



## Happy November everyone!

Have any plans for after Christmas? Want to make new friends that will last a life time? See old friends that you have not been in touch with for a while? Go to **College Conference!**



December 27<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup>

What is **College Conference**?

College Conference a 4 days conference just for all orthodox college aged students. There are workshops, speakers, church services, and many social events. It is a great way to connect with your fellow peers that also care about their faith! It is an awesome few days. Just go to [www.ocf.net](http://www.ocf.net) to register.

Here is a picture from last years College Conference in Pennsylvania at a social.





Have you thought about what you would like to do for your spring break? Keep in mind about Real break. More Information will be coming out soon on the OFC website. If you are interested you may email me and I can find any information you would like to know or go to [www.ocf.net](http://www.ocf.net).



Just In!!.....

There is a live feed connection to church services! Sometimes being in college it is hard to attend church every Sunday. This is a perfect way to still celebrate Divine Liturgy. Just simply go to <http://www.goarch.org/en/multimedia/live/>

### Lives of the Saints

The Holy Great Martyr Katherine



The Holy Great Martyr Katherine was the daughter of Constus, the governor of Alexandria in Egypt, during the reign of the emperor Maximian (305-313). Living in Alexandria, Katherine became very educated. Katherine was very beautiful and wanted everyone to recognize her for her beauty and all the wisdom she had. She would only marry someone who would recognize her for that. She then went to an elder to receive

wisdom on the subject of her getting married and suggested that she prayed to the Divine Holt Mother and her son. That night she prayed all night and had an image of the Virgin Mary. Mary was holding her son, but he turned his face to not look at her. He stated she was too ugly to look at and was a mindless person. The next day she returned to the elder saddened. She received advice to become the pure and save her virginity and become one with the Lord. She was then baptized. Then again Saint Katherine had a vision of the Most Holy Mother of God with Her Child. Now the Lord looked tenderly at her and gave her a ring -- a wondrous gift of the Heavenly Bridegroom. At this time the emperor Maximian was himself in Alexandria for a pagan feast day. Introducing herself, the saint confessed her Christian faith and with wisdom denounced the errors of the pagans. The beauty of the maiden captivated the emperor. In order to convince her and show the superiority of pagan wisdom, the emperor gave orders to gather 50 of the most learned men of the empire, but the Saint got the better of the wise men, such that they themselves came to believe in Christ. Saint Katherine shielded them with the sign of the cross, and they bravely accepted death for Christ and were burnt by order of the emperor. Maximian, no longer hoping to convince the saint, tried to entice her with the promise of riches and fame. Having received an angry refusal, the emperor gave orders to subject the saint to terrible tortures and then throw her in prison. The Empress Augusta, who had heard much about Katherine, wanted to see her. Having succeeded in convincing the military-commander Porphyry to accompany her with a detachment of soldiers, Augusta went to the prison. The strong spirit of Saint Katherine, whose face glowed with Divine grace, impressed the empress. The holy martyr explained the teachings of the Christians to the people and they believed and were converted to Christ. On the following day they again brought her to the judgment court where, under the threat of being tortured on a wheel of spikes and nails, they urged that she recant from the Christian faith and offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. The saint steadfastly confessed Christ and she herself approached the wheel; but an Angel smashed the sharp tools, which broke up into pieces that hit pagans who were passing by. Having beheld this wonder, the empress Augusta and the imperial courtier Porphyry with 200 soldiers confessed their faith in Christ in front of everyone, and they were beheaded. Maximian again tried to entice Saint Katherine, proposing marriage to her, and again he received a refusal. She confessed her fidelity to the Heavenly Bridegroom Christ, and with a prayer to Him she herself put her head on the block under the sword of the executioner and was beheaded.

(story read from [http://www.antiochian.org/saint\\_katherine](http://www.antiochian.org/saint_katherine) )

## **Reminders!**

- If you are going to Montreal for the national convention this summer remember to get a passport.
- Not in college anymore? Please email me and let me know.

## **Good Web Sites to know:**

[www.antiochian.org](http://www.antiochian.org)

[www.ocf.net](http://www.ocf.net)

<http://www.goarch.org/en/multimedia/live/>

## **Contact me!**

Have any questions? concerns? Ideas?

I can be reached by email at both

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