

SAINT KATHERINE CHRONICLE / JULY - AUGUST 2009

A Word from your Pastor

There is a beautiful prayer (called the “Psychorragounta Prayer” or the “Prayer When the Soul Desires Release from the Body”) that a Priest offers for a person who is very near death. Among other things, the prayer asks that God allow the parting of the soul from the body to be a peaceful process, without any pain or suffering.

The unusual thing is that I have been called to offer this prayer more times in the last couple of weeks than I usually am in an entire year. But even though my schedule has been very busy lately with funerals, baptisms, weddings, memorials and hospital visits, I find joy in them all. Why? Because they are all opportunities for me to do what I love the best, spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. It affects every aspect of life.

Besides that, however, I have noticed a common thread in all these events...communication. Funerals, baptisms, weddings, memorials and hospital visits all require a great deal of communication in order to happen, in order to be done. I'm sure the same holds true in your life...phone calls, mail, email, voicemail and text messages help us get things done and keep in touch.

Now, here's my question: How does all of this communication compare to the communication we have with God? How do we accomplish the things of our inner life as well as we accomplish all our other tasks?

Here's the answer: Talk to God, pray to Him and worship Him. In our culture today, where the emphasis is all on the individual and our personal needs, God seems to be pushed to the side. But Saint Paul wrote, “do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”(Romans 12:2)

My point is this: Come to church and commune with God. Come to church and communicate with God. Pray to God, both at church and at home. Do it now in order to develop a spirit of prayer and sacrifice, and an intense inner life. Don't let the Psychorragounta Prayer be the only communication you'll have with God.

See you in church,



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

STEWARDSHIP – Thank you for your support of Saint Katherine through Stewardship giving. To date, we have Stewardship commitments from 221 families, totaling \$172,512 with an average offering of \$781 from each family for the year. If you have not done so already, please complete your Stewardship card today and mail it to the church. Stewardship donations are payable by check, credit card via telephone, and Paypal or credit card at the Saint Katherine Church website (www.saintkatherine.org). Also, Father Dino will be culling the parish mailing list soon. If you have not made a Stewardship pledge this year or last year, your name could be culled from our mailing list. Please send your card in soon.

NEW PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY PLANNED – Many thanks to parishioner and professional photographer, Bill Mahon (www.billmahonphoto.com) for scheduling portrait sessions throughout the month of June for parishioners. Proofs are available during coffee hour, or online at Bill's website listed above. Just contact Bill at 916-929-1950 or billmahonphotos@gmail.com to choose your photographs and photo packages, and try to order your photos as soon as possible. Directories will be available after a final make-up photo session in October. Contact Bill, if you have any questions.

SUMMER OFFERING—Summer is here, and along with the hot temperatures, our Parish's bank account has a low balance between fundraisers. Our Parish bookkeeper informs us that we have just over \$13,000 in our checking account for the entire summer. It takes approximately \$30,000 to meet our obligations each month. Please consider making a special Summer Offering this summer to help provide for the financial stability of our beloved Parish. We will list the names of all those who make an offering, large or small, in the September-October issue of our Parish newsletter. Please use the return envelopes mailed to you with the Summer Offering appeal letter, and mark "Summer Offering" in the memo section of your check. Thank you for helping Saint Katherine this summer.

PRE-FESTIVAL GLENDI, AUGUST 22—Be sure to join us on Saturday, August 22nd 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. The donation is \$25 for adults, \$10 for children. With your help, we can make this the best Weekend in Greece Festival ever!

Religious Education

Our Sunday School Program will need teachers for the next school year. We must have our director and teachers in place this summer in order to begin planning for the 2009-2010 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 give back to our church by working with the children. Sunday School will begin this Fall on Sunday, October 4, 2009.

Also, if you have a graduate in your family, we'd like to know. Just send their name, the high school or college from which they graduated, and their plans for the fall. We'll publish the information in our next issue of the newsletter. Email Father Dino at pappademos@saintkatherine.org with the info.

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

July 5 & 19—August 2, 16 & 30

Archangel Michael

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

July 12 & 26—August 9 & 23

PROSPHORON SCHEDULE

Athanasia Manikas: July 5, August 16
Eleni Camperos: July 12, August 23
Christine Economy: July 19, August 30

Sevasti Hatzopoulos: July 26, September 6
Anna Papajohn: August 2, September 13
Eleni Vathis: August 9, September 20



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.

- n On Saturday, May 23rd, Kaliope Michos offered the Memorial Flame in memory of her brother, Demetrius Varkados, 3 years since his passing.
- n On Sunday, May 24th, the Holy Altar Vigil Flame also burned in memory of Demetrius Varkados, 3 years since his passing and was offered by Presvytera Chrisoula Pappademos, his daughter.
- n On Saturday, June 6th, Col. James and Vee Karnezis offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of their beloved son, Theodore Karnezis, 1 month since his passing.
- n On Wednesday, June 10th, Bessie Pothos offered the Holy Alter Vigil Flame in memory of Her sister, Helen Kapandritis, 5 years since her passing.
- n On Sunday June 14th, Alec Karnezis and family offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of his beloved brother, Theodore Karnezis, 40 days since his passing.
- n On Saturday, June 27th, the Holy Altar Vigil Flame burned in memory of Ted Pothos, 10 years since his passing, and was offered by his wife Bessie Pothos.

THE TIME IS HERE ALREADY? – The Archdiocese has sent us a notice for ordering our parish calendars for 2010! We plan to order 200 of the same beautiful calendars again next year. However, if we place our order before September 1st, the price will be reduced from \$1.50 per calendar to only \$1.30. If you would like to sponsor next year's Saint Katherine calendar just contact Father Dino. Room is also available for a sponsor's logo for only an extra \$20 fee. Shipping and handling is \$12 per 50 calendars.



Philoptochos News

Philoptochos Societies are an important part of Greek Orthodox Parishes everywhere. The word Philoptochos means “friend of the poor”. On May 31, 2009, the new Saint Katherine Philoptochos Board officers were elected: President, Alison Elle Alemán, Vice-President, Jamie Carrieri, Treasurer, Kia Balalis, Recording Secretary, Diane Petersen, and Corresponding Secretary, Sophia Stathos.

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 Youth, 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.

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|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| ○ Abigail Circle – Athina Holland or Jamie Carrieri | ○ Anna / Sarah Circle – Alison Alemán or Kia Balalis |
| ○ Mary Magdeline Circle – Presvytera Chrisoula Pappademos | ○ Rachel Circle – Mary Kondos or Eleni Camperos |
| ○ Rebecca Circle – Diane Petersen | ○ Susanna Circle – Sophia Stathos/Elaine Pavlatos |

Upcoming Events and Philoptochos News

Our Annual Mother's Day Luncheon was the most successful one we have ever held! The food was excellent, the ambiance was lovely, the prizes were elegant and beautiful. The grand prizes were a beautiful \$1500 strand of pearls donated by the Steve Padis Jewellery Center, exquisite Diamond earrings donated by Dr. Lydia Howell, M.D., and a lovely trip donated by Perry and Sophia Stathos. There were also gorgeous theme baskets and jewelry items, as well as many other lovely raffle items. Special thanks to event co-chairs Mary Kondos and Alison Alemán, and to 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. This is quickly becoming one of Saint Katherine's premier events of the season and it is one that 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 Festival Chairmen Enrico and Jamie Carrieri, or Athina Holland, Food Chairman. Please refer to the Festival Cooking Schedule in this newsletter, and come help with pre-festival cooking and baking. It's fun, a wonderful teaching or learning experience, and everyone enjoys great fellowship!

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 Alison Alemán or Father Dino. We are very proud of our Circles and we are doing great works in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

UPCOMING—PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD MEETING after Church on Sunday, July 26, 2009.

**All are Welcome to Help & Learn Greek Cooking
St. Katherine Weekend in Greece Festival 2009**

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
Dolmathes	Prep Work August 9 (Sun) After Church Service August 10 (Mon) 9:00 A.M.
Pastitsio	August 12 & 13 (Wed. & Thurs.) 9:00 A.M.
Spanikopites & Tiropites	Prep Work August 16 (Sun) After Church Service August 17 & 18 (Mon & Tues) 9:00 A.M.
Melomakarouna	August 24 (Mon) 9:00 A.M.
Kadaife	August 25 (Tues) 9:00 A.M.
Kourabiethes	August 27 (Thurs) 9:00 A.M.
Moussaka	August 31 & September 1 (Mon & Tues) 9:00 A.M.
Tourlou	September 3 (Thurs) 9:00 A.M.
Koulourakia & Paximadakia	September 8, 9 & 10 (Tues, Wed & Thurs) 9:00am
Baklava	September 15 & 16 (Tues & Wed) 9:00 A.M.
Diples	September 17 (Thurs) 9:00 A.M.
Diples & Baklava	Dip Diples in honey & bake Baklava September 21 (Mon) 9:00am
Melomakarona	Dip in honey September 22 (Tues) 9:00 A.M.
Galaktoboureko	We need Galatoboureko donations.
A la Carte Food:	Workers are needed in the A la Carte Food Booth. The hours are flexible. September 26 (Sat) 10am-10pm September 27 (Sun) 11am-5pm Chairperson: Athena Holland 916- 424-7601 .
Pastry Booth:	Workers are needed in the Pastry Booth. The hours are flexible. September 26 (Sat) booth hours 10am-10pm September 27 (Sun) booth hours 11am-6pm Pastry donations are needed. Chairperson: Janet Potiris 916-684-3529 or janpteach@frontiernet.net

SAVE THE DATE...

SAINT KATHERINE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

WEEKEND IN GREECE
 GREEK CULTURAL AND FOOD FESTIVAL
 SEPTEMBER 26 & 27, 2009

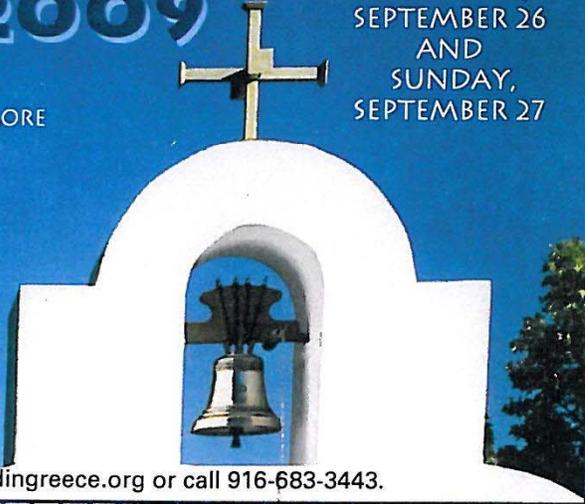
Free Admission and Parking!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
 AND
 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

- ◆ GREEK FOOD INCLUDING LAMB, DOLMATHES, BAKLAVA, & MORE
- ◆ LIVE GREEK DANCING
- ◆ GREEK MUSIC
- ◆ CULTURAL DISPLAYS
- ◆ CHURCH TOURS

9165 Peets Street, Elk Grove, California 95758
 Off Laguna Blvd near the Laguna Town Hall

For more information, visit www.weekendinggreece.org or call 916-683-3443.



Mark your calendar! It's that time again -- time to start our preparations for Saint Katherine's 14th *annual Weekend in Greece*, to be held September 26 and 27, 2009! As the festival draws nearer, more of your time and talent will be needed. This early on, however, what we need more than anything is *treasure – your financial support*. In today's difficult financial climate, we understand that resources are limited. Your early contribution to our biggest fundraiser of the year allows us to put your investment to its best use! We need approximately \$30,000 to pay for supplies, materials, music, etcetera, so please, tear off the form below and make your early donation. We also will have various levels of business sponsorship available. If you are interested in taking advantage of this great philanthropic marketing opportunity, let us know. We look forward to celebrating with you at this year's Weekend in Greece!

CONTACT: ENRICO & JAMIE CARRIERI

Festival Chairpersons
 (916) [859-0921](tel:859-0921)/Jamie.carrieri@yahoo.com

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2009 WEEKEND IN GREECE DONATION FORM

We would like to help make our festival a big success this year, by donating:

\$ _____

Your Name: _____

Telephone: _____

(Please make your check payable to Saint Katherine Church, mark the memo section "Festival Donation," and return it to the church office. Thank you!)



CHURCH ICONOGRAPHY TO BE COMPLETED

Our church iconographer, Constantine Karopoulos, is continuing work on the final phase of our beautiful mural iconography. The most prominent of the new icons will be the four seraphim angels which will adorn the pendentives – the triangular spaces located above each column. This configuration is reminiscent of the great Hagia Sophia Cathedral located in Constantinople which has four similar mosaic seraphim angels that seem to be holding the massive dome aloft. In between each seraphim angel will be medallions containing busts of the four evangelists. Then in the upper dome near the eight windows will be eight medallions featuring busts of the eight major prophets of the Old Testament. Finishing the entire dome composition will be ornate decorative bands adorning the four 52 ft. arches.

We are happy to list the donors of the various icons below together with the few remaining icons yet to be donated.

Great Seraphim Angels

Northeast Seraphim – Abraham & Sonata Abbott **Southeast Seraphim** – Tom & Carol Robinson

Northwest Seraphim – Nick & Contilo Pandleon **Southwest Seraphim** – Jack & Dimitra Johal

The Four Evangelists

Saint Matthew - Matt Mayberry

Saint Mark – The Santrizos Family

Saint Luke – Bessie Pothos and Family

Saint John – Tom and Susan Mouzes

The Eight Major Prophets

The Prophet Isaiah – Alison Aleman

The Prophet Elias – Connie Keriotis

The Prophet Solomon – Jim and Eleni Camperos

The Prophet Moses – (still available)

The Prophet David – (still available)

The Prophet Daniel – (still available)

The Prophet Jeremiah – (still available)

The Prophet Ezekiel – (still available)

The Four Decorative Arches

East Arch – Chariclia Handlin

West Arch – (still available)

North Arch – (still available)

South Arch – (still available)

If you would like to donate any of the iconography still available, please contact Father Dino.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

July 2, Friday—Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.
July 7, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.; Senior League Luncheon, Annunciation Church, 11 A.M.
July 10, Friday—Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.
July 14, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.; Parish Council Meeting, 7 P.M.
July 17, Friday—Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.
July 21, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.
July 24, Friday—Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.; Also, Great Vespers for the Feast of Saint Anna at the Saint Anna Church in Roseville (1001 Stone Canyon Drive), 7 P.M.
July 25, Saturday—The Feast of Saint Anna, Divine Liturgy at Saint Anna in Roseville, 10 A.M.
July 26, Sunday—Philoptochos Meeting following Divine Liturgy
July 27, Monday—The Feast of St. Panteleimon, Divine Liturgy, 10 A.M.
July 28, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.;
July 31, Friday—Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.
August 1, Saturday—Lenten Fasting Period for Theotokos begins.
August 4, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.; Senior League Luncheon, Annunciation Church, 11 A.M.
August 5, Wednesday—Paraclesis Service, 6:30 P.M.
August 6, Thursday—The Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, Divine Liturgy, 10 A.M.
August 7, Friday—Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.; Paraclesis Service, 7:00 P.M.
August 11, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.; Parish Council Meeting, 7 P.M.
August 12, Wednesday—Paraclesis Service, 7:00 P.M.
August 14, Friday—Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.; Great Vespers, 7:00 P.M.
August 15, Saturday—The Feast of the Assumption of the Theotokos, Divine Liturgy, 10 A.M.
August 18, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.
August 21, Friday—Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.
August 22, Saturday—**Pre Festival Glendi—Help get our Festival off to great start!!**
August 25, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.
August 28, Friday—Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal
September 26 & 27, 2009— **Our Annual “Weekend in Greece” Festival!**

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

Time Dated Material

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