



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

On Being Grateful

Dear Faithful Stewards,

There was once a legend about a man who found the barn where Satan kept his seeds to be sown in the human heart. On finding the seeds of discouragement more numerous than the others, he learned that those seeds could grow almost everywhere. When Satan was questioned, he reluctantly admitted that there was one place he could never get them to thrive. "And where was that?" asked the man. Satan sadly replied, "in the heart of a grateful person".

November is the month that brings us Thanksgiving and with it the opportunity to set aside time to reflect on the many blessings we have. Many of us will, undoubtedly, think there is little to be thankful for especially when we look at the ills of society or the struggles we are personally facing. Perhaps it helps to remember the Pilgrims who set aside a day of Thanksgiving when they dug seven times more graves than homes to live in.

Why be thankful and grateful? Because God, in His essence, is "good". He is "love" and therefore, as the psalmist says, "we ought to give thanks to Him and praise His name . . . for the Lord is good and His love endures forever." Further, despite our ups and downs, we read in Timothy "if we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot disown Himself".

It is easy to be miserable and remain ungrateful. Despite the fact that most of us wish to live well and have fulfilled lives during this unprecedented time of abundance, it will take effort to do so. God can help us make the necessary changes in our attitude and perspective if gratitude and thankfulness are to return back into our lives. Let us simply begin each evening by thinking of three things that happened during the day that made us feel grateful. I know we easily remember the negative ones but what of the simple positive ones. For instance, a smile, a kind word or gesture, an unexpected call or compliment from a friend. Studies have shown that it is impossible to feel grateful and unhappy at the same time. Remember our opening parable conclusion: "It is hard for discouragement to live in a grateful heart."

Why go to Church? Why read scripture and the Word of God? Why lift up blessings and plant gratitude and thankfulness in your life and heart? Because you will plant the seed that will grow to embrace the essence of Him who made you, died for you, and who will always and unconditionally love you.

Now that is worth being grateful and thankful for. Happy Thanksgiving to all of you.

*With Love in the Lord,
Fr. Nick*



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY SERVICES

ORTHOS, 8:30; DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30

November 4

5th Sunday of Luke

November 11

8th Sunday of Luke

November 18

9th Sunday of Luke

November 25

13th Sunday of Luke

MIDWEEK SERVICES

ORTHOS, 9:00; DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30

Wednesday, November 14

St. Philip the Apostle

EVENING DIVINE LITURGIES, 6 PM

Wednesday, November 21

Entrance of the Theotokos and

Evening Thanksgiving Divine Liturgy

SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

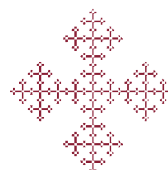
As discussed at the last General Assembly, a special meeting is being called to discuss and approve the following items, all relating to the building of our New Church.

AGENDA

1. Update and completion of our building project, including acquisition of new items that offer financial and aesthetic value to our current plans, but which are in addition to the current scope of work. A request will be made to approve such items.
2. Furnishings and iconography, including establishing a line of credit only for items that have been pledged and are payable over a period of time.

All stewards of our parish are urged to attend and participate in this important General Assembly. The meeting will follow the Divine Liturgy.

Mark your calendar —Sunday, December 2nd.



On the following days there are not services at St. Demetrios. We encourage our parishioners to attend services at our sister parishes in the area!

FEAST DAY VESPERS, 7:00 PM

November 7 @ Taxiarchae, Watertown

November 8 @ St. Nectarios, Roslindale

November 24 @ St. Catherine, Braintree

November 29 – Metropolis Feast Day Vespers
@ St. Andrew the Apostle Cathedral Chapel,
162 Goddard Ave, Brookline

FEAST DAY LITURGY, 9:30 AM

November 8 @ Taxiarchae, Watertown

November 9 @ St. Nectarios, Roslindale

November 25 @ St. Catherine, Braintree

Metropolis Feast Day, St. Andrew the Apostle
Orthros, 8:30; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 am
November 30 @ Cathedral Chapel,
162 Goddard Ave, Brookline



BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

Dear Fellow Parishioners, I am sure you have been following the construction project closely. Hopefully you have had a chance to walk through the site and get a feel of how majestic our new church will be. I am sure that you will be very pleased with the work of the Building Committee, along with the help of the Interior Design

Committee. Their work will soon be done. We will have a beautiful finished church which will, in addition, require furnishings and iconography to be truly completed.

I was recently honored to be asked to chair the Furnishings and Iconography Committee. To help decide what our church will look like when we worship, is indeed an honor. I am writing to ask you to join me in this noble task.

Some of the preliminary work has already begun. Our task will be to: a) review what has been done; b) select and recommend the iconographer, iconography and the style and supplier of the various furnishings; c) assist in other matters as they surface. Do not hesitate to discuss any questions and concerns that you may have, with me, Father Nick or Peter Basset.

If you would like to join the committee, kindly call or email Cathy Smith or John Morakis at the church office. I look forward to working with you on this spiritually rewarding project in support of our community.

Sincerely,
Peter John Condakes.



ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Cathy Smith
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ST. DEMETRIOS CONNECTIONS 781-237-5561 | www.stdemetriosweston.org

Fr. Nicholas Krommydas, 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
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
Visitations, Valerie Wiegel

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

YOUTH

Altar Service, Chris Kourlos
Basketball, Jack Markis
Church School, Stavroula Gurguliatos
Church School Outreach, Anthony Houhoulis
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
JOY, Jill Kovatsis
OCF, Alexey Petrides

BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

GOAL: \$7.3 million

PLEDGED: \$6.9 million

NEED: \$400,000

Have you made your pledge?



WELCOME TO ST. DEMETRIOS CHURCH SCHOOL!

We are committed to do our best to bring our youth to Christ

in a nurturing, calm, respectful and playful environment. We are trying to be good role models for our students, reaching their hearts, while we bring to reality the teachings of Jesus Christ. Through prayer, art, music, reading, writing, discussing, outreach, and stewardship, we learn about our Christian faith.

Please take an interest in what your child is learning in Church School. Ask and discuss with him/her what he/she has learned. Try to incorporate the lesson into your family time. Always feel free to contact your child's teacher with any issues or even to help clarify a particular lesson.

A few of our upcoming Church School events include:

November Kindergarten Bulletin Board Display

**November 4 Church School Classes;
Church School Staff Meeting**

November 11 Church School Classes

November 15 Christmas Fast Begins

November 18 Church School Classes

November 25 Church School Classes

If you have not registered your child(ren) yet, please pick up a registration form from the church office and return it as soon as possible to Stavroula Gurguliatos, Church School Director. Email: StDemetriosChurchSchool@verizon.net.



GREEK LANGUAGE & CULTURAL SCHOOL



COME SHARE & CREATE A YEAR OF BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES

As we enter November, Fr. Nick and our teaching staff are underway, offering interesting lessons and enriching activities to our Greek School pupils. Our school provides an opportunity for children (Grades Pre-K – 6; ages 3 & 4 welcome in the Pre-K program) to study and learn the Greek language and rich heritage of Greece and its people. St. Demetrios Church offers this program to augment a community life that is steeped in the Orthodox faith and the traditions of our rich heritage. Those enrolled can also expect to develop a bond of friendship and fellowship. We invite and welcome all to come and participate in this wonderful experience.

You may still register; materials are online:
www.stdemetriosweston.org/greekprograms

For additional information please contact Avra Parpos at 508.875.2103.

YOUTH BASKETBALL:



The 2012-13 Basketball Season is off to another great year. So far, more than 50 kids from our Parish have signed up to play on one of our 4 Teams. For those new to the program, St. Demetrios Basketball offers a Team for GOYA Boys (ages 14 to 17), GOYA Girls (ages 14 to 17), "JOY" Co-ed (ages 10 to 14) and even a Jr. Team (ages 8 to 10). Please consider having your son or daughter join this unique opportunity. For a very nominal cost they can enjoy a great sport and the company of fellow Orthodox kids from Weston, Watertown, Boston, Cambridge, Peabody and many of the other Boston Area churches.

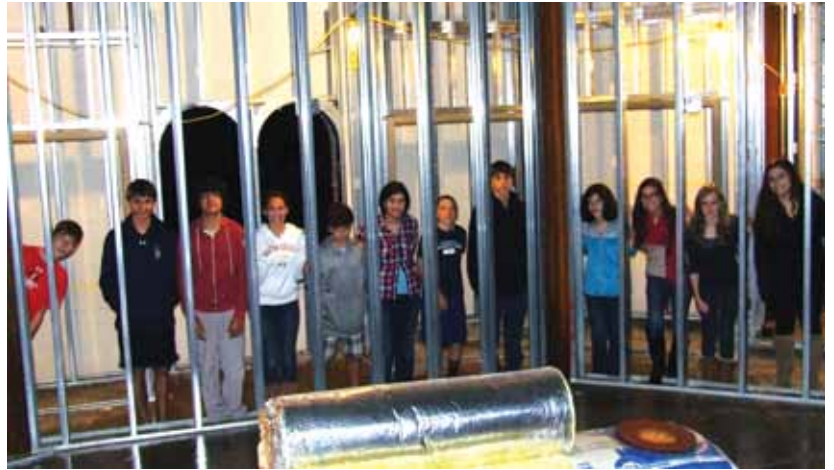
Games begin in November - Practices are TBD.

Please contact Emanuel "Jack" Markis for more information. He may be reached at **EJMarkis@MarkisLaw.com**.

GOYA



Greetings fellow GOYAns! We are off to an eventful new school year. It all started with 26 of us going up to the Metropolis of Boston Camp in Contoocook, New Hampshire to build our friendships through a variety of fun icebreakers, activities, and discussions. Spending time together outdoors brought our GOYA closer together, and we left with the hope of even more potential GOYAns whom we are excited to welcome! On October 12 we had our first GOYA Friday. We talked about the political climate surrounding the upcoming elections and how important it is to stick to our beliefs, regardless of the environment we find ourselves in. Our next event is Family Night on November 2 at 6pm. Hope to see everyone there! We also have an awesome opportunity to serve at the Miracle Soup Kitchen in Framingham on the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 23 from 4pm-7pm. Join us, get involved and be a part of our GOYA family!



HOPE & JOY Update



October's Family Night was a blast. The kids took home their very own icons, and were taught by skilled iconographers and mosaic artists how the full size icons are painted. All family members are invited to the next Family Night on November 2, where the topic will be "The Family"! Fr. Nick will join the parents to discuss the reality of raising a family in today's world, while the HOPE/JOY children will split up for activities about what it means to be part of a family. Also, we had beautiful weather for the HOPE/JOY apple picking trip, and look forward to having individual HOPE and JOY events later in the month. Stay tuned!

HOPE (K – 2nd)

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

JOY (3rd – 6th)

Jill Kovatsis: ja.k@verizon.net

ALTAR SERVERS

With a solid training session under their belts, the altar servers are ready to serve! A big thank you to all those who staying after Divine Liturgy on Oct 21 to train, polish and prepare. If you are 13 years old or older and would like to join the altar servers, please contact Fr. Nick at frnick@stdemetriosweston.org.

NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

4, 18: St. Stephen

11, 25: St. Lawrence

ST. STEPHEN

Captain: Alex Camp, Vice Captain: Anthony Chirban

Nicholas Camp, Matt Gatzunis, Thomas Gatzunis, Anthony Houhoulis, Nick Katinas, John Markis, Jonathan Salis

ST. LAWRENCE

Captain: Jason Theoharis, Vice Captain: Kosta Pappas

Walker Littlehale, Alexander Luzaitis, William Luzaitis, Costa Razis, Michael Razis, Rob Smith



ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE Commemorated on November 30



Born in Bethsaida, St. Andrew was a fisherman by trade. He became a dedicated disciple of John the Baptist and then, following his baptism, left him to become the first Apostle of Jesus Christ. He also brought along his brother, Peter. Both are numbered among the Twelve Great Apostles. After Pentecost, St. Andrew was chosen to preach in a host of lands—including Byzantium, Thrace, Peloponnese, Epirus, Georgia, and Kiev. He was martyred in the Peloponnese, in the city of Patras, 62 AD.

Interesting Facts about St. Andrew

- He the patron saint of several countries, including Romania and Scotland.
- His feast day is also the name day of our Boston Metropolis.
- Patriarch Bartholomew is considered the spiritual successor of St. Andrew.



PHOTOS

Family Night



HOPE Apple Picking



Altar Server Training



St. Demetrios Feast Day



PHOTOS

Senior Guild
Luncheon



St. Demetrios
Dance





CALENDAR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	2 Family Night, 6 pm	3
4 5th Sunday of Luke Church School staff meeting Brown Bag Blitz	5	6 Greek School, 4-6 pm	7	8 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	9	10 Learning Pro- gram, 8:30 am
11 8th Sunday of Luke	12	13 Greek School, 4-6 pm	14 - St. Philip the Apostle Orthros and Liturgy, 9 am Senior Guild Luncheon, 11 am Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm Philoptochos Meeting, 7 pm	15 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	16 OCF Thanksgiving Outreach Prep, 6 pm	17
18 9th Sunday of Luke Choir Apprecia- tion Sunday Philoptochos Bake Sale	19	20 Greek School, 4-6 pm	21 Thanksgiving Eve Liturgy, 6 pm	22 THANKSGIVING 	23 GOYA Outreach/ Miracle Kitchen, 4 pm	24
25 13th Sunday of Luke Family Worship	26	27 Greek School, 4-6 pm	28	29 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	30 	

STEWARDSHIP & PHILOPTOCHOS

PHILOPTOCHOS

On Sunday, November 18, the Philoptochos will hold their Annual Bake Sale. This is a great opportunity to purchase pies and breads for your Thanksgiving tables! We are also looking for people to donate baked goods for this event. Look for the flyer and announcements in the weekly bulletin for details!

Order forms for the annual Community Christmas Card are now available! Order forms have been mailed, however you can also download them on our website. Please complete your form and submit to Pat Liacopoulos. The deadline for submitting your form is Sunday, December 2. The donation is \$25 and all proceeds go to Philoptochos charities.

St. Demetrios Feast Day Reception Thank You

We thank our Philoptochos Ladies who sponsored the receptions following the Vespers and the Divine Liturgy services for our Feast day. Many clergy and parishioners were present and along with many of our parishioners, celebrated the nameday of our beloved patron, St. Demetrios. We thank those who organized and baked for this event.

STEWARDSHIP 2012

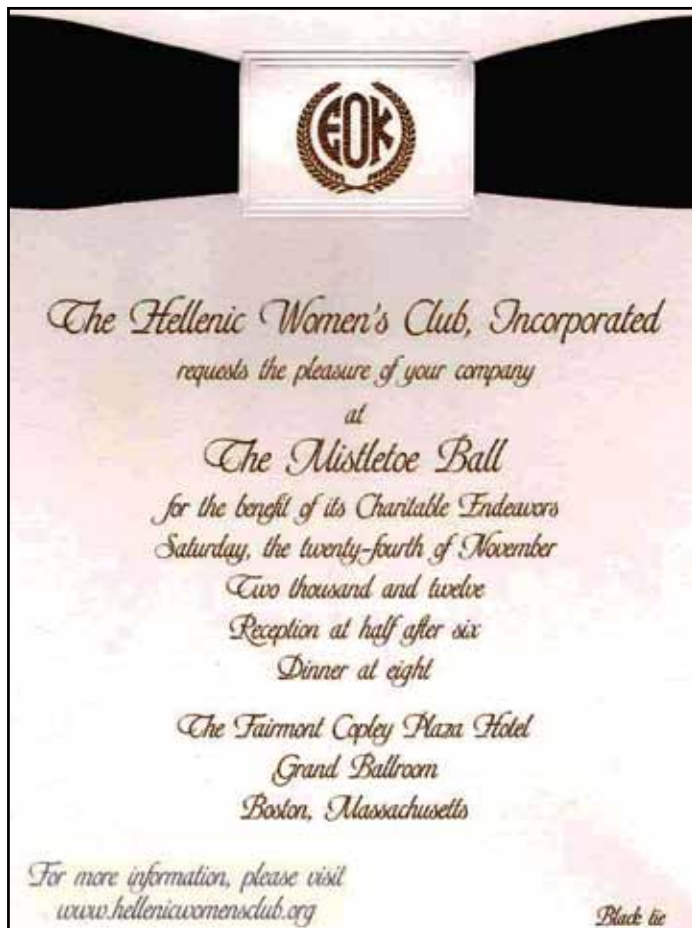
As we begin our fall Stewardship Drive, it is important to repeat the overall purpose of stewardship and the significance of pledge cards. Our parish, like most Greek Orthodox churches in the country, established a stewardship system. This is NOT the same as dues. A true stewardship system has no minimums and no maximums. It allows each person to make a free will donation to St. Demetrios based on their faithful commitment and abilities. By doing so, stewards show their intention to support the work of the Church through its many ministries.

Our commitment should be based on the scriptural invitation to do so cheerfully, proportionally and regularly, living the message that Christ's church comes first in our lives. If something keeps us from fulfilling our commitment, then we can let the Church know accordingly. Conversely, if we can do more by giving of our time, talent, and treasure, the Church, as the body of Christ, will most certainly benefit from our support.

Shortly, you will receive your 2013 Stewardship card and 2012 statement. Please carefully review these documents. We should always try and increase our pledge from the prior year, even if it is a small amount. It is helpful to think of your pledge in terms of a weekly donation as many stewards of our community do who offer, on average, twenty dollars a week. St. Demetrios is blessed to have so many generous contributors and we encourage EVERYONE to get involved in the various ministries offered in 2013. Finally, do not forget to bring your pledge cards to Stewardship Sunday on December 9, and join us for our annual Stewardship Brunch!

If you have any questions about stewardship, online payments, or would just like to know how to get involved in one of the ministries of our Church, feel free to drop me a note: deancoclin@msn.com or call Father Nick at the Church.

Dean Coclin
Stewardship Chairman



OCF SEEKS DONATIONS FOR THANKSGIVING DRIVE

One way for our college students to stay connected to their faith and the St. Demetrios Community is through serving their neighbors as Christ has taught. In this spirit, we are pleased to announce that for the third year, our college students will lead us in the:

THANKSGIVING FOR VETERANS DRIVE

in coordination with the

Middlesex Sheriff's Office

In memory of 2nd Lt. Ian Thomas McVey, USMC



Last year our goal was 20 turkey dinners—our parish responded with 25! This year, we are upping our goal to 30, as the veterans we serve are in greater need than ever!

Our Wish List

- 30 turkeys, frozen or fresh
- 150 canned/non-perishable sides: cranberry sauce, squash, stuffing, etc.
- 30 frozen/fresh pies
- Monetary donations to purchase any of the above

To donate, help or learn more, please contact:

Alexey Petrides: 781.237.5561

alexandros@stdemetriosweston.org

Chris Kourlos: 508.380.8220

kourkat@comcast.net

Please submit contributions to main office by Wednesday November 14.

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIOR GUILD. The next meeting of the Senior Guild is on the feast of St. Philip the Apostle, Wednesday, November 14, 2012. At this meeting, final preparations for our trip to the Reagle Music Theatre will be discussed. Directions to the theatre will also be available then. If you have any questions please contact Artemis Martakis at: (508) 785-0045.

SENIOR GUILD CHRISTMAS SHOW, DEC. 15. If you are interested in attending this show at the Reagle Music Theatre in Waltham, please contact Artemis Martakis, 508.785.0045.



ANNUAL DANCE THANK YOU. A special thank you also to those who organized and planned the annual St. Demetrios dance. A great time was had by all as family and friends gathered to enjoy

an evening of fellowship. Thanks to all who made our gathering possible and such a great success.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR. Thank you to our Fellowship Hour Hosts and those who have signed up! We have many Sundays still to fill this year – so if you would like to host on a Sunday, please see the sign-up sheet in the Social Hall or contact Mary Ellen Paravalos, paravfam@yahoo.com. This is a great way to support our church community or honor a loved one. All supplies are provided.



"THINKING THROUGH FAITH"

OCTOBER 25 - 7:30 PM

NOVEMBER 1 - 7:30 PM

NOVEMBER 15 - 8:30 PM

ROGGIES

356 CHESTNUT HILL AVE
BRIGHTON, MA 02135



SPONSORED BY:
METROPOLIS OF BOSTON

NOTE FROM ALEXANDROS

Preparation for Christmas starts November 15th!



Preparation is important in our lives. We prepare for school, for work and for vacation. We also prepare for long-term goals – our children's college fund or retirement. We recognize that there are seasons in life which we must prepare for. Some of this preparation is financial, but for the most part, it is internal. Preparation insures that when the moment of action comes, we are able to handle the situation at hand. As Orthodox Christians, we prepare our souls every day to accept Christ into our lives. Within the liturgical year, the Orthodox Church has two great periods of fasting, or preparation, in which we focus our attention on the redeeming moments of Christ's birth (His incarnation) and Resurrection. On Wednesday November 15, we begin the Nativity Fast, because Christmas is just around the corner! Fasting, or abstaining from certain foods and actions, is an exercise of distancing ourselves from sin. Preparing ourselves for Christmas is a process which leads us to reconcile ourselves with those whom we have hurt, finding time for God and loved ones, and watching closely what comes out of our mouth, in addition to what goes in. Fasting can be difficult, and is often misunderstood. St. John Chrysostom describes fasting as a medicine. But medicine, as beneficial as it can be, is useless when taken in the wrong manner, dose, or situation. For this reason, we look for spiritual guidance from someone who knows us well, to start or increase the intensity of our exercise. Fasting is a truly spiritual workout. I invite you this Christmas season to learn about the tools our Church offers us, and to apply them in your home as you are able.

—Alexandros Petrides



FR. MANIKAS LIBRARY

BOOK OF THE MONTH

An Invitation to the Spiritual Journey
by John P. Gorsuch
Catalog #Q

"Something vital is born in us when trust takes root. Something from the ground of life stirs in us once we build on our experiences of God enough to consider moving through our resistances and fears. The promise of something better pulls at us. We are ready to move another step. How do we begin?"

Mr. Gorsuch stirs up the reader on their spiritual journey by answering this question. He invites us to face the consequences of a cluttered life and learn to trust the inner working of the Spirit.

We have set aside this book on our Recommendation Shelf. Come and visit our library soon.

PHILANTHROPY and SOCIAL ACTION



Brown Bag Blitz
is November 4.

Led by our GOYAns, we will once again begin this series of outreach efforts on behalf of those in need. The beneficiary of our fall drive will

be our own Salvation Army Miracle Kitchen. Please receive your bag(s) on the 4th (extra bags will be in the coatroom bin), fill it with any and all canned/non-perishable goods, and return it to the church by December 2. To help with this ministry, contact Lydia Santangelo: lydiaeventsplst@aol.com.

A big thank you to all those who donated canned goods and pantry items during the month of October. We made a substantial delivery to St. Bridget's Food Pantry, a ministry of Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, in Allston, MA. A warm thank you from them as well.





ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers were generously donated by the following parishioners:

October 14:

Angelica Giovannes, in loving memory of her son, Alexios.

WEDDINGS

*Nicholas Dulchin
nos and Danielle
Ouellette were united
in marriage on Saturday,
September 29. The sponsor was
William Dulchinos.*



*Congratulations to Sam and Mina
Johnson who were married on
September 30, in Lowell, MA.*

BAPTISMS

*Mary Georgilas was baptized into
the orthodox Church on Sunday
on October 7. The sponsor was
Vasilia Laskaris.*

*The daughter of George and Mary
Georgilas was chrismated on Sun-
day, October 7, and named Eva
Maria. The sponsors were John
and Georgia Paloukos.*

*The son of Robert and Erica Gib-
bons was baptized on Saturday,
October 20, and named Robert
Peter. The sponsors were Andrew
and Rose Sutton.*

*May God bless them
with His divine grace!*

SAVE THE DATE!

Important St. Demetrios events:

November 2:

Family Night

November 14:

Divine Liturgy for St. Philip the Apostle
Senior Guild Luncheon

November 18:

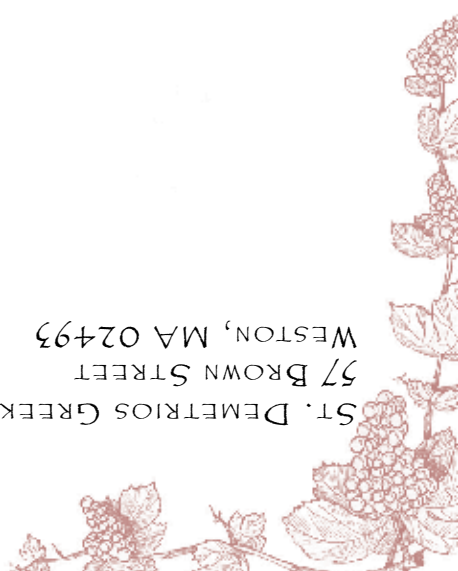

Choir Appreciation Sunday
Philoptochos Bake Sale

November 21:

Thanksgiving Evening Liturgy

December 2:

Special General Assembly



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