

September 10, 2017

Sunday before Holy Cross

The Epistle Reading is: Galatians 6:11-18. **The Gospel Reading is:** John 3:13-17. These Readings may be found on pages 1333 & 1382 in the Holy Bible or on pages 147-148 in the Divine Liturgy book.

Today we remember: Holymartyr Anthimos of Nikomedia; Chariton, Martyr; Neomartyr Polydoros of Neo-Ephesus; Righteous Theoktistos; and Phoibe the Righteous Deacon; Placement of the Sacred Relics in Aegina of Saint Nectarios of Pentapolis, the Wonderworker.

The Altar Table Lamp is lit by:

- Jennie Kegel *in honor of* the members of the Saint Demetrios Choir, as they return for a new Ecclesiastical Year to share their God given talents and enhance our Divine Liturgy. Also, *in honor of* our organist, Olga Polites, whose musical leadership with our summer Congregational Singing is truly appreciated.

The Vigil Lamps of the Iconostasion are lit by:

- Ted & Monica Agapaloglou and Eleni Libertini & Family *in loving memory of* their beloved son and brother, Konstantine Agapaloglou, who fell asleep in the Lord 40-days ago. May his memory be eternal.
- Eleni, Stephen, Gianna & Sophia Libertini *in loving memory of* their Koumbara & Nona, Kelly Kornias, who fell asleep in the Lord 3 years ago. May her memory be eternal.
- Vangie Demetrakis, Maria & Bob, Cathy & Tom, Scott, Ana & Eve *in loving memory of* Jim Demetrakis, who fell asleep in the Lord 13 years ago. May his memory be eternal.
- Sam & Diane Zamaria *in memory of* Dr. Pete Nickolas, who recently fell asleep in the Lord.

The Altar Bread was prepared by: Ritsa Economakis & Vangie Demetrakis.

The Memorial Service is being chanted today *in loving memory of* Konstantine Agapaloglou, who fell asleep in the Lord 40-days ago. May his memory be eternal.

Coffee Hour: The Coffee Hour is sponsored today by the **Welcome Committee** along with the family of Konstantine Agapologlou *in loving memory of* his passing 40-days ago. Coffee Hour will be held in the Hermes Rafailides Center and served by The Philotochos Ladies Society.

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

SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, October 8th, 2017 ~ General Assembly!
Please make plans to attend this important meeting.

Orthodox Studies: We are still on summer break. We will resume our studies on **Friday, September 29th**. Learn more about your Orthodox Faith, new members welcome. For more information contact Kate Cocoros at 443.564.6618.

Adult Choir: The Saint Demetrios Choir will begin the new Ecclesiastical Year by resuming their singing for the Divine Liturgy today. The Choir is always looking for additional members. Our rehearsals are held on Thursday's at 7:00 pm. **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!!** For more information contact Jennie at 410-256-2143 or [jccorosk@aol.com](mailto:jcocorosk@aol.com).

Church School Registration: Will be held today, **Sunday, September 10th** from 9:55am – 12:00pm in the Church's main hallway. Church School classes will begin on **Sunday, September 17th** at 9:55am.

ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS OF AMERICA URGES FAITHFUL TO PRAY AND SUPPORT THE VICTIMS OF HURRICANE HARVEY ~ In response to the unprecedented catastrophic Hurricane Harvey, His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, speaking on behalf of the Holy Eparchial Synod and the entire Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America said:

“In the wake of Hurricane Harvey that hit Texas and continues to ravage through neighboring states causing unprecedented destruction, trauma and loss of life, we share in the pain of our brothers and sisters and express our solidarity, care and concern. As Orthodox Christians we are called to prayer and fervently pray that God gives strength to those so adversely affected by this natural disaster and delivers them safe through this continuing calamity. We are also praying for the eternal rest of those who lost their lives and for comfort and strength to be granted by the merciful God to their families and friends. Our prayers however, should be accompanied by tangible assistance to those who are now in dire need. We ask all faithful Orthodox Christians to contribute their donations directly to IOCC, the International Orthodox Christian Charities, which is an agency under the auspices of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America.”

To make your donation go to the IOCC's special page for Hurricane Harvey at www.iocc.org.

Welcome: If you are visiting Saint Demetrios today, we welcome you and thank you for worshipping with us. We pray that your visit here is uplifting. We invite you to fill out the welcome card that can be found at the pangari (candle stand) and to either return it to a Parish Council member or slip it under the church office door.

Welcome Sunday: Today, Saint Demetrios will be celebrating its 19th annual Welcome Sunday. Beginning in 1999, the event has been an opportunity for the Church community to recognize individuals and families who have joined the Parish as new Stewards during the previous 12-month period. The new members will be introduced to the Congregation. We will co-sponsor the coffee hour to be held in honor of all Stewards, after the Diving Liturgy in the Hermes Rafailides Center. All are invited to join us in giving our special guests a hearty Saint Demetrios greeting.

Parish Council Nominations: Your Church needs You!! Soon you will receive a letter in the mail containing a Parish Council Nomination Form. This is a very important calendar time for our Church ~ the time when Parish Council members will be elected to serve for the next three years. It is an honor and a privilege to serve on the Parish Council, something that every member of the Church Parish should experience at least once. The Council is responsible for making major decisions concerning our Parish. In the next few weeks, someone from the Nominating Committee will probably come up to you to talk about a possible run in the elections held in November. But don't wait for them to come . . . send in your nominating form to the Office and be placed on the ballot. For any questions, or more information, please call Jennie Kegel at 410-256-2143.

Parish Assembly: The Parish Assembly will be held on **Sunday, October 8th**, immediately following the Divine Liturgy in the Hermes Rafailides Center. Please remember that a quorum of forty (40) Stewards in good standing is required. Voting privileges will be extended to those who are fulfilling their 2017 Stewardship commitment. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. As Stewards of our parish, your attendance and participation in our Parish Assembly Meeting is essential to the future growth and direction of our Parish.

The Orthodox Christian Way: Coming Soon! The fall series of the Orthodox Christian Way program will take place on Tuesday evenings, **November** We are busy planning the programs, but the format will remain the same: we will begin with a light supper at 6:15pm, followed promptly at 7:00pm by the evening's presentation. You are encouraged to bring your children, as BABYSITTING will be provided at **ALL** sessions, and we promise to wrap things up by 8:30pm. Cost is \$25 for 4 all four sessions. Individual sessions will be \$10. **Registration will begin next Sunday, September 18th.** Please stop by the registration table after the Liturgy next week or call the church office at 410.661.1090 ext. 202.

50 YEARS OF SAINT DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ~ November 29th, 2019 will commemorate the **50th Anniversary** of our beloved Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church. Please join our journey to embrace and celebrate this hallmark milestone for our community. We need you . . . Hearts and Hands Together . . . to honor 50 Years of Saint Demetrios. For more information, please contact Stephanie and Stephen Christ at 410-529-5927 or email: stephanie2twins@yahoo.com.

Saint Demetrios Pre-School Registration: We are accepting Registration Forms for the 2017-2018 School Year, for the Saint Demetrios Two Year Old Program, Pre-School, and Pre-Kindergarten. A Summer Program will become available as of June 2018. Registration forms can be found on the Narthex Table. **Don't miss out, classes are nearing full capacity!!!** To set up a visit, or for more information about this wonderful academic, spiritual and cultural educational program, please contact us via phone: 410.661.1090 x204 or email: sdpreschool@comcast.net

The Book & Knitting Club will be meeting on **Tuesday, September 12th, 2017** at 9:00 am - 12:00 pm All are welcomed whether you knit, crochet, sew or just want some nice conversation.

Greek School Registration: Our Greek School Classes ~ After School Program Schedule for the 2017-2018 school year is complete. The schedule & registration forms are available and can be found on the Narthex table. Please call the Church office 410.661.1090 x 202, if you have any questions.

Bulletin Deadline: Please be reminded that the deadline to submit bulletin articles is on Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m. Please be sure to have all information to the office by that day and time. Thank you.

Axion Charity Events presents Renowned Greek singers Marinella and Antonis Remos along with Manolis Karantinis on Bouzouki, **Sunday, October 1st** at the Marriott Baltimore Waterfront. Call 443-621-0587 for Sponsorship or to Pre-Purchase table. Individual tickets went on sale July 1st. Proceeds to benefit: Saint Demetrios, Annunciation, Saint Nicholas and Saints Mary Magdalene & Markella. More info available at www.axioncharityevents.org. Like us on Facebook: Axion Charity Events.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

General Meeting: "Join the Philoptochos as they meet for the new ecclesiastical year, **Monday, September 11th** at 6:30 pm. All women of the community are invited to come and see what we're all about. The meeting will be short and the fellowship afterwards will be fun! Desserts and drinks will be provided.

FALLing . . . Back to Philoptochos. Please join the women of St. Demetrios as we welcome a new Ecclesiastical Year with a **LADIES NIGHT OUT!** Enjoy dinner and good fellowship on **Tuesday, October 10th at 6:30 pm, 7 West Bistro Grille, 7 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson.** Ticket price \$30, valet parking available. For tickets contact Christina Kakoullis 410 879 -7942 or Violette Cocoros 410 256-6283.

FESTIVAL CORNER

Save the Dates: Saint Demetrios Greek Festival 2017 is just around the corner ~ **September 21st, 22nd, 23rd & 24th.** Please mark your calendars

Festival Meeting Date ~ September 13th. The meeting will all be held at 6:45 pm in the boardroom.

Father's Attic: We are accepting donations for Father's Attic. All donations can be placed in the stairwell of the narthex in the educational building, please drop off your donations **Monday thru Friday between 9:00 am & 3:00 pm.**

Festival Ad Book: Don't forget to place you business ad in the Festival Ad Book! New this year ~ include a personal message to your loved one(s) in our special dedication section! For just \$25, you can include a memorial dedication or a best wishes / congratulations dedication. For more information or to place an ad, please contact Amanda Albright at 410.404.8611 or at stdemetriosads@gmail.com.

Volunteers: We are just a few weeks away from our 2017 Greek Festival, many hands are needed to have a successful year. Members of the Festival Committee will be available during Coffee Hour to schedule volunteers. Please stop by our table and lend your time to help our St. Demetrios Festival have another successful. See Cathy Xanthakos at Coffee Hour or call her at 410.952.3576.

The Festival Committee is in need of head volunteers, specifically to run our Squid Booth. This Individual(s), will be responsible for, ordering the squid (I can assist), setting up the booth at the beginning and end of the day, securing volunteers, cooking and serving Squid, cleaning the fryers. Experience is definitely a plus. If we do not get a volunteer(s) this delicious food item will need to be eliminated from our Food Menu this year. Please call Cathy Xanthakos at 410.952.3576 for further details

UPCOMING EVENTS

Divine Liturgy ~ Exaltation of the Holy Cross ~ September 14th

1st Day of Church School ~ September 17th

Memorial Sunday ~ September 17th

Pre-School Closed ~ September 21st & 22nd

Grecian Festival ~ September 21st, 22nd, 23rd & 24th

Church School Closed ~ September 24th

Parish Council General Mtg. ~ September 26th

GOYA Bingo ~ October 14th



**SAVE THE DATE!
FALL FEST BINGO
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th**

Hosted by: The Saint Demetrios GOYA

\$20 in Advance or \$25 at the Door
Doors open at 4:00pm

More information to come soon!



STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE OF THE WEEK

“TIME ~ TALENT ~ TREASURE”

In every Liturgy God brings words of eternal life through the Scripture readings and the sermon. Through the Sacrament of Communion, He comes to be born again and again in the shabby stables of our hearts. He is able to continue His forgiving, healing, liberating, transfiguring ministry through the Church.

Are you actively serving God, sharing Him with others? Do you worship regularly? Take a moment to evaluate your life considering these principles. We are called to apply our gifts, training, abilities, education and skills to the tasks that God places before us. If we do this humbly and prayerfully the body of Christ will function to its full potential.

STEWARDSHIP STATISTICS

	Budget Commitment	Goal ~ Total Operating Budget *	Total Commitments to Date	Collections to Date	# of Stewards
2016	\$395,000	\$681,485	\$312,383	\$242,844	405
2017	\$378,600	\$657,842	\$299,916	\$227,177	362

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<p><u>Monday, September 11th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) Philoptochos General Mtg., 6:30pm (P)</p> <p><u>Tuesday, September 12th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Book/Knitters Club, 9:00 am (L) Pre-School Back to School, 7:00pm (C)</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, September 13th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) GOYA Basketball, 6:00pm (H/G) Festival Mtg., 7:00pm (B)</p> <p><u>Thursday, September 14th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) <i>Exaltation of the Holy Cross – Divine Liturgy, 9:00am</i> Men’s Basketball, 6:30pm (H/G) Adult Choir, 7:00pm (M)</p> <p><u>Friday, September 15th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C)</p>	<p><u>Sunday, September 17th</u> <i>Sunday after Holy Cross Orthros, 9:00am Divine Liturgy, 10:00am Memorial Day</i> Church School First Day, 9:55am Church School Staff & Student Blessing Demetrakia Dancers, 12:15pm (C)</p>
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