



THE VINE

ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, 57 BROWN STREET, WESTON, MA 02493

Jesus said,
"I am the vine;
you are the
branches.

If a man remains
in me and I in him,
he will bear
much fruit."
(John 15:5)

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FR. NICK'S MESSAGE

So You Are A Godparent!

Dear Parishioners,

With Godparents' Sunday coming to St. Demetrios on Jan. 29, there could be no better time to revisit exactly what it means to be a Godparent.

It is an honor to be a Godparent, certainly, but it is more than that, reaching well beyond the day of the Baptism itself. Becoming a Godparent holds responsibilities which last a lifetime.

Our Lord referred to Baptism as a second birth. Just as a child is born naturally of a father and mother, so he, or she, is born spiritually through this sacrament, having spiritual parents or sponsors—whom we have come to call Godparents. Just as natural parents have serious obligations for the care and nurturing of their child, so Godparents have important duties in regard to their Godchildren, in particular concerning education, growth and maturation in the Orthodox Faith.

This means, then, that Godparents are not to forget their Godchildren after the sacrament is completed. The Service of Baptism is, in fact, just the beginning: the wonderful initiation of a strong relationship between Godparent and Godchild. How do we build this relationship? For starters, we can help our Godchildren remember their name-days and, when possible, visit them or call them on these occasions.

We should also remember how significant prayer can be in our, and their, lives. We should pray for our Godchildren, keeping them in mind during Liturgy and whenever we pray.

Ultimately, we have to look to the example of our Lord and remember His great love for children:

"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of Heaven.'" (Matt. 19:13-14). As Godparents, we have the challenging but wonderful responsibility to model Christian behavior and bring our Godchildren to Christ, so that He may bless and embrace them.

Our responsibility, indeed, is great, but we aren't alone. We have Christ, and we have our Church to assist us in showing them the way.

As we approach Godparents' Sunday on the 29th, we ask the Lord to bless all of our Godparents and Godchildren. We hope you will make time to attend Church together on this day—to pray together, grow together and rekindle that spiritual relationship that brought you, Godparent and Godchild, together!

May 2012 see this spiritual bond grow closer than ever before!

*With love in the Lord,
Fr. Nick*



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BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012!

This is the year we complete construction of our new church. Yes, in the fourth quarter, as hard as it is to believe, we plan to be celebrating our official Door Opening. Some important things have happened that allow us to make that statement.

The most important is the decommissioning of the old Nstar transformer that

sits right in the middle of our construction site, and because it has been “live,” we could not let any of our construction crews get near it. To see it and all the construction activity, go to www.stdemetriosweston.org and click on “webcams.”

With the new year came our new transformer which can be seen on the hill near the construction trailer, and shortly after Monday the 16th of January, this will be the active source of power to our church; and with the removal of the old one, we can finish installing the underground storm water management structures you can see on our site or on the webcam.

Once this and some other utility work is complete, around the middle of February, steel should begin arriving on the site. All the footings for the steel that are not in proximity to the old transformer are complete, but we need to install those that have been blocked.

Sacrificial Gifts

As of the first of the year, 192 pledges have been received totaling \$4,615,000 with \$2,890,000 already donated. Certain gifts as yet uncounted should be available to St. Demetrios by the end of February taking us over the \$5,000,000 mark in pledges and the \$3,200,000 mark in donations. This means we still have to raise \$2,300,000. While this is remarkable progress, we all want to complete the fundraising by the time the church is complete, so please—if you haven't made your pledge yet, contact me at PJB@StDemetriosWeston.org or on my phone: 617-266-9200. Nothing is more important than for each and every Steward of St. Demetrios to be recognized as one who has pledged to fulfill our commitment to our children and grandchildren. 2012 promises to truly be a Happy New Year!

—Peter Bassett



ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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ST. DEMETRIOS CONNECTIONS

781-237-5561 | www.stdemetriosweston.org

Fr. Nicholas Krommydas, Pastor
Fr. Alex Chetsas, Co-Pastor
Cathy Smith, Secretary
Peter Gramenelles, Sexton
Chris Pappas, Parish Council President
Joanna Krasinski, Philoptochos President

Bookstore, Carol Loridas
Choir, Chris Tzellas, Athena Marken, Jeannie Leussis
Fifty-Something Club, Phil & Sandi Chomo
Faith and Works Ministries

A Suitable Image, Nancy Savage
Brown Bag Sunday, Lydia Santangelo
Habitat for Humanity, Elaine Fischer
Helping Hands, Kathy Bakes
St. Nicholas Angel Tree, Nancy Savage

Hospitality/Fellowship Hour, Mary Ellen Paravalos
Library, Cindi Dabrowski
Orthodox Life Series, James Skedros
Outreach and Evangelism, Stacey Kalivas
Philoptochos Care Ministries

Hellenic Nursing Home, Pam Brody
Miracle Kitchen, Dorothea Ocnos
Prayer-Shawl, Tilda Mitsakos
Quiltathon, Debbie Morakis

Prosfora Ministry, Fr. Nick Krommydas
Senior Guild, Artemis Martakis
Stewardship, Dean Coclin

YOUTH

Altar Service, Chris Kourlos
Basketball, Matt Little
Church School, Stavroula Gurguliatos
Church School Outreach, Gloria Moskos
Church School Music Director, Jane Kourtis

GOYA, Alexey and Stephanie Petrides
Greek Folk Dancing, Margaret Talmers Galatano
Greek Language School, Avra Parpos
HOPE, Donna Markis, Stacy Katsikaris
JOY, Jill Kovatsis
OCF, Fr. Alex Chetsas

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

January	Fifth Grade Bulletin Board Display
January 22	Church School Classes
January 29	Church School Classes; God-parents' Sunday; Mini-Sermon
February	Third Grade Bulletin Board Display
February 2	The Presentation of Christ into the Temple
February 5	Church School Classes; Church School Staff Meeting, 11:45 am; Mini-Sermon; Triodion begins
February 12	Church School Classes
February 19	Church School Classes
February 26	Church School Classes; Mini-Sermon
February 27	Lent Begins



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Godparents' Sunday January 29: Please invite your child/children's Godparents to come with you to church on this day. This is an opportunity for our students to come to Church School classes with their Godparents and have fellowship with each other, strengthening their special bond.

Outreach: We wish to extend sincere thanks to all who donated to our December outreach project. Through your generous contributions we were able to make a \$130 donation to USO Operation Phone Home. Thank you for helping to bring our troops closer to home for the holidays.



Anthony Houhoulis, Church School Student Outreach Coordinator, announces our January/February outreach. We ask you to remember the less fortunate by participating in our "Sock It To Me" sock drive. From now through February, please bring in a new pair of socks (all sizes are needed). We will donate them to the Salvation Army and, notably, socks are the number one most-requested item at homeless shelters. Help us to keep young and old warmer and more comfortable this winter.

Music Program: The Junior Choir will be singing during the Salutations Service on the **1st Friday of Lent, March 2**. This is also Family Night and the night of the GOYA Lenten Lock-In. It will be a tremendous night of learning, spiritual growth and fun. Please come sing with us!

BAPTISM: GOD'S INITIATIVE. OUR RESPONSE.



"Any relationship has to be developed by two parties. The baptized infant has not yet developed a relationship with God. But one party in the relationship has already taken the initiative: God loves us from the first moment of our conception. He takes the initiative to establish the relationship. Infant baptism is an expression of God's wooing love from the first moment of life. As the child becomes aware of faith in Jesus Christ, he looks back and realizes that something or someone led him to this act of faith. Eventually, he realizes that it all began back there in baptism when God came to him. At that moment he must make a personal response to God, committing his life to Him."

(Fr. Anthony Coniaris, "Baptism: Uniting with Christ")

IONIAN VILLAGE 2012



The following dates have been announced:

June 29 – July 18, Summer Travel Camp

July 25 – August 13, Byzantine Venture

Early registration discounts available. **An informational seminar at St. Demetrios is planned for Sunday, Feb. 12, featuring testimonials from IV alumae.**

Please save the date, and visit IV online to learn more: www.ionianvillage.org.

BASKETBALL TEAMS THRIVING

Our players continue to impress us all with their effort and sportsmanship. We are proud of them all and look forward to the playoffs! To learn more about our program, contact any of our coaches.

Contact:

Jack Markis: ejmarkis@markislaw.com

Mark Luzaitis: luzaitis1@verizon.net

Tom Rontiris: Rontiris@gmail.com



GREEK DANCING WINTER SCHEDULE

Mark your calendar and join us for dancing in 2012!

Jan. 22, 29; Feb. 12, 26;

March 11, 18 & 25 (Greek Independence Day performance)

For details, contact Margaret Talmers:

Margaret.e.talmers@gmail.com.

...but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12)

YOUTH



FAMILY NIGHT FEB 3

Welcome back to Family Night! This month's theme is fun but also outreach-oriented. Our GOYAns will be doing preparations for the "Wing-A-Thon" on Super Bowl Sunday, while our younger children will make special cards for clients of the Boston Rescue Mission. Proceeds from the Wing-A-Thon will become a donation to the Boston Rescue Mission, and the cards will accompany the donation.

Please join us as we try and reach out to those in need!

Meatless potluck: please contact Gina Spencer to confirm your entrée or dessert offering:
gina@pdillc.com.

Our March 2 Family Night will feature an abbreviated program with participation in the 1st Salutations service. Details to follow.

Feb. 3 Schedule:

6 pm: Welcome/Church Time

6:15: Dinner & Ice-Breaker

7 pm: Youth/Parent Programs

HOPE (K – 2nd)

Donna Markis: dmarkis@boston.k12.ma.us

Stacy Katsikaris: stacy.katsikaris@comcast.net

JOY (3rd – 6th)

Jill Kovatsis: ja.k@verizon.net

GOYA Wing-A-Thon Approaches



This month in GOYA has been a nice recovery period from the crazy antics of last month. Between planning parties and the relishing in the holiday spirit with our record-breaking dance, the GOYAns have come up with another fun

activity to prepare for: The Wing-A-Thon fundraiser. This event will happen on Super Bowl Sunday, and we will have a General Assembly on Sunday January 22nd to help us break into teams and prepare for the event.

Please make sure to join us for this important meeting. The Wing-A-Thon will benefit the Boston Rescue Mission, and we need to do the best we can for those in need.



Jan. 22: General Assembly (treats!)

Feb. 3: Family Night/Wing-Cooking (we need everyone there)

Feb. 5: Wing-A-Thon (during Fellowship Hour)

March 2: Family Night & GOYA Lenten "Lock-In"

Please join us in GOYA, and contact me for more information or with any questions.

Lee Condakes
President

OCF LENTEN CARE PACKAGES



In early March, we'll be mailing Lenten packages to our non-local college students: small prayer books, Holy Water from Theophany, etc. If you have a son,

daughter, grandchild or Godchild whom you would like to receive a package, please contact Fr. Alex. Our goal is to bring this holy season to the dorm rooms of our college students—please help us connect, as we don't want to leave anyone out. Thanks!

METROPOLIS WINTER CAMP

Join friends from local churches for a long weekend of fun and fellowship at the St. Methodios Faith & Heritage Center.

Feb. 17 – 20: GOYA

Feb. 24 – 26: Family Camp

Register at **www.boston.goarch.org** (registration for the 2012 Summer Camping Program opens in March. Please check the Metropolis website next month to secure your child's spot).





YOUTH

CROSSROAD APPLICATIONS

CrossRoad is a summer program for graduating high school seniors, offering access to distinguished faculty instruction, enthusiastic graduate student staff members and, since the program is on the Hellenic College campus, the exciting city of Boston. In addition to participating in theology classes, CrossRoad students attend Vespers each evening at neighboring parishes in the Boston area and engage in community service. Described by many as a "life-changing experience," CrossRoad provides a strong foundation for the future leaders of the Church, evidenced through the way CrossRoad alumni reflect on what they learned during the 10-day period. 2012 session dates are confirmed:



June 23 - July 3

July 10 - 20, 2012

Application Priority Deadline is March 1, 2012.

Visit www.crossroad.hchc.edu.

AGRIS SCHOLARSHIPS MARKING 20TH YEAR

The Peter Agris Memorial Journalism Scholarship program is kicking off the 20th year of providing critical support to young Greek American students studying journalism or communications at the graduate or undergraduate level.

Six \$5,000 scholarships are given annually in memory of Peter Agris, the late founder and publisher of *The Hellenic Chronicle* and a longstanding member of this community. The non-renewable grants have been offered in memory of Mr. Agris by the Alpha Omega Council of New England and the Agris family: Antigone A. Agris, Peter J. Agris, Nancy Agris Savage, Lydia Savage and Jocelyn Savage. Recipients are recognized during the Alpha Omega Council's Annual Lifetime Achievement Award Dinner, which will take place on June 2, 2012 in Boston.

Candidates may download an application from the Alpha Omega website (www.alphaomegacouncil.com) or may write to: The Peter Agris Memorial Scholarships Committee, c/o Nancy Agris Savage, 9 Nonesuch Drive, Natick, MA 01760. Questions may be directed to Nancy Savage at nancyasavage@gmail.com.

Applications, transcripts, any published works and the required essay must be returned by to Nancy Savage at the above email or regular mail address no later than March 1, 2012.

ALTAR SERVICE



We are planning a winter outing—details to follow soon. Parents are asked to help their children get to Church by 9:20 on Sundays. When they arrive early, they have ample time to receive a blessing from our clergy and vest in an appropriate manner. As always, we are thankful for our young men who serve with such dedication and faith.

ST. STEPHEN: Jan. 29; Feb. 12 & 26

Captain: Lee Condakes, Vice Captain: Alex Camp

Anthony Chirban, Matt Gatzunis, Thomas Gatzunis, Nicholas Camp

ST. LAWRENCE: Jan. 22; Feb. 5 & 19

Captain: Jason Theoharis, Vice Captain: Alex Santangelo

Anthony Houhoulis, Walker Littlehale, Kosta Pappas

ST. PHOTINI

Commemorated February 26



St. Photini was the Samaritan woman who encountered Christ at Jacob's Well (John 4:1-42). She repented after a very gentle, wise conversation with our Lord, and went and told her fellow townspeople that she had met the Christ. Because of this, she is sometimes referred to as the "first to proclaim the Gospel of Christ." Throughout

the years to follow, she labored to spread the Gospel through various places. In 66 AD, during the persecutions of the Emperor Nero in Rome, she gave her life for her faith, along with her 2 sons and 5 sisters.

The turning point in St. Photini's life was her conversation with Christ at the well. Sometimes, we wish we could talk to Christ like she did: hear His loving words, take in His teaching first-hand. Sometimes, He feels far from us. But we forget that every time we make the time to pray, we are talking with Him, encountering Him, learning from Him. And this prayerful dialogue builds something else important: a relationship. We may not be at the well with Him, today, in the same way as St. Photini, but His love for us and His relationship with us are every bit as real. Pray today—at the breakfast table, with your children before bed, and anywhere you can. The more you pray, the more you'll want to pray and the richer your family's relationship with Christ will be.

Christmas Eve



Greek School Christmas Party



Christmas Pageant



Gingerbread Making



Senior Guild Outing



Epiphany



Vasilopita



GOYA Good Morning Bethany





CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 17th Sunday of Matthew (Canaanite Woman) Godparents' Sunday Orthodox Life Mini-Sermon Greek Dancing	30 Basketball, 6 pm	31 Greek School, 4-6 pm	FEB. 1	2 Presentation of Our Lord Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	3 Family Night, 6 pm GOYA Wing Cooking	4
5 Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee Orthodox Life Church School Staff Meeting General Assembly Wing-a-Thon	6 Basketball, 6 pm	7 Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1-3 pm Greek School, 4-6 pm	8 Parish Council meeting, 7 pm Philoptochos Board meeting, 7 pm	9 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	10 Wine Tasting, 6:30 pm	11
12 Sunday of the Prodigal Son Orthodox Life Greek Dancing Ionian Village Informational Seminar	13 Basketball, 6 pm	14 EPOCH Outreach, 10:30 am Greek School, 4-6 pm	15	16 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	17 GOYA Winter Camp begins	18 1st Saturday of Souls Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am Hellenic Nursing Home, 2-3:30 pm
19 Judgment Sunday (Meatfare)	20 Basketball, 6 pm	21 Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1-3 pm Greek School, 4-6 pm	22	23 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	24 Miracle Kitchen, 4-7 pm MBC Family Winter Camp Begins	25 2nd Saturday of Souls Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am Apokriatiko Glendi, 6:30 pm
26 Forgiveness Sunday (Cheese-fare) St. Photini Mini-Sermon Greek Dancing	27 Clean Monday Great Compline, 6 pm Basketball, 6 pm	28 Greek School, 4-6 pm	29 Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 6 pm at St. Demetrios			

STEWARDSHIP & PHILOPTOCHOS



STEWARDSHIP 2012



Happy New Year to all our Stewards. Thank you for your pledges and contributions in 2011. Here is how we finished the year:

- a. Number of Pledges: 381
- b. Total Dollars Pledged: \$355,546
- c. Total Dollars Received: \$346,872

d. Number of Non-pledged donors: 160

e. Total Dollars of non-pledged donors: \$94,133

f. Grand Total Dollars Received (pledged and non-pledged, c+e): \$441,005

2011 Stewardship Budget: \$502,100

Deficit: \$61,095

Unfortunately, we fell short of our overall budget goal for the year. In addition, because the church house was not rented in the last quarter of the year, we lost close to \$10,000 in rental income, putting further pressure on our budget. This is unfortunate as we had cut our expenses drastically from the previous year, yet we still find ourselves facing a large deficit. While I expect a few more contributions for 2011 to still come in, it won't be anywhere near enough to make a dent in the shortfall.

In 2010 we had a Thanksgiving appeal which went out to all our Stewards to help close the income gap. This brought in over \$17,000. We were also fortunate to have an anonymous donor come forward with a large donation at the end of that year. **If 2011 has been good to you and you can help us make up this year's shortfall in any way, we would greatly appreciate it!**

Events can clearly help close the budget gap. This past year we had a successful Golf tournament, Masquerade Ball, Wine tasting, BBQ and Glendi. The Parish Council is working to schedule these, and extra events, for 2012 to bring in extra funds.

Speaking of 2012, we have already received 168 pledges totaling \$198,472. Please continue to submit your 2012 pledge cards. If you have lost it and need a replacement, simply stop by or call the church office. You can also download one from the Stewardship section of our website: www.stdemetriosweston.org/documents

Comments welcome!

Dean Coclin
Stewardship Chairman

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP Is...

- Our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.
- Caring for the needs of others.
- Offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.
- What a person does after saying "I believe," as proof of that belief.

★ **Saturday, February 25, 2012**
6:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. ★

★ Annual ★
★ Apokriatiko ★
★ Glendi ★
at
The Dolphin Restaurant
12 Washington Street
Natick

Please join us for an evening of
Family and Community Fellowship!!
Dancing, Mezedes and Dessert
All are Welcome! ★

Tickets:

Adults: \$25.00

Children under 18: \$15.00

Tickets will be available during the social hour or by contacting
Gina Spencer at 508-655-1427 or gspencer@stdemetriosweston.org

Sponsored by St. Demetrios Philoptochos
Proceeds to Benefit Philoptochos Charities ★



NEWS & EVENTS

FOR VALENTINE'S DAY



*"Love comforteth like
sunshine after rain."*

—William Shakespeare

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY FEB. 5. Please make time for this meeting, immediately following Divine Liturgy. As always at these gatherings of our parish family, important decisions will be made that will affect us all. We hope to see everyone there.

HOSTING FELLOWSHIP HOUR. Please volunteer to host a Fellowship Hour one Sunday this year. **Everything is provided!** We just ask for your time and commitment. Upcoming Sundays still available: Jan. 22, 29; March 4, 18. Contact Julie Kavas (781.762.1647) or Mary Ellen Paravalos (781.349.8077).

WING-A-THON SUPER BOWL SUNDAY!

4 teams. 4 delicious wing styles. 1 great cause! The Super Bowl is coming Sunday, Feb. 5. Why cook your own appetizers? Let GOYA do the work. During Fellowship Hour on the 5th, we'll hold a tasting contest (you can vote for your favorite team) and will be selling our amazing wings by the dozen—all you need to do is take them home and reheat. **Proceeds will benefit the good work of the Boston Rescue Mission.** Please support our GOYAns as they strive to help those in need. Thanks!

THEOPHANY BLESSINGS. Fr. Nick and Fr. Alex may be contacted to arrange a Theophany blessing for your home or workplace—and parishioners can also bless their own homes using Holy Water and the service pamphlet available in the Narthex. Above all, make sure to gather your family, pray together and keep this meaningful tradition alive in your household.

SENIOR GUILD UPDATE. Our next meeting will be March 28 in the hall following the Divine Liturgy. This meeting will be a Pre-Sanctified Liturgy during the period of Great Lent. We will be serving a Lenten meal. Please come and join us in celebrating this most important holy time of our Greek Orthodox Church. The Senior Guild will not have a meeting for the months of January or February due to possible inclement weather. Thank you.

Saint Demetrios Wine Tasting



*What better way to spend a
crisp winter evening than to
be with friends, sampling old
and new world wines!*

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
57 Brown Street
Weston, MA 02493

Renown sommelier
Patrick Dubsky will
introduce an eclectic variety
of wines from **Greece,
France, Italy, California
and Australia!**



Wines will be available
for order and delivery!

Greek and American
specialty foods will be
served!

Friday • February 10 • 2012
6:30 to 9:30 PM

Tickets at the Door: Adults: \$20

All proceeds to benefit the ministries of St. Demetrios Church!

To volunteer or donate please contact May Lau: mayjlau@gmail.com

ADULT EDUCATION/ENRICHMENT

Orthodox Life: "Ephesians" & Lenten Presentation

We hope our parish family finds our current series on St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians uplifting and informative. Remaining dates are January 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12; please see our weekly bulletins for reading assignments. **As Lent approaches, we also look forward to a special presentation on March 15 (following Pre-Sanctified Liturgy).** Thoughts will be shared on "Preparing for Holy Week." Please join us and bring a friend!

Parish Retreat with Fr. Maximos, March 3



Fr. Maximos is an old and dear friend of our St. Demetrios family. We look forward to welcoming him back on the 3rd. **The program title is "Strong In His Grace," focusing on 2 Timothy 2:1, and offering us good strength as we approach Lent.** Flyers and registration information will be available soon. Lent is an

important time of year for our spiritual growth and focus. If we put just this one day aside and dedicate it to our relationship with God, we will not be disappointed.

Our Presenter: Fr. Maximos is a monk at the Holy Monastery of Simonopetra on Mt. Athos (Greece). He is a well-known scholar and theologian. Before becoming a monk, he taught for many years at Holy Cross and Harvard Divinity School. Fr. Maximos is currently in residence at Holy Cross, where he has been invited to offer a number of courses. While teaching at Harvard, he served as the chanter at our parish, and we are happy to welcome our dear friend back!

MEDIA, WITNESS AND OUTREACH



"GET INVOLVED" AT WWW.STDEMETRIOSWESTON.ORG

Our site continues to develop, now featuring an augmented Stewardship page, a host of educational and inspiring videos, and an improved "About Us" section. **One of our current and exciting works-in-progress is the "Get Involved" page, found at the bottom of the vertical menu on our homepage.** Soon, you'll be able to visit this page, learn more about connecting with the ministries of our parish and "check" what we'd like to help with or what interests us. Your choices will be forwarded to the office, so that our clergy and ministry leaders can follow up with you. Please visit this new page this month and, if you aren't currently involved in the ministries and programs of St. Demetrios, take this first step and "Get Involved" in 2012!

PHILANTHROPY and SOCIAL ACTION

BROWN BAG MINISTRY: BOSTON RESCUE MISSION

Our Jan./Feb. effort will support this excellent local program which strives to help those in need get back on their feet and lead healthy, productive and truly happy lives. Please fill your brown bag with any and all canned/non-perishable goods and return it to the Church by Feb. 29. As Lent soon approaches, it's vital that we become increasingly mindful of the "least of our brethren." To learn more about the Boston Rescue Mission, visit www.brm.org. Thanks for your support!

EPOCH OUTREACH:

FEBRUARY 14 AT 10:30 AM

Want to be "epic" in someone's life? Join Fr. Nick and Fr. Alex at one of our monthly visits to our friends at EPOCH Nursing/Rehab in Weston. Next visit: Feb. 14, 10:30 am. Contact the office for details.

ST. DEMETRIOS BOOKSTORE



Library Committee: Lenten Recommendation

As Great Lent is approaching, we wish to recommend the following:

Annual Resource Companion: The Triodion, edited by Rev. Dr. Frank Marangos (J)

Contains 24 illuminating essays on the Triodion period, the period of preparation for the Great Festival of Pascha. Essays include the topics of forgiveness, humility, self-sacrifice, divine love, redemption, and more.

This book and other similar books are located in the Recommendation shelf. We invite you to come and visit the library. Remember, this library is for you and your family.

WHAT IS "CLEAN MONDAY"?



Lent can be a mystery to us. Even though many of us grew up marking the 40 days of Lent, we sometimes draw a blank on the holy days and services that come before Holy Week arrives. Clean Monday is the first day of Lent; this year, it falls on Feb. 27. On the night of the 27th, we will do a brief but powerful

service at St. Demetrios, called "Compline" (literally "after dinner"). In a slightly darker church than usual, with purple Altar cloths and vestments creating a reflective atmosphere, we will quietly remember God's compassion and grace—we will pray for strength throughout the 40 days of Lent.

Why is this necessary? What's at stake on this first evening of Lent? For starters, good beginnings are important. And with so much potential for good within Lent—the building up of our relationship with Christ—we want to take this particular "beginning" very seriously....

Like to read more? Visit "Reflections" to keep the conversation going: www.stdemetriosweston.org/blog.

ST. NICHOLAS TREE THANKS

Our Generous Parish Has Once Again Spread God's Love this Christmas.

For the 10th year, our parish has joined together to put our many blessings to work for those who have none. The St. Nicholas Giving Tree Ministry produced an overflow of love and beautifully wrapped gifts for 200 children currently under the care of the Mass. Department of Children and Families. There are so many people to thank for making this wonderful tradition a reality, but special thanks go out to the following "Santas" without whose help it would not be possible: The Kovatsis, Fischer, Young, Resmini/Spencer, and Theoharis families and, of course, Fr. Nick, Fr. Alex and Cathy Smith, who are always there to support all of our ministries. Happy New Year!

—Nancy Agris Savage





ANNOUNCEMENTS

BAPTISMS

The son of Nicholas and Nicole Patsio was baptized on Sunday, December 4, and named Chris Nicholas. The sponsor was Christopher Patsio.

The daughter of Nicholas and Nicole Patsio was baptized on Sunday, December 4, and named Zoe Sophia. The sponsor was Peter Fondas.

The daughter of Christopher and Kristen Slowe was baptized on Saturday, December 17, and named Mia Grace. The sponsor was John Pandos.

Eric Misbach was received into the Orthodox Church through Baptism on January 6. The sponsor was Olga Bassett.

*May God bless them
with His divine grace!*

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sunday, December 18

Messina Avtges Taleas, in loving memory of her parents, Emmanuel and Maria.



FUNERALS

Michael Koulopoulos of Weston, November 23.

Arthur Georgaklis of Brookline, November 30.

Constantine Taleas of Chestnut Hill, December 16.

Stephen Souris of Scotch Plains, NJ, December 31.

CONDOLENCES

Pamela Brody on the falling asleep of her mother, Evangeline Laganas.

Toula Tuckerman on the falling asleep of her husband, John.

May their memory be eternal!

SAVE THE DATE!

Important St. Demetrios events:

February 27:

Clean Monday (1st day of Lent)

March 3:

Parish Retreat

March 23:

Salvation Army/Miracle Kitchen

April 7:

Lazarus Saturday Breakfast and Cross-Making

April 13:

Holy Friday Youth Retreat



ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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