



S A I N T K A T H E R I N E C H R O N I C L E

Fall-Winter 2015

A Word from your Pastor

I don't know why, but during the autumn months I start having feelings of nostalgia. For example, the other day I was thinking of all the wonderful things we've done together as a community over the past 27 years...not the construction projects, but the get-togethers, the special events and the programs we've shared over the past three decades (almost).

And I am amazed at how many different and wonderful things we've been able to accomplish with just one priest and a small community. We've gone on deep-sea fishing trips, had parish picnics, taken the Altar Boys on a trip to Disneyland, had Christmas dinners and a host of other extraordinary programs.

Today, however, our parish finds itself in a different situation. We've grown significantly since our beginning with only 20 families. We've built beautiful buildings and have welcomed nearly 300 families into our community who come from over 20 different ethnicities and cultural backgrounds. In short, we're not the same parish we used to be, but we still operate with just one priest, a part-time bookkeeper and hall manager, and volunteers.

I think that the time has come for us to take a new look at reaching more people, creating more ministries for our children and better serving the needs of our existing families. We need to come up with a plan that will address those things, so that we can continue to progress and grow. The Good News of Jesus Christ is something that is so beneficial to so many people, especially today, that we need to do all we can to share it with others.

That is why the Parish Council is looking to produce a type of Strategic Plan to find a way to take our parish to the next level of growth and progress. The Council will be asking for input from many of our parishioners to determine exactly how we would like to see our parish develop in the future. Think and pray about it and lend a hand in our future planning. It's good to be nostalgic from time to time, but it's better to plan for the future.

Faithfully yours,

Father Dino

Internet Ministries at Saint Katherine

“Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.” (Mark 16:15)

In the words of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, “The web site is an essential tool for the accomplishment of the work set before us by the Lord in His Great Commission to go forth into the world and preach the Gospel. May we use this vital medium to assert ourselves in an appropriate, authentic and Orthodox way, offering on many different levels the transmission of the life of communion that exists in God.”

To improve outreach and communication at Saint Katherine, we have established a broad internet presence. You can now follow activities at Saint Katherine via our website, email list, Facebook, Shutterfly, Twitter and Instagram.

TO REACH OUR WEBSITE, enter www.saintkatherine.org in your browser’s address bar. There you’ll see images to click on that will take you to information about the Hall, the Festival, and the Church. At the bottom, click on the picture of the Church, and the top right of the next page, will have links to:

- make a donation
- join our email list
- view our events calendar
- view most recent newsletters
- make a stewardship payment
- view our online photo albums
- follow our Facebook page
- follow us on Instagram

Our website also offers the Weekly Announcements and some of Father Dino’s sermons. Just click on the icon that says, **Join our Email List** to receive all our announcements every week.

NEWSLETTER: To control costs and advance with the digital age, eventually our future Newsletters will be electronic. For now, we ask that those with email access subscribe to our email list to receive our Newsletters. Eventually all our newsletters will be offered electronically with hard copies being available at church on Sundays. You can go directly to www.saintkatherine.org/join.html and sign up for our email list.

SOCIAL MEDIA: We maintain Facebook pages for the Church and our Festival, “A Weekend In Greece”. Anyone can visit them at www.facebook.com/saintkatherine and www.facebook.com/eggreekfestival. To subscribe to them, however, you must have a Facebook account. Then go to the addresses above and click the “Like” button on each page. Also, add us to your “Favorites” so that we’re more likely to appear in your feed. You can find our photos and video at saintkatherine.shutterfly.org. If you’re on Twitter, follow our Festival account at www.twitter.com/eggreekfestival. And look for us on Instagram at [saintkatherinegoc](https://www.instagram.com/saintkatherinegoc).

If you have questions or need assistance subscribing to our email list, please contact our Webmaster Enrico Carrieri at webmaster@saintkatherine.org.

PARISH NOTES

PHILOPTOCHOS – Congratulations to our new Philoptochos Board and its officers:

President	Sophia Stathos
Vice President	Elaine Pavlatos
Treasurer	Diana Bueche
Assistant Treasurer	Presvytera Chrisoula Pappademos
Recording Secretary	Diane Petersen
Corresponding Secretary	Mireille Ruppe

STEWARDSHIP – Stewardship is the primary funding tool for our beloved parish. The Stewardship offerings we give represent the largest portion of income in our annual budget and establish the foundation of all the giving here at Saint Katherine. New pledge cards and materials will be mailed to each family very soon. While everyone can offer what they can, here are some guidelines that will hopefully provide some assistance in determining what your family can give in 2016. Our Stewardship program starts with the assumption that we should be able to offer at least a dollar a day for God's work. That represents only the beginning and is probably less than many of us spend a year at Starbucks. Beyond that however, we should start thinking of what our faith means to us, how important our relationship to God is, and how we can help others benefit from His blessings through the work that God does in our parish. The average pledge from all our families works out to be just under \$100 per month. Offerings may be made in full, quarterly, monthly or every week. Please take a new look at your giving next year. When we all support Saint Katherine as much as we can, miracles can happen!

AUTUMN GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Will be held on Sunday, November 15th, 2015, during Coffee Hour in our Tsakopoulos Hall. The annual budget will be presented for 2016 and nominations will be accepted for elections to our 2016 Parish Council. We encourage everyone to attend this informative meeting.

THE FEAST OF SAINT KATHERINE – We will hold a special Saint Katherine Name Day Luncheon on Sunday, November 22nd. Also, just before Thanksgiving, we will celebrate the Feast of Saint Katherine with Great Vespers on Tuesday evening, November 24th at 7 PM. Then the next morning, Wednesday November 25th we will chant Orthros at 9 AM and the Divine Liturgy at 10. Our Philoptochos Society will hold beautiful receptions in our Tsakopoulos Hall immediately following services on both days. Area clergy have been invited to attend this Liturgy, so please join us!

FESTIVAL-ANOTHER BIG SUCCESS! – We would like to thank all those who worked, donated and attended our Weekend In Greece this year. Preliminary financial results are showing that we increased our sales over last year by a few thousand dollars and even reduced our expenses a bit. More details will be announced at our General Assembly on November 15.

■ **DON'T FORGET OUR CRAB FEED ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016!** ■

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 26, Monday – The Feast of Saint Demetrios, the Great Martyr. Divine Liturgy 10 AM.
November 9, Monday – The Feast of Saint Nektarios, the Wonderworker. Divine Liturgy 10 AM.
November 15, Sunday – Autumn General Assembly in Tsakopoulos Hall after the Divine Liturgy.
November 22, Sunday – Saint Katherine Nameday Luncheon, following Divine Liturgy.
November 24, Tuesday – Great Vesper Service for the Feast of Saint Katherine, 7 PM.
November 25, Wednesday – Divine Liturgy celebrating the Feast of Saint Katherine, 10 AM.
December 6, Sunday – The Feast of Saint Nicholas, Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.
December 25, Friday – Christmas Morning Divine Liturgy, 10 AM.
January 1, Friday – New Year Divine Liturgy celebrating the Feast of St. Basil the Great, 10 AM.
January 3, Sunday – Vasilopita Luncheon, following Divine Liturgy.
January 6, Wednesday – Divine Liturgy and the Great Blessing of the Waters, celebrating Holy Theophany, 10 AM.
January 23, Saturday – Saint Katherine Annual Crab Feed. Refreshments 6 PM, Dinner at 7.



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

Time Dated Material

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