch over you and your family this summer.

Father Dino

PARISH NOTES

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

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

SUMMER OFFERING – Many thanks to our parishioners who have responded so far to our urgent call for donations to help us meet our church expenses during the financially difficult summer months:

Alison Aleman	Tyke & Dina Kuchulis
Mary Alifrangis	Katherine La Giusa
Georgia Andritsakis	George & Iva Lionakis
Helen Andritsakis	John P. & Rose P. Lionakis
Kosmas & Anastasia Andritsakis	Gerald Maris
Ari & Carol Boutris	Helen Mayberry
Richard & Diane Bueche	Matt Mayberry
Jim & Eleni Camperos	Greg & Debbie Meyer
Constance Curtis	Harry & Antonia Miller
Art & Elaine Daniels	Nick & Anna Panagakos
Tony & Helen Diavatis	Jacqueline Pappas
Georgia Econome	Anne Petras
Andrew & Vernie Engilis	Bessie Pothos
Orlando & Alana Figueroa	Tom & Carol Robinson
Helen Gianakakis	Nicholas & Carol Rotas
Xavier & Isabel Granados	William & Helen Rotas
Henry & Athina Holland	Donald & Mary Savage
Steven & Lydia Howell	Peter & Dina Scordakis
Rosemary Johnston	Dean & Lisa Scourtes
Anna Jouganatos-Fotiades	Merle Stathis
Demetra Karnegas	Emmanuel & Maria Tzanakakis
Alec & Georgia Karnezis	Richard & Antigone Vaccaro
Terry & Penny Kastanis	Mary Vasos
George & Bessie Kokkinis	Chris & Dee Vrame
George & Mary Kondos	Angelo & Sophia Zogopoulos

We still have a great need, so please consider making a special summer offering to help our beloved parish. We will publish the above names together with any additional names that we receive, in the next issue of this newsletter. Thank you, and may God bless our Saint Katherine parish!

BIBLE STUDY – Due to Father Dino's summer traveling schedule, Bible Study will be cancelled during July, but will resume again in August. Please join us again in August on Tuesdays at 10 AM for an enlightening and thought-provoking discussion about the Bible.

PRE-FESTIVAL GLENDI, AUGUST 16TH !! – Be sure to join us on Saturday, August 16th for our Weekend in Greece Pre-Festival Glendi fundraiser. Come and enjoy delicious food, Greek music, dancing and more! Tickets are on sale after church on Sundays: donation \$30 adults, \$10 children. With your help, we can make this the best Weekend in Greece Festival ever!

HEAR THE BELL RING – The bell for our bell tower is being shipped and will be installed in August. During a special Dedication Ceremony prior to Divine Liturgy, the bell will ring for the first time, calling the faithful to worship. Father Dino will announce the date of the special ceremony in advance from the pulpit. Please be sure to join us for this special occasion.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – The Sacramento Habitat for Humanity has invited our parish to participate in Faith Build 2008, which will construct a house in the Del Paso Heights area of North Sacramento for a family in need. Please contact Father Dino for additional information.

-- LOOKING BACK --

1988 was an important year for Saint Katherine.

It was the year our church started down the path that brought us to where we are today.

Those days were filled with hope, enthusiasm, and unbelievable accomplishments that continue even today.

Join us for a well-deserved celebration!

(More details to follow in the next Saint Katherine Chronicle)

Save the Date
November 8, 2008
Saint Katherine
20th Anniversary Dinner Dance

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.*

U On Sunday, April 13th, the Memorial Flame burned in memory of Jimmy Pappas, offered by his wife, Jackie Pappas, one year since his passing.

U On Holy Thursday, April 24th, Jim and Eleni Camperos offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of their parents.

U Dina Scordakis offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame on Mother's Day, May 11th, in memory of her mother, Leona Wasileski, 5 years since her passing.

U Also, on Wednesday, May 21st, Dina Scordakis offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of her

father, Chester Wasileski, 9 years since his passing.

U On Saturday, May 24th, the Memorial Flame was offered by Presvytera Chrisoula Pappademos & Family in memory of her father, Demetrius G. Varkados, two years since his passing.

U Also, Kaliope Michos offered the Memorial Flame on Saturday, May 24th, in memory of her brother, Demetrius Varkados.

U Elaine Pavlatos offered the Memorial Flame on Sunday, June 29th, in memory of her beloved husband, John, 18 years since his passing.

U On Monday, June 30th, the Holy Altar Vigil Flame burned in memory of Mary Scordakis one year since her passing, offered by her children Peter & Dina Scordakis and Dave & Katina Walls.

A Letter from the Parish Council President...

THE REPUBLIC

America is, and will always remain, the flame of freedom and liberty as long as each one of us is prepared to preserve and defend what God has given us. As another July 4 approaches, it is appropriate to reflect upon the American Republic and what it means to be an American. The United States was founded upon unshakeable principles of liberty and freedom written by God in the hearts of all men and women, but first institutionalized by the Jews and the Greeks thousands of years ago. Here, in this land, all men and women created by God, no matter of what color or race, are unique, equal under the law and free. Free to worship and live as he or she chooses, without fear of reprisals. Free to keep the fruits of one's labor. Free to do as one chooses. Free to express an opinion or to criticize government. In America government is by, for and of the people and freedom reigns. No person is above the law, not even the President, and the rule of law is one of the many things we hold eternal. However, many of what we consider to be basic freedoms of this Republic arise from the eternal word of God. The examples are many, but a few are worth mentioning:

1. Everyone is to be secure against slander and false accusations. Exodus 20:16; 23: 1-3; Deuteronomy 5:20.
2. Punishment is not to be excessive. Deuteronomy 25: 1-5.
3. Everyone's property is to be secure. Exodus 20:15; 21:33-36; 22: 15; 23: 4-5; Deuteronomy 22:1-4; 25: 13-15.
4. Everyone is to have free access to the Courts and to be afforded a fair trial. Exodus 23:6, 8; Deuteronomy 10:17-18; 16:18-20; 17: 8-13; 19: 15-21.
5. No one is above the law. Deuteronomy 17: 18-20.

Throughout our history, many brave men and women from all walks of life and from all parts of the earth have defended American freedom and liberty. It has been defended on countless battlefields and by countless actions by many whose names we will never know. It has always been defended by those who were willing to stand-up to do what is right no matter what the costs or circumstances. For a few, the defense of freedom and liberty has been at the highest cost---the loss of his or her life.

America has often been referred to as the biblical city on a hill. That special place on Earth guided by the laws given to us by God. It remains a city on a hill because we as Americans love freedom and liberty and have been willing to defend it at virtually any cost. To me, it is as simple as that. Americans have fought and defeated dictatorships, fascism and communism around the globe.

Americans have also fought to change their own society within to abolish slavery, racism and prejudice and to provide each one of us equal opportunity. The struggle for freedom and whether free societies bound by the rule of law will dominate the Earth continues today. As we celebrate this fourth of July, we should remember that our freedom is not free and must be defended by each generation. I ask each of you to consider what you can do to preserve and defend freedom so that God's blessing of liberty can be handed down for generations to come.

Thomas Mouzes
Parish Council President

Philoptochos News

Our Annual Mother's Day Luncheon was a huge success. The food was excellent, the ambiance was lovely, the prizes were elegant and classy. The grand prizes were an \$800 lovely strand of pearls donated by Steve Padis Jewellery Center and Tiffany candlesticks valued at \$500 that were donated by the Vrame family. There were also gorgeous baskets with gift cards, purses, and so many lovely items. Thank you again to every member of the Philoptochos who donated these special prizes. Everyone also received lovely chocolate candy roses provided by Beth Foondos and delicious spices donated by Gus Verras. Special thanks to event co-chairs Mary Kondos and Debbie Meyers, and Contilo Pandeleon from the Symposium Restaurant, for all of their hard work and donations. If you were not able to attend our Mother's Day celebration this year, please be sure to put it on your agenda for next Mother's Day Weekend. It is an event you won't want to miss!

Preparations for the Weekend in Greece are underway. We need all members to help with serving, preparation of the food, and help with setup and cleanup for the Festival. Please be sure to sign up and help – the Festival cannot succeed without you! For more information, please contact Ted Pantazis, Festival Chairman or Athina Holland, Food Chairman.

Once again, if you are a member of the Philoptochos and would like to become more involved in our activities, or are interested in joining Philoptochos, please contact me or Father Dino. We are very proud of our Circles and we are doing great works in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sincerely,
Dina Scordakis
Philoptochos President



SUNDAYS : THE MINIMAL OBLIGATION

A SIMPLE THING to bear in mind (but a fundamental one for anyone who wants to live as an Orthodox Christian): Sunday is the Lord's Day. It, and the major feasts, are days on which we should go to church. Nowadays many people seem to be under the impression that going to church is an option on Sundays, and nothing more than that. (They do not even think that it is an option on other days of the week.) Sometimes one hears excuses for not coming—"I had so much to do!" and the like, —but there are no excuses from this basic commitment. These are not excuses but admissions of sin. Church attendance on Sundays is not simply one of several options. It is essential for our spiritual well-being. In fact, Sunday church attendance and attendance on the Twelve Great Feasts is so essential for us (not for God, not for the priest, not for the parish community, but for our own spiritual lives), that even if we are away from home, on holiday, or travelling, we should make enquiries, find a church, and try our best to attend a service on these days. Of course, occasions do occur when we are prevented from going to church; but then, rather than just dismissing it, we should make a special effort to read the Scriptures and services at home, still to keep holy the Lord's day. This is particularly important for those who have the responsibility of bringing up children. Also, if through necessity you have missed a Sunday Liturgy, try to attend on some other day in that week. If we consistently neglect this, we shall find that the neglect becomes habitual and will quickly spread into other areas of our spiritual life, resulting in our becoming

one of the saddest of all the creatures on the face of the earth—a nominal Christian, i.e. a spiritually dead Christian. *Source: (www.orthodoxinfo.com)*

Religious Education

The Sunday School program is in need of a director and more teachers for next year. We must have our teachers and director in place this summer in order to begin planning for the 2008-2009 school year. If you are interested in helping with Sunday School, please contact Father Dino or Elaine Stralen for more information. It is truly a blessing to be able to give back to the church by working with the children.

Sunday School will begin again on October 5th.

GOYA NEWS

Elections for GOYA officers will be held in September. GOYA meetings take place the second Sunday of each month after Church in the Tsakopoulos Hall, unless posted otherwise. Saint Katherine youth ages 12-18 are invited to join GOYA—please contact Mike Makrakis for more information.

PROSPHORON SCHEDULE

Athanasia Manikas: July 27, September 14
Eleni Camperos: August 3, September 21
Christine Economy: August 10, September 28
Ourania Marandos: August 17, October 5

Sevasti Hatzopoulos: July 6, August 24
Mary Savage: July 13, August 31
Eleni Vathis: July 20, September 7



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

Archangel Gabriel

Christos Pappademos
Stelaki Michael
Nicholas Scordakis
Anthony Stathos
Christopher Gergiannakis
John Potiris
Constantine Johal
Michael Constantinou
July 13 & 27; August 10 & 24

Archangel Michael

Dimitri Pappademos
Ryan Stralen
Jack Stralen
Stelios Papadopoulos
Michael Balalis
Anthony Balalis
Manoli Leones
Sergio Chipain
July 6 & 20; August 3, 17 & 31

Congratulations and best wishes to our recent college graduates!:

Stephanie Howell – Santa Clara University
Elizabeth Kunda – Samuel Merritt College, California School of Podiatric Medicine
Niki Pantazis – UC Santa Cruz
Maria Toupadakis – UC Davis

Saint Katherine Greek Folk Dance Program 2008

The St. Katherine Greek Folk Dance Program 2008 is in full swing this season. Dance practices on Friday evenings have attracted many returning and new dancers alike. Dance groups continue to refine steps to routines learned last year and are learning new traditional dances to entertain Festival attendees in September. This year we have doubled the size of the youngest dance group, Ta Pethakia. Their smiling faces are sure to be crowd pleasers once again.



The Glendi Dancers perfect their moves.



Kristiana Perris and Alexa Vasilopoulos, in Ta Pethakia, use rhythm sticks to "hear" the beat.

A big thank you to returning teachers, Sophia Trotter-Goetze, Maha Habiba, Maria Leones, Daphne Constantinou, Elaine Stralen, Paul Leones and Xanthippi Gelasakis. These hard-working folks enjoy teaching the children and young adults of Saint Katherine. At this time, the Dance Program is busy inventorying costumes. So far, we have received most of the costumes loaned to last year's dancers. If you possess a costume from previous years, please be sure to bring it back. For more information on costume return, please contact Sophia Stathos, Costume Coordinator.

The Dance Program will sponsor several coffee hours this summer in support of the group - August 17th, August 31st and September 7th. Antigone Vaccaro and Melissa Simmons are looking for volunteers to help serve or donate food items. For more information on the Saint Katherine Greek Folk Dance Program, please contact Heidi Perris at (916) 616-9333 or agapehp@sbcglobal.net.



Ta Asteria practicing for the Festival.



No dance is too complex for the Panayiri group.

**All are Welcome to Help & Learn Greek Cooking
St. Katherine Weekend in Greece Festival 2008**

Festival Cooking Schedule

Please sign up to cook for the Festival.

Cooking schedule sign-up sheets will be posted in the Hall Kitchen next to the Coffee and Ice Machines.

Food Item	Date
Pastitsio	July 14 & 15 (Mon & Tues) 9:00am
Dolmades	Prep Work July 20 (Sun) After Church Service July 21 & 22 (Mon & Tues) 9:00am
Koulourakia Paximadakia	July 28, 29 & 30 (Mon, Tues & Wed) 9:00am
Tourlou	August 4 & 5 (Mon & Tues) 9:00am
Spanakopites & Tiropites	Prep Work August 10 (Sun) After Church Service August 11 & 12 (Mon & Tues) 9:00am
Melomakarouna	August 18 & 19 (Mon & Tues) 9:00am
Diples	August 25 & 26 (Mon & Tues) 9:00am
Kourabiethes	August 28 & 29 (Thurs & Fri) 9:00am
Moussaka	September 8, 9, 10 & 11 (Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs) 9:00am
Paximadakia & Koulourakia	Put in baggies September 14 (Sun) after Church Service
Kataifi	September 16 (Tues) 9:00am
Baklava	September 18 & 19 (Thurs & Fri) 9:00am
Melomakarona	Dip in honey September 21 (Sun) After Church Service
Diples & Baklava	Dip Diples in honey & bake Baklava September 24 (Wed) 9:00am
Galaktoboureko	We need Galatoboureko donations.
A la Carte Food Booth:	Workers are needed in the A la Carte Food Booth. The hours are flexible. September 27 (Sat) 10am-10pm September 28 (Sun) 11am-5pm Chairperson: Athena Holland 916- 424-7601
Pastry Booth:	Workers are needed in the Pastry Booth. The hours are flexible. September 27 (Sat) booth hours 10am-10pm September 28 (Sun) booth hours 11am-6pm Pastry donations are needed. Chairperson: Janet Potiris 916-684-3529 or janpteach@frontiernet.net

Gratiude. Recogniuion. Inspirauion.

Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.

~William Arthur Ward

Our parish is fortunate for the many gifts it has received – gifts from God and from you. We are thankful for being blessed with many generous parishioners who give of their time, talents, and treasure to make Saint Katherine Church what it is today.

But perhaps we do not express our gratitude to our parishioners as much as we should, or recognize them as publicly as we should? At our last general assembly meeting, the view was shared that we don't sufficiently recognize all the contributions that our stewards make. We agree that we can never say thank you too often or enough.

The Parish Council has therefore decided to follow the lead of our sister parish in Los Angeles, St. Sophia, and provide greater recognition in the form of an annual "Honor Roll of Donors":

What is the Honor Roll? Published recognition in our newsletter at the beginning of each year to more fully recognize our stewards and contributors from the previous year.

Why have an Honor Roll? This method of recognition is standard for charitable organizations, and is an excellent way of saying thank you at the conclusion of the year for the generous gifts received. The Honor Roll shows our commitment to the Christian virtue of thankfulness and gratitude – for without your generosity, we could not nurture the Orthodox faith in our community as we currently do.

What will the Honor Roll include? As listed below, individuals and families will be recognized in the Leadership Circle for their total contribution to all of our programs, including stewardship, donations for special events, and contributions to our Burn the Mortgage program. Stewardship Angels will specifically recognize stewardship contributions of families and individuals. The "angels" are also listed below. There will be a separate listing for donors providing "gifts in kind" like food or supplies.

What if I don't want my name listed in the Honor Roll? You can ask to be listed as anonymous when you submit your pledge card, or when you submit a donation.

Public recognition is certainly not intended to feed the ego of our donors nor to embarrass our parishioners into giving more. We realize that everyone has many obligations and different abilities to give, particularly in these challenging times. All donations – large and small – are meaningful to our parish well-being; therefore, our generous stewards and donors deserve a heartfelt and prominent thank you for their gifts.

As the year continues to unfold, we know we will once again have much to be thankful for –our parishioners have already shown tremendous generosity. Those that give inspire others and are outstanding witnesses to our faith. As Father Dino once said in a sermon, we do not proselytize in Greek Orthodoxy, but we inspire others by the quality of our lives and the excellent example that we set. We thank all in the Saint Katherine community for being an outstanding inspiration. We look forward to a greater show of thanks in the future.

Saint Katherine Parish Council

Saint Katherine Honor Roll of Donors – our way of saying thank you!

Leadership Circle – recognition of cumulative giving in one year (i.e., total yearly donations to all programs, including stewardship, special events, festival, iconography mortgage program, etc.)

- i. Leadership Circle: \$5000 - \$9999
- ii. Silver Leadership Circle: \$10,000-19,999
- iii. Golden Leadership Circle: \$20,000+

Stewardship Angels – recognition for stewardship giving:

- iv. Angel: <\$500
- v. Throne Angel: \$500-999
- vi. Angel of Virtues: \$1000-2499
- vii. Cherubim: \$2500-4999
- viii. Seraphim: \$5000-9999
- ix. Archangel: \$10,000+



Greek School News

Our Greek School here at Saint Katherine in cooperation with the Greek Schools of Annunciation and Saint Anna is working towards the establishment of common curriculum for the three parishes. Key to this effort is will be a Greek School teacher granted to us by the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs of Greece. Ms. Ioanna Lekkakou who is currently a primary school teacher at the Greek Orthodox School of the Holy Trinity parish in San Francisco will be moving to the Sacramento area and travel to each parish to teach. We will have her on Sundays.

Ms. Lekkakou's postgraduate studies include a Master's Degree in The History of Theater for Children from the Department of Primary Education in Athens, as well as a Ph.D. in Theatre in Education from the University of Athens.

Depending on demand we will expand the program to include more classes and we look forward to the assistance of professional instructors from our Parish who are proficient in Greek to assist Ms. Lekkakou. These will be paid positions which will be funded from tuition proceeds. Ms. Lekkakou's salary will come from the Greek Government.

Ms. Lekkakou will be joining us in the fall. Please join me in welcoming her to our community and family.

If you have any interest in helping our Greek School in any capacity (including donations) please contact Father Dino or Demos Papadopoulos this summer as we will be planning the new school year. We plan to begin classes in mid-September. Our parish website will be actively used so be sure to check it often for the latest information.

In Christ,
Demos Papadopoulos
Saint Katherine Greek School Director
(916) 601-5569

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

July 22, Tuesday – Parish Council Meeting, 7 PM.

July 24, Thursday – Great Vespers for the Feast of Saint Anna at the Saint Anna Church in Roseville (1001 Stone Canyon Drive), 7 PM.

July 25, Friday – The Feast of Saint Anna, Divine Liturgy at the Saint Anna Church in Roseville, 10 AM.

July 26, Saturday – The Feast of Saint Paraskevi, Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.

July 27, Sunday – The Feast of Saint Panteleimon, Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.

August 1, Friday – Lenten Fast period of the Virgin Mary begins. Also, Paraclesis Service, 7 PM.

August 5, Tuesday – Bible Study, 10 AM.

August 6, Wednesday – The Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.

August 8, Friday – Paraclesis Service, 7 PM.

August 12, Tuesday – Bible Study, 10 AM. Also, Parish Council Meeting, 7 PM.

August 15, Friday – The Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.

August 16, Saturday – Pre-Festival Glendi – Help us get the Weekend in Greece Festival off to a great start!

August 19, Tuesday – Bible Study, 10 AM.

August 26, Tuesday – Bible Study, 10 AM.

September 27 & 28 – Saint Katherine **Weekend in Greece** festival

November 8th, Saturday – Saint Katherine 20th Anniversary Dinner Dance



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

Time Dated Material

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