

August 2, 2020

8th Sunday of Matthew

The Epistle Reading is I Corinthians 1:10-17. The Gospel Reading is Matthew 14:14-22. These Readings may be found on pages 1308 and 1162 in the Holy Bible or on page 75-76 in the Divine Liturgy Book.

Today we remember Recovery of the Relics of First Martyr and Archdeacon Stephen; Righteous Photine; Theodore of the Dardenells, Neomartyr.

The Altar Table Lamp is lit:

- Father Lou, Parish Council and all Church Ministries are praying that the pandemic passes quickly and that everyone remains healthy & safe.

The Vigil Lamp of the Iconostasion is lit:

- Father Lou & the Parish Council *for the health & welfare of* the entire Saint Demetrios Community. May God watch over you and keep you safe during your summer travels.

40-Day Blessing: Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Boylan will present their 1st child, a daughter, for the traditional 40-Day Blessing. Please join me in prayer as we ask God to watch over and protect this family.

The Altar Bread was prepared by Mary Antonas

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.

Stewardship News: We pray that you are well and safe! Thank you for your continued support of our beloved Saint Demetrios Church during these trying times! Thanks be to God that our church doors are open and once again we can all pray together in our church! To date, we have received 83% of the 2020 Stewardship Pledge Cards. Thank you! We continue to make progress! We ask that all remaining pledge cards be submitted by **August 15th**. Please also fill out the time and talent sections of the pledge card. Contact the church office if you need another pledge card. We are reviewing the time and talent sections of the pledge cards and providing the information to the various church ministries and committees. Please mail your pledge card to the church office. We appreciate your continued support of our beloved Saint Demetrios Church! May God bless you!

Community Coffee Hour: The fourth Sunday of every month will be designated as Community Coffee Hour. Please consider bringing baked goods or healthy snacks for the community to share with their coffee. Thank you in advance for your donations.

Orthodox Dress Etiquette: With the warm weather quickly approaching, we would like to remind you that you are attending an Orthodox Christian Church and modesty and humility should always be in your forethought. Therefore, **shorts, flip-flops, spaghetti straps, short skirts, etc. are not acceptable**. Please remember that this is a House of God and dress accordingly.

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION DIVINE LITURGY

Father Lou has added a Divine Liturgy to celebrate The Holy Transfiguration, to be held on **Thursday, August 6th at 10:00am**. All are invited to attend.

GOYA Registration: Early Bird GOYA Registration. *According to the Archdiocese, to join GOYA, a child must be a least 13 years old or 12 years old & in the 7th grade by September 1, 2020.* For more details please email Paul Rizas at paulrizas.saintdemetriosgoya@gmail.com.

The Book and Knitting Club will be meeting on **Tuesday, August 11th** at 9:00am in the Boardroom. All are welcome whether you knit, crochet, or just want some good conversation.

Library News: For anyone who is fasting for our Panagia don't go hungry, we have lots of cookbooks to help your fasting go smoothly. Visit our Library, we are taking precautions by wiping all books and DVD's as they are being checked out and returned. Don't have time to visit the Library, no problem, you can visit our Little Library right next to the mailbox. You take a book and you give a book. Don't have a book to give, no worries, take one anyway. We have plenty to share.

Protecting Our Earth ~ Saint Demetrios new "Green Team": Many of us turn a porch or backyard light on at night or have decorative lighting, but did you know that this light is highly disruptive to animals? Light pollution from lights we leave on at night are disruptive as animals are very active during this time and the lights confuse their internal systems, such that they think it is daylight. This causes them to reproduce less and to have trouble finding food. Researchers are finding that this is impacting the numbers of animals, especially those that are endangered. While you may want your lights for decorative purposes or safety, consider turning them off after a set time so that they are not on all night, and consider a motion sensor for more prominent lights so that they will only come on when triggered.

Orthodox Observer News: The Orthodox Observer News will no longer be mailing out their newsletter, it is available on-line only. If you would like to continue reading The Orthodox Observer News please register at www.communications@goarch.org and the newsletter will be sent directly to your in-box.

Stewardship Envelopes: You may have noticed that the word "**STEWARDSHIP**" has been removed from the blue Stewardship return envelopes. The reason behind this is that several Parishioners and the Parish Council felt that it was advertising the fact that there were checks/cash inside the envelopes. Please "**DO NOT**" write the word "**STEWARDSHIP**" on these envelopes. The office staff / parish council know that the blue envelopes are designated specifically for Stewardship donations. Thank You.

Summer is in full swing . . .

That means trips to new, exotic places or maybe trips to visit friends in old familiar places.

Either way, summer often means being away from home for some period of time,

and that means not being home for Sunday Liturgy.

So, what do you do when you're traveling on a Sunday?

It doesn't matter how you do it, just keep GOD in your summer plans!

PHILOPTOCHOS

Philoptochos 2020 Membership ~ Please join us! Due to these unprecedented circumstances in social distancing and community shutdowns, collection for 2020 Philoptochos stewardship will continue until August 15th. Philoptochos is group of friendly, hardworking ladies spreading love and joy to those in need of a helping hand, kind words of encouragement and smiles. Membership is open to all stewards of Saint Demetrios, 18 years of age and older. Membership is per calendar year and based on Stewardship donations. When considering your stewardship, please note Philoptochos is a National organization with over 26,000 members in 400 chapters. We are also members of the Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos with over 3,600 members and 43 chapters. \$23 of your donations will be applied to your National and your Metropolis membership, while the remainder will be used to support the various local charity projects ~ feeding the homeless (Beans & Bread), serving the community (Ronald McDonald House), student assistance at local schools. Payments accepted: Cash, Credit Card or PayPal Philoptochos2504@gmail.com (Payments questions ~ Philoptochos Treasurer, Lisa Jones-Venetos, 443.621.6805). Membership ~ Elaine Sackleh, 410.472.3258 or Mary Triandafilou, 410.528.1589.

PHILOPTOCHOS IS ~ PHILANTHROPY ~ FELLOWSHIP ~ FAITH IN ACTION

This is a “Save-the-Date” notice from the Baltimore Philoptochos chapters to all the Philoptochos Sisterhood in Maryland. God willing, on **October 4th** at the Annunciation Orthodox Center in Baltimore, we will sponsor a symposium on human trafficking, led by Jeanne L. Allert, Founder and Executive Director of The Samaritan Women Institute for Shelter Care. Human trafficking is an evil that knows no age, gender, race or other socio-economic boundaries, and is something that we as mothers, sisters, grandmothers should be highly aware of. This can also be a nice time for us to “meet and greet.” Look for further details, we hope to see you on **October 4th**.

Hunger Knows No Season: Philoptochos Food Drive ~ GEDCO, Baltimore Hunger Project & Veterans. Please consider donating for those less fortunate this year, donations can be placed in the Blue Bin near the bridge, we are also willing to pick-up items from your home. Items needed: canned soups, canned meats (tuna, chicken, spam, ham), canned vegetables (sauerkraut, sweet potatoes, corn, carrots, spinach, green beans, peas, mixed veggies), spaghetti noodles & sauce, instant mash potatoes, macaroni & cheese, peanut butter & jelly, pudding, cookies, protein bars, healthy drink bags, word find, sudoku and adult coloring books. Monetary donations also accepted: checks can be made payable to: Saint Demetrios Philoptochos (memo check as food drive). We are also collecting monetary donations for school supplies (memo check as school supplies). Please contact Mary Tsakiris 410.245.1291 / tsakisa@comcast.net or Joanna Beleos 410.458.1547 / jbeleos@gmail.com. Thank you for your donations.

KORITSIA

GOT SNEAKERS FUNDRAISER: 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. Please drop off your “**SHOE DONATION**” under the Portico. Contact Simone Volikas at strintis@hotmail.com for any further information of details.

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Crusader Kids Summer Program is open and in full swing. For more information please contact the Saint Demetrios Pre-School at 410.661.1090 ext. 204 or preschool2504@gmail.com.

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	\$325,560	\$224,856	426
2020	\$380,000	\$682,704	\$314,132	\$232,816	393

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<u>Monday, August 3rd</u> Crusader Kids Summer Program 8:00am-5:00pm <i>Paraklesis Service, 6:00pm</i>	<u>Wednesday, August 5th</u> Crusader Kids Summer Program 8:00am-5:00pm <i>Paraklesis Service, 6:00pm</i>	<u>Friday, August 7th</u> Crusader Kids Summer Program 8:00am-5:00pm <i>Paraklesis Service, 6:00pm</i>
<u>Tuesday, August 4th</u> Crusader Kids Summer Program 8:00am-5:00pm	<u>Thursday, August 6th</u> <i>Holy Transfiguration</i> <i>Divine Liturgy, 10:00am</i> Crusader Kids Summer Program 8:00am-5:00pm	<u>Sunday, August 9th</u> <i>9th Sunday of Matthew</i> <i>Memorial Sunday</i> Orthros, 9:00 am Divine Liturgy, 10:00am

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 3rd – 14th ~ Crusader Kids Summer Program
August 6th ~ *Holy Transfiguration Divine Liturgy, 10:00am*
August 11th ~ Book/Knitting Club, 9:00am
August 3rd, 5th, 7th, 10th, 12th & 14th ~ *Paraklesis Service, 6:00pm*
August 15th ~ *Dormition of the Theotokos Divine Liturgy, 10:00am*