

September 13, 2020

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 and 1238 in the Holy Bible or on page 147-148 in the Divine Liturgy Book.

Today we remember Proeortia of the Elevation of the Holy, Precious and Life-Giving Cross; Sunday preceding the Elevation of the Holy, Precious and Life-Giving Cross; Memorial of the Dedication of the Church of the Resurrection; Holymartyr Cornelius, the Centurion; Martyr Aristeides; Righteous Hierotheos of Iviron.

The Altar Table Lamp is lit:

- Gus & Ritsa Economakis & Georgia *in loving memory of* their son & her brother, Chris Economakis who fell asleep in the Lord 18 years ago. May his memory be eternal.

The Vigil Lamp of the Iconostasion is lit:

- The Saint Demetrios Community *in honor of* Olga Poletis, who dedicated the last 50 years of being our devoted organist. It is with much appreciation and gratitude for her outstanding service. We thank her.
- Dr. Sam and Diane Zamaria, *in loving memory of* their mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Widad Zamaria, who fell asleep in the Lord 1 year ago. May her memory be eternal.
- Gabriel and Joanne Pantelis, *in loving memory of* her brother, Phillip Arnas, Jr., who fell asleep in the Lord 5 years ago. May his memory be eternal.
- The Kariotis and Hooper Families: Angelique, Glenn, Nick, Erene and Austin *in loving memory of* their mother and grandmother, Eugenia Kariotis, who fell asleep in the Lord 20 years ago. May her memory be eternal.
- Anna Amorgeanos *for the health and welfare of* her grandchildren, Michael and Maria Hagepanos. May God continue to bless them with the gift of knowledge this school year.
- The Amorgeanos and Hagepanos Families *for the health and welfare of* William (Bill) Popomaronis. May God continue to bless him and keep him well.
- Stergos & Lucy Kosmos *for the health and welfare of* their cousin Anne of NSW, Australia. With the grace of God, we wish her a speedy recovery.

40-Day Blessing: Jury Kulyk and Anna Karapatis will present their 1st child, a son, 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 Ritsa Economakis

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.

Please join us on **Monday, September 14th at 10:00am** as we celebrate **The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**. All are invited to attend. Please call the church office at 410.661.1090 ext. 202 to register.

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 90% of the 2020 Stewardship Pledge Cards. Thank you! We continue to make progress! We ask that all remaining pledge cards be submitted by **September 26th**. 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!

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.

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 is aware that the blue envelopes are designated specifically for Stewardship donations. Thank You.

Parish Council Announces A New Ministry: Ushers. Long before the Coronavirus pandemic upended so much of life as we know it, the Parish Council had been considering the formation of a ministry of ushers, parishioners who would be on hand to help with various duties for the Sunday Liturgy.

With the Metropolis reopening guidelines to make church attendance safer, came the immediate need for more help to handle the extra tasks.

Thank you to all who have stepped up to handle these duties during the past weeks after reopening. Most of you have been former Council members who already understand the importance of serving, but also realize that there are spiritual gifts that one receives when serving in this way.

The Council is now looking for parishioners who would like to join this new ministry as ushers for Sunday Liturgy. While the immediate need is to get us through this time of safety precautions, having a permanent ministry of stewards serving on Sundays would have many benefits to the parish and to the individuals who participate.

This new ministry is a way of turning the hardships of the past months into something positive and long-lasting for the glory of God. If you are interested in this ministry or have questions and/or suggestions, please contact Mary Triandafilou at 410.528.1589 or email at: mtrianda28@gmail.com

Protecting Our Earth ~ Saint Demetrios new “Green Team”: Ladies, don't throw away your mascara when it is empty or dries out. The wands can be used to help wildlife! Wands for Wildlife uses the mascara wands to help remove dirt, fleas, ticks, fly eggs and larva from fur and feathers of wild animals in their care. The bristles on the wands are good for cleaning small animals because the bristles are close together. To recycle old wands, clean them in warm and soapy water and let them dry. Then, you can go to www.wandsforwildlife.org and download a form to send them in. If they get too many, they distribute them to other animal rehabilitation centers, so wands are always needed.

PHILOPTOCHOS

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.

Back to School Supplies: We will be collecting supplies for school. You can leave the supplies in the bin in the hall. If you can't buy anything you can make a monetary donation to St. Demetrios Philoptochos. Not coming to church no problem just call Mary Tsakiris at 410-245-1291 or Joanna Beleos at 410-458-1547 and we will come by your house and pick them up. Just leave it outside your door.

Supplies Needed:

Boxes of Kleenex, scissors, Clorox Disinfecting wipes, Elmers Glue Stick, boxes of Ziplock brand storage bags, Dry Erase markers, Paper Mate pens, Paper Mate #2 Woodcase pencils with erasers, 12 pack, highlighters, back packs, pencil cases, lunch boxes, crayons, color pencils, folders, spiral notebook, loose leaf paper, loose leaf notebooks, pencil sharpener, feminine products

Virtual Bags, Bling and Things Event will take place on **Saturday, October 17th, 2020 at 6:00pm.** This will be live streamed through Facebook. You do not have to be online to win. Winners will be contacted by phone or email. For more information, please contact Mary Tsakiris 410-245-1291, Linda Goodman 410-615-5006, Presvytera Alice Noplos 410-817-9651 or the church office 410-661-1090.

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 Volakis at srintis@hotmail.com for any further information of details.

Food Truck Friday's: This Fall Saint Demetrios will be hosting rotating Food Trucks every Friday starting October 9th through November 13th from 4pm to 8pm. BYOBlanket and chairs. Social distancing and masks are required. For more information, contact Simone Volikas at srintis@hotmail.com or [Facebook.com/SaintDemetriosBaltimore](https://www.facebook.com/SaintDemetriosBaltimore).

FOOD EXTRAVAGANZA NEWS

St. Demetrios Food Extravaganza: September 26th from 12-7pm and 27th 12-6pm. Authentic Greek Foods and Pastries (Baklava, Kataifi, Kourambiedes, Finikia and Koulourakia) available for Curbside Pickup with pre-paid orders or Walk-up Ordering – Cash or Credit Card. Online Orders may be placed thru the following email: stdemetriosfoodfest@gmail.com or Call-in Orders to 443-778-1722. For more information, please contact Cathy Xanthakos at 410.952.3576.

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Pre-School & “Kindergarten” Registration now enrolling for the 2020-2021 school year for Pre-School and a new “KINDERGARTEN” class. 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	\$331,645	\$257,751	439
2020	\$380,000	\$682,704	\$323,468	\$265,292	412

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<u>Monday, September 14th</u> <i>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i> Liturgy, 10:00am Philoptochos Board Meeting, 6:30 (P)	<u>Wednesday, September 16th</u> Pre-School, 8:30am (C) Philoptochos General Meeting, 6:30 (H)	<u>Friday, September 18th</u> Pre-School, 8:30am (C)
<u>Tuesday, September 15th</u> Pre-School, 8:30am (C)	<u>Thursday, September 17th</u> Pre-School, 8:30am ©	<u>Sunday, September 20th</u> <i>Sunday after Holy Cross</i> Orthros, 9:00 am Divine Liturgy, 10:00am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Divine Liturgy, September 14th
Philoptochos Board Meeting, September 14th
Philoptochos General Meeting, September 16th
Food Extravaganza, September 26th & 27th
Kids Clothing Exchange, October 6th thru 13th
Food Truck Friday's, October 9th, 16th, 23rd, November 6th & 13th