

**December 15, 2019**

**11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke**

**The Epistle Reading** is II Timothy 1:8-18. The Gospel Reading is Luke 14:16-24; Matthew 22:14. These Readings may be found on pages 1354, 1222 and 1170 in the Holy Bible or on page 111 in the Divine Liturgy Book.

**Today we remember** Holy Forefathers of Christ; Holymartyr Eleftherios and his Mother Anthia, Martyr.

**The Altar Table Lamp is lit by:**

- Gabriel Pantelis *in loving memory of* his late wife, Elaine who fell asleep in the Lord 21 years ago. May her memory be eternal.

**The Vigil Lamp of the Iconostasion is lit by:**

- The family of Michael Tsamouras, who fell asleep in the Lord 40-days ago. May his memory be eternal.
- Gus Karayinopulos *in loving memory of* James Nick Karayinopulos, who fell asleep in the Lord 8 years ago. May his memory be eternal.
- Antonia Courtalis & Family *in loving memory of* husband, father & grandfather, Gus Courtalis and daughter, sister & aunt, Gina Courtalis. May their memories be forever eternal.

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

**The Altar Bread was prepared by** Ritsa Economakis

**Coffee Hour:** The coffee hour is sponsored, *in loving memory* by the family of Michael Tsamouras and served by the Philoptochos Ladies Society. Coffee hour will be held in the Atrium.

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

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**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.

**2019 Stewardship:** If you've made a 2019 Stewardship pledge, please ensure you're up to date in fulfilling your commitment for the year. Let's strive to be 100% complete by end-of-year and finish strong. Thank you for your diligence!

**Orthodox Studies:** Join us as we learn more about our Orthodox Faith on **Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am** in the board room. For more information please contact Kate Cocoros at 443-564-6618 / [painterkateart@gmail.com](mailto:painterkateart@gmail.com).

**Christmas Service: Sunday Before Nativity, Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Orthros at 9:00am / Divine Liturgy at 10:00am.** The Liturgy for Christmas Day will be celebrated on *Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>* beginning with *Orthros at 6:00pm followed by the Divine Liturgy at 7:00pm.* The annual Christmas Concert will follow directly after the Divine Liturgy. ***Please make note that there will not be any services on Christmas Day.*** Also, please plan to join us for a Coffee Hour in honor of the Christmas Holiday Season, sponsored by the Parish Council and their families, directly after the concert.

**Nativity Pageant:** Our Church School's ANNUAL NATIVITY PAGEANT will be held following the Divine Liturgy in the Church Nave today **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Advent and Christmas Program:** We will continue our yearly tradition of the Youth Advent Program. Each Sunday, we will feature a different combination of Youth to read, sing and play bells for these programs. We are very excited to once again have the opportunity for our Youth Music Ministry and our Church School to work together on this most worthy program. The following ensembles will present on the following dates:

**Today, Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Church School Nativity Play**  
**Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Bell Choir / Junior Choir / Adult Choir**

We look forward to hearing the Youth of Saint Demetrios share their talents and "make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

**January 25<sup>th</sup> ~ Our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Adult Basketball Tournament & Throwback Bull Roast/Dance** Featuring the KOKO Brothers playing your favorite music from the 50's through the 90's (proceeds to go towards a Mortgage payment for Church and securing a Bus for our GOYA Trip to Boston during Lent to visit The Holy Cross Hellenic College Holy Cross School of Theology)

**Did You Hear the News?** Our wonderful GOYA has pledged to pay a mortgage payment (February) for our Church!!! By using proceeds from their annual "Not Your YiaYia's Bingo", as well as from their annual Throwback Old School Basketball Tournament and Bull & Oyster Roast.

**Library News:** One of my favorite stories this time of the year is the story of the Candy Cane. The Candy Cane has significant religious meaning. When the candy cane is upside down it forms the letter J for Jesus who was born on Christmas Day. The first to find out about Jesus's birth were the shepherds. When the candy cane is right side up it's a shepherd's staff. The prophet Isaiah said "By his stripes we are healed." Before Jesus died on the cross he was whipped and bled badly. The red reminds us of his suffering and his blood. The candy cane is white as well. When we give our lives to Jesus his blood washes away our sins making us white and pure as snow. We have this story and many others that prepare us for Christmas. Come and see what we have to offer. Don't forget to stop by the Little Library. It is right next to the mailbox. You just take a book and replace it with one of your books. Can't part with your books, no problem we have plenty to spare.

**The Book and Knitting Club** will meet on **Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am-12:00pm** in the Library. The book of choice is a Christmas book of your choice. We will then discuss our book and what we like about it. All are welcomed whether you knit, crochet or just want some nice conversation.

**Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020** the Library will be hosting a Greek cooking class in the Library at 6:30 pm. All are welcomed to attend for free.

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## **SUBURBAN PLAYERS**

*The Suburban Players proudly announces that this year's 45<sup>th</sup> production will be*  
***"Footloose"***

*Show Dates: February 14<sup>th</sup> thru 16<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> thru 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

### **TICKET SALES ARE OPEN!**

Dinner Theatre: \$50 (Friday Shows: \$45) / Matinee: \$25 / Cash Bar  
All Shows. For tickets contact Eleni Libertini at 443.390.2981  
(text/voicemail) or [Suburbanplayers2504@gmail.com](mailto:Suburbanplayers2504@gmail.com)

Scan code with your smart-phone camera to access event details;  
click "going" to stay up to date on all our production details.



## PHILOPTOCHOS

**December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 ~ NO General Meeting ~ Christmas Dinner Celebration!!**

**January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 ~ Board Meeting ~ 6:30pm**

**January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 ~ General Meeting ~ 6:30pm**

**Annual Christmas Bazaar:** Thank you to Lisa Jones-Venetos for chairing a wonderful event. A special Thank you to Irene Eliou, Thorina Trintis and Ritsa Economakis for chairing Yiayia's Treasures and the Pastries. A big Thank you to John Sakellarakos, Sam Tsakiris and Lambros Venetos who helped prepare the delicious food.

**Ronald McDonald House:** A special Thank you to Mary Tsakiris and Elaine Sackleh for coordinating the Ronald McDonald House dinners throughout the year. Thank You to all the volunteers who have donated food and time to this worthy cause.

**Christmas Breads:** A special Thank You to Georgia Kerasiotes and her baking crew. Don't forget to pick up your pre-ordered bread from Dottie Ganer during coffee hour.

**There is detailed information available on the Narthex table for all upcoming Philoptochos events**

### KORITSIA

Koritsia will be hosting CPR, First Aid & AED Training at Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church on **January 4, 2020** or **February 29, 2020**, check in time is **9:00am**. Class promptly begins at **9:30am** until **1:30pm**. (Bring your own snacks, this will be a working lunch). You will not receive credit for being certified if you are not at the entire class. Certification Cards will be handed out at the end of class. Any person age 9 and above is encouraged to attend. Cost of class is \$85.00 per person ~ make checks payable to St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church and memo check as CPR class. To register please contact Simon Volikas at [strintis@hotmail.com](mailto:strintis@hotmail.com) or 410.510.7557. There are only 25 seats per day available, deadline to register is **January 2<sup>nd</sup>** and **February 20<sup>th</sup>**. For more information please pick up a registration form from the Narthex Table.

**GOT SNEAKERS FUNDRAISER: Back by popular demand . . .** Saint Demetrios has partnered with Got Sneakers, a sneaker recycling organization, which will compensate us \$1.00 for every wearable sneaker and 10¢ for every other type of shoe. This includes adult and children's shoes and any gender. Please drop off your shoes in the bin marked "**SHOE DONATION**" in the hall by the ladies' room. Contact Simone Volikas at [strintis@hotmail.com](mailto:strintis@hotmail.com) for any further information of details.

**Scrip Gift Cards:** Simply buy gift cards to retailers where you already shop, and SCRIP rebates a percentage to the Church. All you need to do is complete the Family Order Form, attach a check payable to Saint Demetrios and mail or drop off the form (w/check) to the church office. 100% of the proceeds will go directly towards the Church Mortgage. Please contact Maria Angelos at [mvailas@aol.com](mailto:mvailas@aol.com) or 443.280.2690 with any questions.



**Special Thank You:** We hope you are enjoying the efforts of the stewards that decorated our beloved Saint Demetrios Church for the Christmas Season. Every year those who help find this to be truly a labor of love. The Palakaria placed the tree in the stand. The women arrived ready to trim the tree, decorate the windows and hang the wreaths. All of this effort took place on **Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**. Join us next year as we prepare for the arrival of our Savior. May we all enjoy this beautiful time of year with God's Blessing. A Special Thank you to Kelly MacDonnell for chairing this event.

## 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

	<b>Budget Commitment</b>	<b>Goal ~ Total Operating Budget *</b>	<b>Total Commitments to Date</b>	<b>Collections to Date</b>	<b># of Stewards</b>
<b>2018</b>	\$380,000	\$727,395	\$362,046	\$324,632	464
<b>2019</b>	\$382,000	\$791,705	\$355,155	\$322,712	463

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

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<p><b><u>Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup></u></b>                      Pre-School, 8:45am (C)                      Greek School, 4:30-7:30pm (C)                      Footloose Rehearsal,                      7:00pm (H/G)                      Philoptochos Christmas Dinner,                      6:30pm (Ikaros)</p> <p><b><u>Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup></u></b>                      Pre-School, 8:45am (C)                      Parish Council Mtg., 7:00pm                      Ladies Basketball, 7:15pm (H/G)</p>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup></u></b>                      Pre-School, 8:45am (C)                      Greek School, 4:30-7:30pm (C)                      Pre-School Christmas Program,                      6:30-8:00pm (Church)                      Footloose Rehearsal, 7:00pm (HG)</p> <p><b><u>Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup></u></b>                      Pre-School, 8:45am (C)                      Adult Choir, 7:00pm(M)</p> <p><b><u>Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup></u></b>                      Pre-School, 8:45am (C)                      Orthodox Studies, 9:30am(B)                      Hall Rental Set-Up, 9:30-3:00pm</p>	<p><b><u>Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup></u></b>                      Hall Rental</p> <p><b><u>Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup></u></b>  <i>Sunday before Nativity</i>  <b>Orthros, 9:00 am</b>  <b>Divine Liturgy, 10:00am</b>                      Church School, 9:55am (C)                      4<sup>th</sup> Advent Program                      Bell/Adult Choir                      Dance Rehearsal, 12:00pm                      Footloose Rehearsal, 2:00pm (H/G)</p>
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### Upcoming Events

*Philoptochos Annual Christmas Dinner ~ December 16<sup>th</sup>*  
*Pre-School Christmas Program ~ December 18<sup>th</sup>*  
*Christmas Eve ~ Office Closing at 12:00pm ~ December 24<sup>th</sup>*  
*Christmas Eve ~ Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil ~ December 24<sup>th</sup>*  
*Orthros, 6:00pm / Divine Liturgy, 7:00pm*  
*Christmas Day ~ December 25<sup>th</sup> ~ No Services*  
*Pre-School & Office Closed ~ December 26<sup>th</sup>*  
*New Year's Eve ~ Office Closing at 12:00pm*  
*New Year's Eve ~ Divine Liturgy at 5:00pm*