

January 5, 2020

Sunday before Theophany

The Epistle Reading is II Timothy 4:5-8. The Gospel Reading is Mark 1:1-8. These Readings may be found on pages 1355 and 1180 in the Holy Bible or on pages 125-126 in the Divine Liturgy Book.

Today we remember Proeortia of Theophany; Sunday Pre-Theophany; Holymartyr Theopemptos, Bishop of Nicomedia, and Martyr Theonas, Righteous Synkletike; Righteous Romanos the Younger of Karpenesi, Neomartyr.

The Altar Table Lamp is lit by:

- Irene Kaputsos & Family *in loving memory of* Marshall, Emmanuel, Anna, Vasili, Stefanos, Irene, Sevasti, Panagiotis, Savvas, Ekaterini, Tony, Annoula and Stefanos.

The Vigil Lamp of the Iconostasion is lit by:

- Mika & Yianni Frangos *in loving memory of* Konstantinos Frangos, who fell asleep in the Lord 40-days ago. May his memory be eternal.
- Irene Vavas & Family *in loving memory of* husband, father & grandfather, Spencer Vavas, who fell asleep in the Lord 16 years ago. May his memory be eternal.
- Diane Zamaria & Family *for the health & welfare of* Sam Zamaria. May God keep him in His care.

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

The Vasilopita Breads cut in church today were generously donated by Gus, Ritsa & Georgia Economakis, *in loving memory of* their son & her brother, Chris Economakis.

The Altar Bread was prepared by Ritsa Economakis

Coffee Hour: Coffee Hour is sponsored today by our GOYA Ministry and *in loving memory* by the family of Konstantinos Frangos. It will be served following Liturgy in the Hermes Rafailides Center.

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

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: The Stewardship Committee extends our appreciation to our Stewards who have met their 2019 pledge commitment. Stewardship is the lifeblood of our Community and we thank you! If you are not current in your 2019 commitment, we ask that you fulfill your pledge in December. End of Year 2019 Statements will be mailed in January.

Orthodox Studies: A brand new year is upon us, start your off right by learning more about your Orthodox Faith!! Join us this **Friday, January 10th**, at 9:30am in the board room. Please be advised 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.

2020 Calendars: Today, **Sunday, December 29th** we will be distributing the 2020 Ecclesiastical Calendar & Daily Bible Reading Guides to all Stewards of Saint Demetrios. The calendars will be available after the Divine Liturgy in the Hermes Rafailides Center. Please pick-up your calendar so that we can reduce the cost of mailing them. Because we have a limited number of calendars, to ensure that everyone receives their calendar, only **one** calendar will be given per family.

January 25th ~ Our 4th 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)

Library News: Hard to believe that the Christmas Holiday is over. The Vasilopita or the Lucky Bread or Cake is cut at midnight on January 1st in honor of Saint Basil. Ever wonder why this tradition is observed? One time during a terrible famine the emperor imposed an excessive tax on the people of Caesarea. To avoid imprisonment of each family member, the people gave what few coins and family heirlooms they had. Learning of this injustice Saint Basil picked-up his staff and the Holy Gospels and fearlessly calling the emperor to repentance. The emperor did repent, and he instructed his tax collectors to return to Saint Basil all the coins and jewelry. Saint Basil had all the treasures baked into one huge pita. He then called each owner and in his pieces were their treasurers. Everyone was joyous and thanked God. In remembrance of this miracle all Orthodox Christians observe this tradition of the Vasilopita on January 1st. Interested in our traditions come and visit our Library. We have a lot to offer. Don't have time to visit the Library, we have the Little Library right next to the mailbox. You take a book and replace it with one of yours. Don't want to give, no problem we have plenty to spare.

The Book and Knitting Club is a very thriving ministry. Our ladies knitted and crocheted many beautiful things, baby blankets, scarves, hats, blankets, etc. We sold a lot of our items at the Christmas Bazaar and we were able to give our church \$411 towards the Mortgage paydown. We also gave a local school hats, scarves and gloves that did not sell and 5 beautiful blankets to the Karas house. We have fun while helping others. If you would like to join this group all are welcomes. We will meet in the Library on **Tuesday, January 12, 2020** from 9:30am to 12:00pm. The book of choice is *Educated by Tara Westover*. Everyone is welcome whether you knit, crochet, sew or just want some good conversation.

Greek Cooking Class: The Library will be hosting a Greek cooking class in the Library on **Tuesday, January 28th, 2020** at 6:30 pm. All are welcomed to attend for free.

Coffee Hour Update: As you are aware, our Ladies of Philoptochos have been making and serving coffee after Liturgies for quite some time. We would like to give these ladies a break and involve the entire community in the making and serving of coffee. In 2020, we would like to start a new schedule:

- ❖ 1st Sunday of every month ~ coffee hour will be hosted/sponsored by a different ministry of the church. Each ministry will be approached to get on the calendar. Please help your ministry on that Sunday.
- ❖ 2nd Sunday of every month remains Memorial Sunday at our church, so Philoptochos will continue to serve coffee hours who wish to sponsor coffee hour in memory of their dearly departed. Please contact Maria Antonakas at 410.995.0353 or mariaa6@verizon.net to sponsor this coffee hour.
- ❖ 3rd Sunday of every month will be served as usual by our Ladies of Philoptochos. We urge all members to sign up for a Sunday by contacting Presvytera Alice at 410.817.9651 or anoplos@comcast.net.
- ❖ 4th Sunday of every month will now be "community coffee hour". Coffee will be provided, but we urge our parishioners to help by bringing baked goods or healthy snacks. If no snacks are provided, only coffee will be served..

We thank each and every one of you for helping to make this project successful!!

PHILOPTOCHOS

January 6, 2020 ~ Board Meeting ~ 6:30pm

January 13, 2020 ~ General Meeting ~ 6:30pm

Vasilopita Sunday: Today is Vasilopita Sunday. A collection will be taken with proceeds going to Saint Basil's Academy. Please be as generous as possible.

Save the Date: My Ladies Luncheon will be held on March 22nd, 2020. Details to follow.

The Saint Demetrios Ladies Philoptochos would like to wish everyone a Happy Healthy New Year!!

SUBURBAN PLAYERS

The Suburban Players proudly announces that this year's 45th production will be

“Footloose”

Show Dates: February 14th thru 16th and 21st thru 23rd.

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 [Suburbanplayers 2504@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.



KORITSIA

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 for any further information of details.

Cemetery Cleaning: Please be advised that the cemetery will be cleared of all Christmas decorations the week ending **February 8th**. If you have any artificial decorations that you would like to save for future use kindly remove them before this date.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feast of Epiphany & Blessings of the Waters Divine Liturgy ~ January 6th at 10:00am

Feast of Saint John the Baptist Divine Liturgy ~ January 7th at 10:00am

Parish Council Meeting ~ January 7th at 7:00pm

Orthodox Studies ~ January 10th at 9:30am

Pre-School Winter Carnival & Raven's Game ~ January 11th at 4:00pm

Memorial Sunday ~ January 12th

Martin Luther King Birthday ~ Office, Pre-School & Greek School Closed ~ January 20th

Three Hierarchs Divine Liturgy ~ January 30th at 10:00am

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
2019	\$382,000	\$791,705	\$191,044	\$21,703	178
2020	\$380,000	\$682,704	\$154,507	\$20,295	140

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<p><u>Monday, January 6th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) <i>Feast of Epiphany ~ Blessings of the Waters ~ Divine Liturgy, 10:00am</i> Greek School, 4:30-7:30pm (C) Philoptochos Board Meeting, 6:30pm (P) Footloose Rehearsal, 7:00pm (H/G)</p> <p><u>Tuesday, January 7th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) <i>Feast of Saint John the Baptist ~ Divine Liturgy, 10:00am</i> Parish Council Meeting, 7:00pm (B)</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, January 8th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) Greek School, 4:30-7:30pm (C) Footloose Rehearsal, 7:00pm (H/G)</p> <p><u>Thursday, January 9th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) GOYA Basketball, (H/G)</p> <p><u>Friday, January 10th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) Orthodox Studies, 9:30am (B)</p>	<p><u>Saturday, January 11th</u> Pre-School Winter Carnival, 4:00pm-8:00pm (H/G)</p> <p><u>Sunday, January 12th</u> <i>Sunday after Theophany</i> Orthros, 9:00 am Divine Liturgy, 10:00am Memorial Sunday Church School, 9:55am (C) Dance Rehearsal, 12:00pm Footloose Rehearsal, 2:00pm (H/G)</p>
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