



SAINT KATHERINE CHRONICLE / SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2009

## *A Word from your Pastor*

Did you know that the cross you might wear around your neck or hang in your home is filled with tremendous power?

We celebrate the feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross every year on September 14<sup>th</sup>...a feast dedicated to a sign that is more than just decoration. The Cross of Christ holds miraculous power...it is a precious symbol of protection, inspiration and victory.

The simple “plus sign” that we know as the cross symbolizes, of course, the Cross that was used to put Jesus Christ to death. Over the centuries it has been depicted both as a simple design and as an elaborate and beautiful variation on the shape of the instrument of death that it was known to be in the time of Jesus.

We hang it around our neck, display it in our home, decorate churches and other structures with it and use it as the principle symbol of the Christian faith.

Why?

Because it has tremendous power. Besides being a vehicle of Christ’s death, the cross was also the gateway to His resurrection. In other words, the cross became the means by which Christ showed us that He was the Life and the Resurrection of all mankind. Jesus brought divine power to the Cross and we receive His same invisible grace through it. All that we need is two things: (1) first, to believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who came to save us from sin and give us eternal life. And (2) second, to act like we believe it by showing love, kindness and goodness to all those around us – to our family, our friends, and even to our enemies.

The symbol of the cross reinforces our faith in Christ. It reminds us that the One Who was able to defeat the power of death, can also save us, no matter what we may face.

Faithfully,

**Father Dino**

# PARISH NOTES

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

Father Dino's Home ☎ 684-8731

website: [www.saintkatherine.org](http://www.saintkatherine.org) / e-mail address: [pappademos@saintkatherine.org](mailto:pappademos@saintkatherine.org)

**STEWARDSHIP** – Thank you for your support of Saint Katherine through Stewardship giving. To date, we have Stewardship commitments from 225 families, totaling \$172,707 with an average offering of \$768 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](http://www.saintkatherine.org)).

**NEW PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY** – By now, most of our parish families have had their photo sittings. From the initial viewings, it is clear that we are going to have a beautiful new church directory! However, if you have not yet had a chance to have your family's portrait taken, our photographer, Bill Mahon has scheduled a **final photo session** on Sunday, **October 25<sup>th</sup>**, both before and after the Divine Liturgy. Remember to order your directories and family portraits. The prices are very reasonable and they make excellent holiday gifts as well. For more information, contact fellow parishioner and professional photographer Bill Mahon ([www.billmahonphoto.com](http://www.billmahonphoto.com)), at 916-929-1950 or [billmahonphotos@gmail.com](mailto:billmahonphotos@gmail.com).

**WEEKEND IN GREECE**—As everyone knows, the success of our annual Weekend in Greece depends on the support of all our parishioners. We rely on your donations to defray the Festival costs, and on your help working at the Festival to ensure that our guests and visitors have a wonderful experience at the Weekend in Greece. Festival set-up will begin at 11 A.M. on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, to ensure that we are ready to go on Saturday morning. We are grateful for the help of all volunteers, whether you are young or young at heart, experienced or new to the Weekend in Greece. Please contact Festival Chairpersons Enrico and Jamie Carrieri (916) 859-0921 ([jamie.carrieri@yahoo.com](mailto:jamie.carrieri@yahoo.com)) for more information regarding how you can help us make this the best Weekend in Greece ever!

## **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  
Josh Hames

### **Archangel Michael**

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

*Sept. 13 & 27—October 11 & 25*

*Sept. 6 & 20 — October 4 & 18*



# SUMMER OFFERING

Many thanks to the 69 parishioners who responded to our urgent call for donations to help pay our church expenses during the financially lean summer months. Your contributions totaled \$23,593 - enough to help us through the difficult summer! Thank you for your generous support!

Abraham & Sonata Abbot  
Georgia Andritsakis  
Helen Andritsakis  
Kosmas & Anastasia Andritsakis  
Mike & Carol Anton  
Robin Askew  
Gus & Bronya Bagatelos  
Ray & Stacy Baker  
Richard & Diane Bueche  
Petrina Chiovitti  
Anita Cooke  
Art & Elaine Daniels  
Nick & Irene Darras  
Donn & Susan Dawson  
William & Suzanne Demas  
Jelmer & Anastasia Eerkens  
John & Sophia Evrigenis  
Peter Fetros Memorial  
Anthony & Vana Gergiannakis  
Helen Gianakakis  
Konstantino & Sofia Giourousis  
Alex & Sophia Goetze  
Xavier & Isabel Granados  
Henry & Athina Holland  
Stephen & Lydia Howell  
Rosemary Johnston  
Anastasia Jones  
Paul Kakouris  
Sophie Karnegas  
Alec & Georgia Karnezis  
Jim & Vee Karnezis  
Nick & Amofia Katsimbras  
George & Bessie Kokkinis  
George & Mary Kondos  
Betty Kouretas  
James & Rosemary Kouretas

Joyce Kouretas  
Katherine La Giusa  
George & Iva Lionakis  
Anna Maes  
Michael & Candice Makrakis  
Fotula Malas  
Sam & Ourania Marandos  
Helen Mayberry  
Matthew Mayberry  
Greg & Debbie Meyer  
Kalioppe Michos  
Collette Moore  
Tom & Susan Mouzes  
Theo & Leora Pahos  
Nick & Anna Panagakos  
Jacqueline Pappas  
Anne Petras  
Bessie Pothos  
Tom & Carol Robinson  
William & Helen Rotas  
Anonymous  
Donald & Mary Savage  
Donald & Despina Schrader  
Dr. Demetrios Simopoulos  
John & Erika Tatarakis  
Yannis & Mary Tgonis  
Ron & Lillian Torres  
Richard & Antigone Vaccaro  
Will & Natasha Vasilopoulos  
Thomas & Maria Warner  
Bradley Wenger & Georgia Jenkins-Wenger  
Sophia Zogopoulos  
Saint Katherine Philoptochos Society



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## PROSPHORON SCHEDULE

Athanasia Manikas: Sept. 27, November 8  
Eleni Camperos: October 4, November 15  
Christine Economy: October 11, November 22

Sevasti Hatzopoulos: Sept. 6, October 18  
Anna Papajohn: Sept. 13, October 25  
Eleni Vathis: Sept. 20, November 1

**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.

✠ On Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, Bessie Anton offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of her husband, Thomas Anton, 10 years since his passing.

✠ On Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, Claire Kolitsos offered the Holy Altar Vigil Flame in memory of her beloved mother, Maria, 3 years since his passing.

✠ On Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, the Holy Altar Vigil Flame burned in memory of Claire Santrizos, 5 years since her passing and was offered by her children Judith Santrizos and Charles Santrizos.



## 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 (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.

○ 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 Kathy La Giusa

○ Rebecca Circle – Diane Petersen

○ Susanna Circle – Sophia Stathos/Elaine Pavlatos

**On Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, the 2009-2010 Philoptochos Board and officers will be sworn in by Father Dino immediately following Divine Liturgy. A Board Meeting will be held immediately following during Coffee Hour.**

# Religious Education

Our thanks to the Sunday School teachers for the past 2008-2009 school year – we have been very fortunate to have such dedicated and loving teachers to help guide the children of St. Katherine.

Our Sunday School Program welcomes its new Director, Maria Koumis and all the returning and new teachers for the next school year. . If you are interested in helping with Sunday School, please contact Father Dino or Maria Koumis for more information. It is truly a blessing to give back to our church by working with the children. Sunday School will begin on October 4, 2009.

## **Sunday School Schedule of Events**

Sept. 13 & 20-Sunday School registration

October 4 - First Day of Sunday School (and registration)

November 8 – Grandparents’ Sunday

November 15- Christmas charitable giving project begins

November 22 - Emphasis: Feast of Saint Katherine

December 13 - All items due for charity project

December 20 - Christmas program

December 27 - No Sunday School

January 3 - Emphasis: The Feast of Epiphany

February 7 - Meat Fare Sunday

February 14- Godparents’ Sunday; Cheese Fare Sunday Almsgiving Project Begins

February 15-Pure Monday

February 21 - The Sunday of Orthodoxy Icon Procession

March 7 - The Veneration of the Holy Cross

March 26 – Palm Cross – making 6 – 8 PM

March 27 - Lazarus Saturday

March 28 - Palm Sunday/Easter Egg Hunt

April 4 - Easter Sunday- no school

May 9 - Mother's Day

May 16 - Graduation Celebration



# Saint Katherine Greek Folk Dance Program 2009

*By Heidi Perris*

The Saint Katherine Greek Folk Dance Program 2009 is busy practicing for the September Weekend in Greece Festival. 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.

This year we have some new faces in almost all the groups. Sophia Trotter-Goetze, Maria Leones, Daphne Constantinou, Elaine Stralen, Paul Leones and Xanthippi Gelasakis have all returned this year to direct the various groups. These hard-working folks enjoy teaching the children and young adults of Saint Katherine. We are excited to tell you that the Paneyiri dance group is learning a suite of Pontic dances (Kotsari, Tik and Lazikos) and will be donning new Pontic costumes. The kids are working hard to master these new and tricky steps. Ta Asteria is performing three dances this year. They return with Yerakina, the Zonaradikos and a Syrtaki. The girls of Ta Asteria will have bright new Amalia costumes to wear. The youngest dance group, Ta Pedakia, will return to the Festival with an old favorite, the Hasapiko, as well as a new dance, the Sirtos. The Glendi Dancers are working hard to perfect dances from Crete and Thrace. This year, dancing will be spread across the Festival day (6 performances on Saturday and 3 on Sunday.)

For more information on the Saint Katherine Greek Folk Dance Program, please contact Heidi Perris at (916) 616-9333 or [agapehp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:agapehp@sbcglobal.net).



Ta Pedakia work hard on swinging their legs to The Hasapiko



Members of Ta Asteria concentrate on their dance steps



Daphne Constantinou, one of the Dance Directors of Panayeri, teaching the kids new Pontic steps.



Glendi Dancers watch as Manolis Leones demonstrates some dance steps.

Save the date for our annual

# SAINT KATHERINE NAMEDAY

## DINNER / DANCE

Saturday, November 14, 2009

Tsakopoulos Hall

Cocktails 6 PM, Dinner 7 PM



*Join us for an evening of fine food, fellowship, dancing and music to celebrate our parish feastday!*

Tickets will be available following  
church services on Sundays

Only 200 tickets available, save the date and be sure to get yours early.

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sept. 12 & 13, Saturday & Sunday—Stockton Greek Festival  
Sept. 14, Monday—Divine Liturgy, Elevation of the Holy Cross, 10 A.M.  
Sept. 18, Friday—Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.  
Sept. 19 & 20, Saturday & Sunday—Modesto Greek Food Festival  
Sept. 20, Sunday—Philoptochos Swearing in of Board and Board Meeting  
Sept. 25, Friday—**Weekend in Greece Setup**, 11 A.M – 7 PM.; Youth Folk Dance Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.  
Sept. 26 & 27, Saturday & Sunday— **Saint Katherine's Weekend in Greece Festival!**  
October 1, Thursday—Annunciation Church Hellenic Golf Classic, Lincoln Hills, 12 Noon  
October 6, Tuesday —Bible Study, 10 A.M.; Senior League Luncheon, Annunciation Church  
October 13, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.; Parish Council Meeting, 7 P.M.  
October 18, Sunday—FESTIVAL APPRECIATION LUNCHEON following Divine Liturgy  
October 20, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.  
October 25, Sunday—GREEK OCTOBERFEST LUNCHEON following Divine Liturgy  
October 26, Monday—Liturgy, Feast of St. Dimitrios  
October 27, Tuesday—Bible Study, 10 A.M.  
November 14, Saturday – Saint Katherine Nameday Dinner / Dance, 6 PM, Tsakopoulos Hall.



**St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church**  
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