

March 15th, 2015

Sunday of the Holy Cross

The **Epistle Reading** is Hebrews 4:14-5:6. The **Gospel Reading** is Mark 8:34-9:1. These Readings may be found on pages 1361 & 1189 in the **Holy Bible** or pages 140-141 in the **Divine Liturgy Book**.

Today we remember: Third Sunday of Lent, Veneration of the Holy Cross; Agapios, Plesios, Romylos, ad Timolas, Martyrs; Aristoboulos of the 70 Apostles, Bishop of Britannia; Manouel of Crete and Parthenios, Neomartyrs; Nikandros of Egypt.

The Altar Table Lamp is lit by:

- Peter & Joanna Beleos *in honor of* Cina Makres, on the occasion of her 16th birthday. May God grant her many more happy years.

The Vigil Lamps of the Iconostasion are lit by:

- The Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Community *in loving memory of* our dearly departed Psalti, Sotirios Mitilineos. May his memory be eternal.
- Roula Passon *in loving memory of* her son, Peter. May his memory be eternal.
- Basil & Margo Lambros, their children & grandchildren *in loving memory of* their father, grandfather & great grandfather, Nicholas Bourdosis, who fell asleep in the Lord 20 years ago. May his memory be eternal.
- George & Chrisanthe Makres *in loving memory of* her parents, Peter & Maria Samaras, and his parents, James & Sevasti Makres, and their brothers, William Makres & Steve and his wife Edith Makres.
- Annabelle, Debra & Roxanne *in loving memory of* their mother, Cynthia Fangikis, who fell asleep in the Lord 2 years ago. May her memory be eternal.
- Virginia Papavasiliou & Family *in loving memory of* husband, father & grandfather, Tharrenos “Hank” Papavasiliou, who fell asleep in the Lord 40-days ago. May his memory be eternal.
- Eftychia Levas & Alex Levas *in loving memory of* husband & brother, John Levas, who fell asleep in the Lord 40-days ago. May his memory be eternal.
- 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.
- Yia Yia Mercina Belios, Uncle Pete & Aunt Karen *in honor of* granddaughter & niece, Cina Makres, on the occasion of her 16th birthday. May God grant her many more happy years.
- Paula Skleres *in honor of* her sister, Stefany, on the occasion of her birthday. May God bless her with many more.

The Memorial Service is being chanted today *in loving memory of* Tharrenos “Hank” Papavasiliou, who fell asleep in the Lord 40-days ago and *in loving memory of* John Levas, who fell asleep in the Lord 40-days ago. May their memory be eternal.

The Altar Bread was prepared by: Giota Bournousouzis & Marsha Koukides.

Coffee Hour: The coffee hour is sponsored by the families of Tharrenos “Hank” Papavasiliou & John Levas and served by the Philoptochos Ladies. Everyone is invited to the coffee hour that will be held in the Hermes Rafailides Center directly following the Divine Liturgy.

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 The Saint Demetrios Adult Choir *in loving memory of* our former choir members, who fell asleep in the Lord, and with great appreciation of their time and talents that they shared with our community for many years. May their memory be eternal.

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 7:00pm 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: Are available for purchase for \$25.00. Please stop by the church office or see a Parish Council member on Sunday. **Holy Week Schedules** are available on the Narthex table. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. **Philoptochos Easter Flower Donations** may be dropped off in the white basket on the Narthex table and the **Easter Offering** envelopes may be given to a Parish Council member at the Pangari or dropped off at the church office.

Palm Making: Please plan to join us on **Saturday, April 4th**, directly after the 10:00am Divine Liturgy (*Lazarus Saturday*), for Palm Making in the Hermes Center. All are invited to attend and lunch will be provided.

Orthodox Studies: During this Lenten season make your spiritual journey more meaningful; learn more about your Orthodox Faith! Join us on **Friday, March 20th**, at 9:30am 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.

Oratorical Festival: Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church Oratorical Festival will be held today, **Sunday, March 15th**, beginning at 1:00pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for our youth to research, reflect, study, and express their faith. Elementary Division ~ grades 4-6; Junior Division ~ grades 7-9; and Senior Division ~ grades 10-12. Please come and offer your support.

Orthodox Christian Way Program ~ March 17th: Forgiveness. Join us this **Tuesday, March 17th** for the third presentation of the Way program, “Forgiveness.” After group discussion, there will be a question and answer session for the panel of clergy. A Lenten supper begins at 6:15 p.m., followed by the presentation at 7:00 p.m. The evening will conclude at 8:30 p.m.

The remaining session will take place on **March 31st** when Fr. John Touloumes of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Pittsburgh will speak about the Second Coming of Christ. Call the church office at 410.661.1090 ext. 202 for more information.

Hometown Nazareth Vacation Bible School June 22nd – 26th 9am-12pm 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 Kelly at 410.256.4487.

Hope/Joy: 1st Annual Family Fitness Event has been rescheduled for **Friday, May 1st @ 6pm.** For more information please contact Kelly MacDonnell at 410.256.4487.

The Play Committee: We have left-over Frozen Uncooked full pan of Pastitsio, \$30.00 for sale. If you are interested in this item listed, please contact Rena Makres at 410.823.4805 to make pick-up arrangements. We will also be selling this item after Church. Thank you for your support.

Greek Parade: The Maryland Greek Independence Day Parade will be held on **April 19th at 2:00pm** on Eastern Avenue in Baltimore’s Greektown. Additional information and registration for participation can be found on the parade’s website: www.greekparade.com or call the parade hot line at 443.267.4735.

Library News: Today is the Sunday of the Holy Cross. As Christians we all have a cross. The cross is known in Christian content as a symbol of sacrifice and salvation in reference to Jesus' death by Crucifixion upon a cross. The cross of Christ, like the tree of life became the center of the world. The two crossing lines create the meeting of two unique often contradiction principles like the meeting heaven and earth or God and man. A Christian cross is without the figure of Christ, showing that Christ has risen or that Christ is the Cross. There are many different kinds of crosses with different meanings and symbolisms. The Greek cross is usually considered the sign of God. Chi Ro cross has the Greek letter "X" combined with the "P" represents the first two letter of Christ and is the most common monogram of Christ. The Fleur de lis (flower of the Lily), in Christian means the Trinity of the three fold separation, similar to the Annunciation Lily. The Swastika was once a benign general meaning "it is well". During the middle ages the sign was gammadion a group of four Greek letter gamma used to indicate the four Evangelist with Christ. We have many books on the meaning of the Cross, lives of the different saints, cookbooks and meditations. Please stop by the library and see what we have to offer.

The Book and Knitting Club will meet on Tuesday, April 14th, 2015 at 9:00am to 11:30am. The book of choice is *The Yellow Crocus* by Laila Ibrahim. All are welcome to join our group. Experience is not necessary, as we will teach you how to knit or crochet.

Scholarships: Anyone interested in endowing an academic scholarship at Saint Demetrios, please contact the Church Office at 410.661.1090 x202 or saintdemetrios@comcast.net. If you have a 2.5 GPA or higher and wish to apply for a 2015 scholarship, application packets will be available shortly. **PLEASE NOTE:** A high school/college transcript, letter of acceptance/of good standing, and recommendations from the Parish Priest and **two faculty members under whom you have studied** must be included. **NO OTHER** letters of recommendation will be accepted. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

Pan Hellenic Scholarship Foundation, is now accepting applications for this unique study abroad program through **March 27th, 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.

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.

STEWARDSHIP STATISTICS

| | Budget Commitment | Goal ~ Total Operating Budget * | Total Commitments to Date | Collections to Date | # of Stewards |
|-------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 2014 | \$392,000 | \$693,000 | \$247,886 | \$97,073 | 356 |
| 2015 | \$395,000 | \$612,300 | \$255,234 | \$91,234 | 311 |

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR

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| <p><u>Monday, March 16th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Home School, 9:00 am (C) Greek School, 4:30 pm (C) Sweet Adelines</p> <p><u>Tuesday, March 17th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) The Way, 6:15 pm (H/G)</p> | <p><u>Wednesday, March 18th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Greek School, 4:30 pm (C) 4th Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 6:00 pm GOYA Basketball, 7:00 pm (H/G) Parish Council Mtg., 7:00 pm (B)</p> <p><u>Thursday, March 19th</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 20th</u> Spring Begins Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Orthodox Studies, 9:30 am (B) Pre-School Open House, 6:30 pm (C) 4th Salutation to the Virgin Mary, 7:00 pm</p> <p><u>Sunday, March 22nd</u> Sunday of St. John Climacus Orthros, 9:00 am Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am Church School, 9:55 am</p> |
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***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

The Saint Demetrios Philoptochos congratulates all of the children in our community participating at the Parish Level in the Saint John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival today. May God Grant You Many Years!



"Food Baskets For Friends" - Easter Food Drive ~ We are now accepting food and snack donations to distribute for Easter to the homeless and less fortunate families from our adopted Elementary schools and other families in need. Food donations needed: breakfast cereals, oatmeal, peanut butter, jelly/jams, juices, instant potatoes, gravy, stuffing, canned fruits & vegetables, soups, noodles, canned meats/tuna, spaghetti and sauce, puddings, dessert mixes. Snack items needed should be non-perishable, individually wrapped (if possible) and **NUT FREE**. Snack items needed: individual cereal boxes; boxes of individual fruit snacks; individual apple sauces, peaches, pears, etc.; individual cereal/granola bars; or individual bags of goldfish, pretzels. See the flyer on the Narthex table for complete details or contact Elaine Sackleh 410.472.3458. Items may be dropped off to the Philoptochos Blue Bin through **Sunday, March 22nd**.



Easter Bread Baking ~ We will be baking the Easter breads this coming **Thursday, March 26th** beginning at 8:30 am, until we finish in the early afternoon. To preorder, stop by the Philoptochos table during coffee hour or contact Georgia Kerasiotes, 410.821.9545. The breads will be ready for pick-up on **Sunday, March 29th** at coffee hour following the Divine Liturgy.



Saint Demetrios Philoptochos Easter Candy Sale (Pre-orders only this year) ~ See Presvytera Alice during coffee hour today to pre-order your chocolate filled Easter Eggs and Chocolate Bunny Lollipops. Order forms available on the Narthex table. Pick up will be on **Sunday, March 29th** and **Sunday, April 4th** after the Divine Liturgy. To contact Presvytera Alice call 410.817.9651



Easter Flower Donations ~ Envelopes are available in the basket on the Narthex table or look for the letter and envelope in the forthcoming Spring Philoptochos Newsletter. Please return all donations to the church office.



****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.

2:00 PM
SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2015
ON EASTERN AVE. IN BALTIMORE'S GREEKTOWN

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

HONORING OUR ANCESTORS'
SACRIFICES TO PRESERVE THE IDEALS
OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

FOR INFORMATION
PARADE HOTLINE: 443-267-4735

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