

March 1st, 2015

Sunday of Orthodoxy

The **Epistle Reading** is Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40. The **Gospel Reading** is John 1:44-52. These Readings may be found on pages 1367 & 1237 in the **Holy Bible** or pages 136-137 in the **Divine Liturgy Book**.

Today we remember: Saint Basil Liturgy. First Sunday in Lent, Sunday of Orthodoxy; Triumph of the Icons; Eudokia, Righteous martyr; Domnina, Martyr; Marcellus and Antonina, Martyrs; Righteous Agapios and Eudokimos of Athos.

The Altar Table Lamp is lit by:

- The Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Community *in loving memory of* our dearly departed Psalti, Sotirios Mitilineos. May his memory be eternal.

The Vigil Lamps of the Iconostasion are lit by:

- Chris Spanos & Family *for the continued health & welfare of* her husband, their father and grandfather, Jimmy Spanos.
- The family & friends of Basilios A. Trintis, for his *continued health & welfare*. May God continue to bless him.
- Roula Passon *in loving memory of* her son, Peter. May his memory be eternal.

40-Day Baby Blessing: Mr. & Mrs. Majid Sajjad will present their 2nd child, a daughter, for the traditional 40-day blessing.

The Altar Bread was prepared by: Athina Kakavas

Coffee Hour: Everyone is invited to the Coffee Hour that will be held in the Hermes Rafailides Center directly following the Divine Liturgy and served by “The Way” Committee.

Flowers for the Virgin Mary: The basket of flowers gracing the Icon of the Virgin Mary for the Salutations to the Theotokos was donated by Sam, Mary & George Tsakiris *for the health & welfare of* their family.

For more information about the events listed in the bulletin, please look for literature on the Narthex Table or call the Church Office.

Salutations to the Virgin Mary: This Friday, we will continue singing praises to the Virgin Mary at the *Salutations to the Virgin Mary Service* beginning at 7:00 pm in the church. Salutations to the Virgin Mary will continue each Friday until March 27th. It is a beautiful service and all are invited to attend.

Holy Week Books: Holy Week Books are available to purchase for \$30.00 each. Please stop by the Church office or see a Parish Council member on Sunday.

Orthodox Studies: Want to learn more about your Orthodox Faith? Join us on Friday, March 6th, at 9:30 am in the board room. Please remember that if Baltimore County Public Schools are closed or delayed due to weather, we will not meet. For more information contact Kate Cocoros at 410.692.7590.

The Play Committee: We have some left-over frozen food items for sale. If you are interested in any of the items listed, please contact Rena Makres 410.823.4805 to make pick-up arrangements. **Frozen Uncooked full pan of Pastitsio**, \$30.00; **Frozen Uncooked half pan Pastitsio**, \$15.00; **Frozen Uncooked full pan of Dolmades**, \$30.00; **Frozen Uncooked half pan Dolmades**, \$15.00; **Frozen Plain Cheesecake (16 slices per box)**, \$15.00. We will also be selling these items after Church. Thank you for your support.

Orthodox Christian Way Program – March 3rd. Coming to Orthodoxy ~ Personal Journeys

The Orthodox Christian Way returns this Tuesday, March 3rd, 2015, in the Hermes Rafailides Center. The topic, “Coming to Orthodoxy ~ Personal Journeys,” will be presented by members of the Saint Demetrios community who have been Chrismated into the Orthodox Faith as adults. They will share the paths that each has taken to become members of our holy Church. Group discussion and a question and answer session for the presenters will follow. After a Lenten supper that begins at 6:15 p.m., the presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will conclude promptly at 8:30 p.m.

The topics for the rest of this session are:

- March 10 ~ Resurrection and Immortality
- March 17 ~ Forgiveness
- March 31 ~ The Second Coming of Christ

Please note that we will not meet on March 24, due to the Annunciation Vespers at the Cathedral. Register after the Liturgy today, or call the church office at 410 661-1090 x202 for more information.

Saint Demetrios Pre-School Registration: We are continuing to accept Registration Forms for the 2014-2015 School Year, for the Saint Demetrios Pre-School (age 3) and Pre-Kindergarten (age 4). Registration forms can be found on the Narthex Table. To set up a visit, or for more information about this wonderful academic, spiritual and cultural educational program, please contact Kiria Betty at 410.661.1090 x204 or sdpreschool@comcast.net.

Library News: Lent is here and we will be lighting candles. Ever wonder why candles are very important in the Orthodox Church? Two types of candles are used. The pure beeswax candle, made from combs of beehives and the paraffin wax candle, made of petroleum. When the Fathers are speaking of candles, they are referring to the beeswax candles. The symbolism of the candles is as follows:

- As the candle is pure; so should your heart be pure.
- As the pure candle is supple; so should our souls be supple until we make it straight and firm from the gospel.
- As the pure candle is from the pollen of a flower and sweet scent; so should our souls.
- As the candle burns mixes with the and feeds the flame; so should we struggle to achieve theosis.
- As the burning candle illuminates the darkness; so should the light of Christ, within us shine before man.
- The melting wax symbolizes the flame of our love for our fellow man.

Our library has many new books and DVD's. We have a lot of Lenten cookbooks. The Oratorical Festival is March 17th. We can help you with your speech. We are opened on Sundays, but we will open for you, if you need to get into the library, just call Mary Tsakiris 410.592.7319.

The Craig Arambiges Lecture: Please plan to attend this year's library lecture on Saturday, March 7th, “*Living in the Scriptures: the Orthodox Story*,” presented by Elissa Bjeletich. Ms. Bjeletich is the author of the popular Ancient Faith Radio podcast, Raising Saints: Educating Our Youth in the Orthodox Faith, Both at Home and in the Parish, and the book, “*In God's Hands: A Mother's Journey through her infant's critical illness*” published by Ancient Faith Publishing in 2013. She currently serves as the Sunday School Director at Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Austin, TX.

Ms. Bjeletich is also the speaker for “My Ladies Luncheon,” the annual Philoptochos event the following day, when she will speak on a related, but different topic, “The Life Giving Cross.”

The morning will begin with a light breakfast at 9:30am, and Ms. Bjeletich's presentation will begin at 10:00am. Following the lecture, lunch will be provided. This event is free and good will donations will be accepted. Register after the liturgy today or call Mary Triandafilou, 410.528.1589.

Hometown Nazareth Vacation Bible School June 22nd – 26th 9am-12 pm Saint Demetrios Church. \$20 per child. Register online <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/hl/stdemetrios2015/gpgs/home.aspx> or return completed registration forms (include checks payable to St. Demetrios Church memo VBS) to Kelly MacDonnell 9404 Good Spring Dr. Perry Hall, MD 21128 or during Church Coffee Hour). For more information or questions call 410-256-4487.

The Book and Knitting club will meet on Tuesday, March 10th, 2015 at 9:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. The book of choice is *The French Gardener, by Santa Montefiore*. Lunch to follow at 510 Johnny's in Bel Air, Maryland.

Pan Hellenic Scholarship Foundation, is now accepting applications for this unique study abroad program through March 27, 2015. If you are a college student of Hellenic descent **who has never been to Greece** apply today to participate in Hellenic Birthright. This summer's program takes place from June 19th through July 19th, 2015. Hellenic Birthright is a four week program that enables students to experience the history, culture and everyday life of Greece. Offered in collaboration with the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT), the program includes a rigorous academic schedule combined with excursions throughout historic sites of Greece. Students will also earn three transferable college credits. For more information or download an application, please visit our website at: <http://panhellenicscholarships.org>.

The American College of Greece (ACG) is accepting applications for **Heritage Greece 2015**, an experiential educational and cultural program for college-aged, Greek-American students. Developed by the National Hellenic Society (NHS) and hosted by The American College of Greece (ACG), Heritage Greece is an unforgettable opportunity for young people to explore their Greek heritage. This year, the Heritage Greece Program will run from **June 11th – 28th, 2015**. Participant will attend a four-credit Greek language and culture course and will travel to the Greek Islands, traditional villages, and archaeological sites. They will have the opportunity to take a Greek cooking class, learn Greek dancing, and experience an insider's tour of the Acropolis museum. ACG is accepting application through **March 27th, 2015**. We are seeking Greek-American college students who have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and have never or seldom been to Greece. We invite you to visit our website at: <http://www.acg.edu/admissions/study-abroad/heritage-greece/apply-heritage-greece>, where you can apply as well as learn more details about this year's program.

Please join us for a Lenten Retreat, sponsored by the Twenty-first Annual "Growing in Faith" Bible Study in conjunction with Greater Baltimore Orthodox Clergy Associates. To topic is: **Do You Believe in Miracles?** The retreat master is the Very Reverend Protopresbyter Mark Leasure. Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 14th, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 pm at St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church, located at 909 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley/Cockeysville, MD. 21030. Cost is \$30.00. For more information please go to www.goannun.org and click on "2015 Retreat" or www.huntvalleyorthodox.com. Looking forward to seeing you there!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3rd Pre-Sanctified Liturgy ~ Wednesday, March 11th at 6:00 pm
- 3rd Salutations to the Virgin Mary ~ Friday, March 13th at 7:00 pm
- Sunday of Holy Cross ~ Sunday, March 15th
- 4th Pre-Sanctified Liturgy ~ Wednesday, March 18th at 6:00 pm
- 4th Salutations to the Virgin Mary ~ Friday, March 10th at 7:00 pm
- 5th Pre-Sanctified Liturgy ~ Wednesday, March 25th at 6:00 pm
- Akathyst Hymn ~ Friday, March 27th at 7:00 pm

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE OF THE WEEK: "TIME ~ TALENT ~ TREASURE"

If you are visiting Saint Demetrios today, thank you for worshipping with us. We invite you to fill out the welcome card that can be found at the *Pangari*. For your convenience, Stewardship commitment cards and envelopes can also be found at the *Pangari*.

Dear Stewards, remember that at Saint Demetrios we don't pass trays every Sunday because we ask you to include your tray contributions in your annual commitment.

Your Stewardship Dollars at Work: As you think about your Stewardship commitment, remember that our monthly building & grounds maintenance averages **\$2,667**.

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ walked among us for 33 years. Could you add 33 cents a day to your pledge to help maintain His home at Saint Demetrios? That would be an additional \$9 a month to your pledge. Think of what you have, and remember what He gave up for you.

STEWARDSHIP STATISTICS

	Budget Commitment	Goal ~ Total Operating Budget *	Total Commitments to Date	Collections to Date	# of Stewards
2014	\$392,000	\$693,000	\$234,298	\$76,429	317
2015	\$395,000	\$612,300	\$243,089	\$77,953	293

**Our goal as Christian Stewards is to fund 100% of the Church operating budget.*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

<p><u>Monday, March 2nd</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Greek School, 4:30 pm (C) Parish Council Exec. Board Mtg., 7:00 pm (B) Sweet Adelines</p> <p><u>Tuesday, March 3rd</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) The Way, 6:15 pm (H/G)</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, March 4th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Greek School, 4:30 pm (C) 2nd Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 6:00 pm GOYA Basketball, 7:00 pm (H/G)</p> <p><u>Thursday, March 5th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Men's Basketball, 6:00 pm (H/G) Adult Choir, 7:00 pm (M)</p> <p><u>Friday, March 6th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Orthodox Studies, 9:30 am (B) 2nd Salutation to the Virgin Mary, 7:00 pm</p>	<p><u>Saturday, March 7th</u> <i>Craig Arambiges Lecture (H/G)</i></p> <p><u>Sunday, March 8th</u> <i>Sunday of Saint Gregory Memorial Sunday</i> Orthros, 9:00 am Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am Church School, 9:55 am <i>My Ladies Luncheon</i></p>
---	---	--

***In order to provide meeting space for all ministries, please take notice as to where your ministry is scheduled to meet within the facility.**

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

2015

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY FOR NEXT SUNDAY'S 'MY LADIES LUNCHEON' ~ Sunday, March 8th. Father Lou Noplos invites you to join him for 'My Ladies Luncheon' special guest Elissa Bjeletich, Sunday School Director, Author & mother of five will present, "The Life Giving Cross -Youth, Marriage, Parenting & Caregiving", sponsored by the Saint Demetrios Ladies Philoptochos Society and held at the Towson Country Club. For more luncheon information and tickets (\$35pp lunch & presentation incl.), see Denise Poletis at coffee hour or call 443.841.2833.



****Last Call for Chocolate!** And other needed items for our Military Personnel. The Ladies Philoptochos Society is currently collecting all types of chocolate and other items to send to our troops! Please bring in all types of chocolate, plain white socks (men's all sizes), tank tops (men's all sizes), marshmallow peeps, soups, snacks, etc. Collection will be through March 31st so that we can package everything to coincide with the Easter holiday. Items will be shipped to two different platoons. Philoptochos drop box locations: blue bin in Church building & at Coffee hour. Monetary donations accepted and will be used to purchase needed items. Questions can be sent to jones_lisa@bah.com or by calling Lisa Jones at 443.621.6805. We thank you for your support!



****LENTEN RECIPES** in the latest edition of our cookbook, Kali Orexi IV. Many recipes perfect for this time of year. You'll find new ideas for dinner and sweets that fit Lenten guidelines. Stop by our table in the Hermes Rafailides Center during coffee hour or contact Mary Triandafilou, 410.528.1589 for your copy of Kali Orexi IV.



****We invite you to become a Philoptochos Member or Associate Member (for the men in our community).** Pick up a Membership Form at the Narthex Table and return it to the church office. Attention 'Philoptochos Membership' on the envelope. Please specify "Philoptochos Stewardship" on the memo line of your check. For more information contact the Membership Committee, Thorina Trintis 410.866.2127 or Violette Cocoros 410.256.6283. Remember that \$22 of your donation will be applied to your National and Metropolis membership, while the remainder will be used to support the various local charity projects, such as Beans & Bread, Ronald McDonald House, School children's needs and the Baltimore Rescue Mission.



****Saint Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero ~** Thank you to those who have already made a donation to this important Christian Orthodox project! Our first installment has been sent for our chapter from member contributions and we are well on our way to achieving 100% participation from our Saint Demetrios chapter members, family and friends. National Philoptochos is asking each of the 27,000 Philoptochos members along with our family and friends, to contribute \$100 per person, to make a total Philoptochos commitment of more than \$2 million towards this worthy project. Please direct your donation to 'Saint Demetrios Philoptochos' and specify in the memo line on the check to earmark for the 'Saint Nicholas Shrine'. The chapter liaison to National Philoptochos for this project is Margo Lambros, our Assistant Treasurer. When making your donation please put "attention: Margo Lambros" on the envelope. Saint Nicholas National Shrine will be the only religious structure at Ground Zero and it will be ORTHODOX.



Father Lou Noplos Invites You
to Attend the 32nd Annual

“My Ladies Luncheon”

Sponsored by
Saint Demetrios Ladies Philoptochos

Sunday, March 8th, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.
Towson Golf and Country Club
12801 Stone Hill Road
Phoenix MD 21131

**Guest
Speaker:**

**Elissa
Bjeletich**

Sunday School
Director,
Author,
Mother of 5



Presenting: "The Life Giving Cross...
Youth, Marriage, Parenting, & Caregiving"

Ticket Donation: \$35

Purchase tickets during coffee hour or contact
Denise Poletis 443.841.2833,
dpoletis@gmail.com.

**Please indicate your choice of crab cake or
eggplant parmesan**

Proceeds will benefit the many wonderful
Philoptochos ministries.