

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

Humility

Dear Parishioners,

There is a story from the early church fathers about a monk who was struggling against evil. One day, the devil appeared to him to stop him from praying. The monk said to him in frantic desperation, "Why do you war against me with such hate? Is it because I fast?" The devil's answer was, "No, because I never eat." The monk asked again. Is it because I get very little sleep?" The devil said, "No, because I never sleep." "What is it then that makes you tempt me with such vicious hate?" Then the devil answered again saying, "It is your humility."

St. Seraphim of Sarov emphasizes how important it is to develop the virtue of humility if we truly wish to know God, overcome "pride," and develop peace of mind and soul.

What joy is ours that the Lord not only forgives our sins but allows the soul to know Him, so soon as she humbles herself. The poorest of us can humble herself/himself and know God in the Holy Spirit. There is no need of money or possessions in order to know God, only of humility. The Lord gives Himself freely for His mercy's sake alone. I did not know this before but now every day and hour, every minute, I see clearly the mercy of God. The Lord gives peace even in sleep but without God, there is no peace in the soul. The Lord does not reveal Himself to some of us because of our intellectual pride yet we still think we possess much knowledge. But what is our knowledge worth if we know not the Lord, know not the grace of the Holy Spirit, know not how this grace comes and how it is lost?

But let us humble ourselves, brethren, and the Lord will show us all things, as a loving father shows all things to his children.

Lent will come late this year as Pascha (Easter) will be celebrated over a month later (May 5th) than other western Christians. As we contemplate and wait for Lent to begin, it may be a good thing for us to reflect on one of Lent's principle virtues - humility.

The journey that will be before us and that has such potential for spiritual growth can begin now by welcoming and inviting humility to be our companion as we seek to know and be with God . . . always!

*With Love in the Lord,
Fr. Nick*



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

February 3

15th Sunday of Matthew

February 10

16th Sunday of Matthew

February 17

Sunday of the Canaanite

February 24

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee

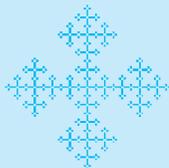
First day of Triodion

MIDWEEK SERVICES

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

Saturday, February 2

Presentation of our Lord



PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD FEBRUARY 2



When Jesus was forty days old, Mary and Joseph took Him to the Temple in Jerusalem. They were not wealthy, so they took two turtle doves with them to offer as a sacrifice at the Temple. As they arrived at the Temple, Mary and Joseph were met by a very old man named Simeon. He was a holy man. One day while Simeon was praying he heard the voice of God. God promised Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah.

Upon seeing the child, Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God. He blessed the Lord and said:

“Lord, now let Your servant go in peace according to Your promise, because my eyes have seen Your salvation which you have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory to your people Israel.”

After Jesus was presented in the Temple, the family returned to Galilee to the town of Nazareth. The Bible tells us that Jesus grew and became strong, and was filled with wisdom.

PARISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 3, 2013

Coming together to make decisions about our parish is a vital aspect of community life – we are all challenged to be good stewards of St. Demetrios! In this spirit, we invite you to join us for our assembly on February 3, immediately following Divine Liturgy in St. Demetrios Hall.

Remember, our assemblies take place only twice a year, so please make every effort to attend. Among the agenda items to be discussed are: financial and stewardship reports, and updates on the progress of our building project. As we near the completion of our project, we look forward to discussing the vision of “Living our Faith” through our St. Demetrios involvement and ministries.

AGENDA

Meeting called to order with Opening Prayer

- 1. Election of Chairperson*
- 2. Approval of Prior Meeting’s Minutes*
- 3. Father Nick’s Report*
- 4. President’s Report*
- 5. Stewardship Report*
- 6. Treasurer’s Report and 2013 Budget*
- 7. Building Committee Report*
- 8. Election of Board of Electors*
- 9. Old/New Business*
- 10. Closing Prayer*



Please make every effort to attend. We will begin the meeting promptly. Visit our website at: <http://www.stdemetriosweston.org>.



BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

As we usher in the new year together, we have so much to be thankful for. The progress of our new church is among the most significant blessings – all made possible by the stalwart stewards of Saint Demetrios. As of year-end December 31, 2012, we have received 324 pledges for the construction of our new church. Each month we receive more, and it is our hope that

before Easter Sunday in May, we will have attained the greatest possible participation, no matter the amount donated.

Why is this an important goal? For our parish it is significant because we are one big family that worships together and supports each member in times of joy and sadness. We worship in a way that is consistent with a

two thousand year old history and tradition, and we are keeping this alive by “Building on our Faith”, for us and our children and grandchildren. It is gratifying and important to have each and every parishioner participate in a sacrificial way to this project, whether their resources are small or large.

For each parishioner, it is important because this is a moment in our church’s history when you can make a significant difference. It is a moment where your contribution makes this transition possible, and where your gift will be forever visible on a significant commemorative piece for generations to come, as a positive example to your heirs and those of our community of the role you and the whole parish played in building a church that will stand for more than a century.

As our project progresses, it is becoming evident that Greek Orthodox Christians around the country are becoming aware of the new Saint Demetrios in Weston, Massachusetts. Your example is, and will continue to be, inspirational to a nation of fellow worshipers!

Please, if you haven’t yet pledged, pick up a pledge card at the church, call and ask that one be mailed to you, or call me at 617.266.9200, so I may answer any of your questions in confidence.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

—Peter Bassett

BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

GOAL: \$8 million

PLEGGED: \$7.5 million

NEED: \$500,000

Have you made your pledge?



ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Fr. Nicholas Krommydas
Proistamenos
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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, Philo托chos 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
Philo托chos 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, Dn. Alexandros and Stephanie Petrides
Greek Folk Dancing, Margaret Talmers Galatano
Greek Language School, Avra Parpos
HOPE, Donna Markis
JOY, Jill Kovatsis
OCF, Dn. Alexandros



Welcome to St. Demetrios Church School! We are committed to doing 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 bringing 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.

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

Happy New Year! On behalf of our Church School teachers, please join us in making the resolution to be on time for Church every Sunday this year!

A few of our upcoming Church School events include:

- February **Third Grade Bulletin Board Display**
- February 2 **The Presentation of Christ into the Temple**
- February 3 **Church School Classes**
- February 10 **Church School Classes (Oratorical Festival)**
- February 17 **Church School Classes**
- February 24 **Church School Classes; Triodion Begins**

Upcoming Church School Events

Church School Outreach: Anthony Houhoulis, Church School Student Outreach Coordinator, announces our January/February outreach. The St. Demetrios Church School students ask you to remember the less fortunate by participating in our 'Sock it to me' sock drive. During the months of January and February, please bring in a new pair of socks (all sizes are needed). We will donate them to the Salvation Army. Socks are the number one most-requested item at homeless shelters. Help us to keep young and old warmer and more comfortable this winter. The Salvation Army is a Christian organization that helps to rebuild lives, community, and fellowship while offering comfort and support to those in need in the name of God.

Oratorical Festival (7th-12th grade): The Oratorical Festival for the Junior Division (grades 7-9) and Senior Division (grades 10-12) will take place on Sunday, March 10th during their scheduled class time. Students have already received information regarding the festival topics. Please encourage your child to participate.

GREEK LANGUAGE & CULTURAL SCHOOL



Fr. Nick and our teaching staff continue to offer 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. For additional information please contact Avra Parpos at 508.875.2103.

GREEK DANCING

Greek dancing has begun—come and join us! Our two classes, grades 3-6 and 7-12, meet twice a month after church on Sundays, from 11:45AM -12:45pm in the middle school classroom area. Hope to see you there!



Schedule for February and March:
February 3, 24, March 3, 17

Questions? Contact margaret.e.talmers@gmail.com or 617-359-4752.

YOUTH BASKETBALL:

The St. Demetrios Basketball Program is enjoying another great season. This year, our Parish has fielded four very talented Teams. The kids are honing their athletic skills, but even more importantly – they are building friendships amongst fellow Orthodox Christians. As we enter the mid-point of our season, please join us to cheer on one of our Teams. The game schedule is published in the bulletin and on the parish calendar online. For more information contact Jack Markis at EJMarkis@MarkisLaw.com.



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

YOUTH



GOYA



Greetings fellow GOYAnS, and Happy New Year! On January 3, GOYA seniors had dinner with Fr. Nick Krommydas where we discussed the transition to college. We thank Mr. & Mrs. Kourtis for hosting us in their home and to GOYA alumni for coming to share their experience. On January 13 we had a GOYA General Assembly where we discussed our mission as a GOYA for the new year, upcoming events and other potential activities. The movie night January 25 was a blast. We watched the movie *The Blind Side*, and discussed issues that were raised in the movie. We are looking forward to February which will be another eventful month. Join us February 1 from 6-8pm for Family Night! This night the GOYAnS will be preparing for our 2nd annual Wing-A-Thon on Sunday February 3! Come and pick up some of our various flavorful wings during coffee hour that day. This was a huge hit last year, and we are looking forward to a repeat performance. Our next event on our agenda is a day trip to St. Basil's Academy in Garrison New York on February 9. We will depart around 8 am and arrive back at St. Demetrios around 8:30 pm. More details are available online on our website. Also, GOYAnS, don't forget to add MBC Winter Camp to your calendar. Winter Camp is February 15-17, at the Metropolitan of Boston Camp in Contoocook New Hampshire. Details on how to sign up are also on our website. We are so thankful for the many opportunities we have as Orthodox youth to learn about our faith, have great fellowship with our friends, and serve others in need. If you have not yet participated in a GOYA event, please join in, it is never too late! All the latest event details are available at www.stdemetriusweston.org/goya.

On behalf of our entire GOYA we thank the newly ordained Deacon Alexandros "Alexey" Petrides for all of his support and guidance. Axios Dn. Alexandros!

—Anna Skedros

Anna.skedros@aol.com, 508.314.2222



HOPE & JOY Update

In 2013 we will be moving into our new Church. We are looking to hold HOPE and JOY specific events surrounding this amazing event. All JOY aged children will be invited to a birthday party for the new church, and the HOPE children will be celebrating with a reading and acting out of "Stone Soup," the beloved children's book. Look for more details in the bulletin and next month's Vine. If you are interested in heading up another event, let us know!

HOPE (K – 2nd)

Donna Markis:

dmarkis@boston.k12.ma.us

JOY (3rd – 6th)

Jill Kovatsis:

ja.k@verizon.net

ALTAR SERVERS

If you are 13 years old or older and would like to join the altar servers, please contact Fr. Nick at frnick@stdemetriusweston.org.

FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

3, 17: St. Stephen

10, 24: St. Lawrence



ST. STEPHEN

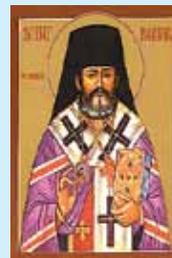
Captain: Alex Camp, Vice Captain: Anthony Chirban
Nicholas Camp, Matt Gatzunis, Thomas Gatzunis, Anthony Houhoulis, Nick Katinas, John Markis, Jonathan Salis

ST. LAWRENCE

Captain: Jason Theoharis, Vice Captain: Kosta Pappas
Walker Littlehale, Alexander Luzaitis, William Luzaitis, Costa Razis, Michael Razis, Rob Smith

SAINTLY LIVES:

ST. RAPHAEL OF BROOKLYN



St. Raphael of Brooklyn is a contemporary saint, who lived from 1860 to 1915. Born in Beirut, Lebanon to Syrian refugee parents of Orthodox origin,

he was educated at the Damascus Patriarchal School, the Patriarchal seminary of Halki in Turkey, and the Theological Academy in Kiev. In 1895 Fr. Raphael was sent to New York by Tsar Nicholas II of Russia to minister to the growing local Orthodox Christian population. In 1904, he became the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America, consecrated by then Archbishop of Moscow, Saint Tikhon. During the course of his ministry, St. Raphael founded the present-day Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral of St. Nicholas in New York City as well as and 30 other parishes on the eastern coast of the United States. He also ministered to many Greek Orthodox families, who at the time did not have a local hierarch. Saint Raphael served in Brooklyn until his death in 1915. He was glorified (pronounced a saint) in March of 2000.

Due to the vast history of the Orthodox Church, the majority of our saints' depictions are only captured in the iconography of our Church. For those saints who lived in the past century, (such as St. Nektarios and St. Raphael) however, photographs also exist. Seeing these images reminds us that every icon in our church is a window into heaven, a glimpse of the man or woman who loved Christ with their whole heart while on earth.





PHOTOS

Christmas Pageant



GOYA Senior and OCF Dinner



Greek Dancing

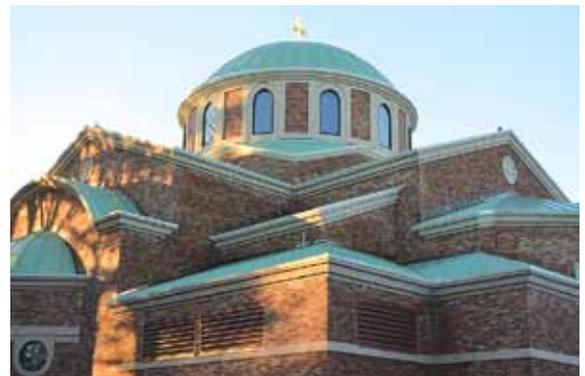
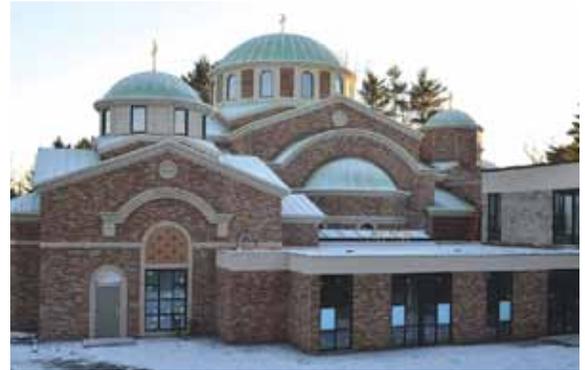




Vasilopita
Celebration



Church Building Project





CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan. 27 Godparent Sunday Orthodox Life	28	29 Greek School, 4-6 pm	30	31 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	Feb. 1 Family Night/ GOYA Wing prep 6 pm	2 Presentation of the Lord Orthros and Liturgy, 9 am
3 15th Sunday of Matthew Orthodox Life General Assembly GOYA Wing-A-Thon	4	5 Greek School, 4-6 pm	6	7 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	8	9 GOYA trip to St. Basil's Academy, 8 am Learning Program, 8:30 am
10 16th Sunday of Matthew Orthodox Life	11	12 Greek School, 4-6 pm	13 Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm Philoptochos Meeting, 7 pm	14 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	15	16 MBC GOYA Winter Camp Weekend Bingo at Hellenic Nursing Center, 2-3:30 pm
17 Sunday of the Canaanite Family Worship Orthodox Life	18	19	20	21	22 Miracle Kitchen, 4 pm MBC Family Winter Camp Weekend	23
24 Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee Orthodox Life	25	26 Greek School, 4-6 pm	27	28 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm		

STEWARDSHIP & PHILOPTOCHOS



PHILOPTOCHOS

The 2013 Philoptochos Membership Drive has begun.

If you are a current member, it's time to renew. If you have thought about becoming a member, you definitely should! You define what kind of member you will be. We are always looking for new skills, experiences and personalities, without them we would not be 27,500 members strong. We welcome you with open arms to join us in making a difference. Membership forms are available on the web site and at church. Contact Gina Spencer for details.

Go Red for Women is the American Heart Association's national call to increase awareness and help prevent heart disease, the number one killer of American women. This is a call for women, by women, to take charge of their well-being and live stronger, healthier lives. **We are designating Sunday, February 3 as Go Red Sunday, and hope everyone will wear red to show your support.**

Got a sweetheart for Valentine's Day? Let the Philoptochos be your source for delicious chocolates to give on that special day. Look for us on Sunday, February 10 during coffee hour to purchase hand crafted chocolate truffles and more!

The Glendi will be held at the Dolphin Restaurant in Natick on Saturday March 2, 2013. Details to follow!

PROSFORA MINISTRY WORKSHOP



Each time we celebrate the Divine Liturgy, the faithful participate in the sacrament by bringing bread and wine. The bread and wine become the very Body and Blood of our Lord that sustains our life and nourishes our souls.

St. Demetrios is fortunate to have very faithful ladies (gentlemen are also invited) who prepare the bread for the Eucharist. Several times a year workshops are held to teach and learn how we make the "prosforo" i.e. the offering for these services.

We invite new participants to join the Prosfora Ministry and become involved in this most meaningful service. Contact Christina Booth to get involved: boothsteele@rcn.com.

STEWARDSHIP 2013

Happy New Year to all the Stewards of our St. Demetrios community. As we begin 2013, I would like to thank you for donating your time, talents and treasures to fill the many needs of our Parish. We still have financial contributions coming in for 2012, hence we do not have final figures tabulated yet. We will provide a detailed report at the General Assembly meeting on February 3rd.

Stewardship Statements for 2012 will be mailed in early February. It's not too late to make a contribution. There are several ways you can contribute, the easiest of which is online. Just go to our home page: www.stdemetriossweston.org and click on Stewardship. Then click on "Online Donations." Payments by credit card and electronic debit are accepted.

Once you receive your statement, please check it to make sure we have everything correct. If you see any errors, please notify the church office so we can correct them.

Thank you, and we hope to see you at the parish General Assembly meeting on February 3rd for a full Stewardship report. We look forward to your continued active participation in the various events and ministries throughout 2013, including the exciting opening of the doors of our new church!

Dean Coclin
Stewardship Chairman



WE'D LIKE EVERYONE TO HAVE A SEAT.

With a \$500 contribution, you can help us purchase a seat for our new church.

Please contact John Morakis at 781-237-5561




ORTHODOX LIFE SERIES

This winter's Orthodox Life Series is titled "Finding Virtue in the Gospel." Join us in reviewing each Sunday's Gospel to unlock the virtues we as Christians are taught by the saving message of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Gospel readings leading up to Lent. The text for each Sunday's Gospel can be found at www.goarch.org/chapel/calendar or in the 2013 Ecclesiastical Calendar which was shipped to each family.

RAISING AWARENESS FOR MS SUPPORT "TEAM KALIOPE"



My name is Caroline Kyriakou. I am a lifelong member and former pre-k teacher of St. Demetrios. In 2006 I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, an autoimmune disease that affects the brain and spinal cord. For the 5th year in a row, I am leading "Team Kaliope" for the Boston walk on April 7th 2013. After my diagnosis, I have

maintained a positive attitude and have developed a passion to raise awareness for MS. Not only have I participated in Walk MS but also in a video for the National MS Society's MS Awareness week in 2010, and was featured in an interview on the FOX morning show for World MS Day in the same year. In 2011, I became a mentor for those newly diagnosed. Over the last year I have started blogging about my journey with MS. You can read my blogs at www.carolinekyriakou.blogspot.com. I also started two online support groups and a facebook page to raise MS awareness. If you would like to follow me please visit www.facebook.com/CarolineKyriakou. I am asking for your help in raising funds for the 2013 walk. Please help me in my endeavor to find a cure for MS by making a tax deductible donation of ANY amount by going to my personal homepage <http://main.nationalmssociety.org/goto/kaliopek2013> or by sending a check made out to the National MS Society directly to me: Caroline Kyriakou, 1940 Commonwealth Ave #23, Brighton, MA 02135. I hope to see a cure in my lifetime so no one ever has to hear the words 'You have Multiple Sclerosis.' Every dollar counts, so please make any donation you can! Thank you!

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIOR GUILD. The Senior Guild took a delightful trip to the Reagle Theatre on Thursday December 15 for a Christmas Show. Thank you to all who participated! There will be no meeting in February due to possible inclement weather. If you have any questions please contact Artemis Martakis at (508) 785-0045. God Bless You All!

FELLOWSHIP HOUR. Thank you to all who have hosted a Fellowship Coffee Hour so far this year. It is much appreciated by our church community! We are looking to fill another 15 Sundays through the end of June. If you are able to help host a coffee hour, please see the sign-up board in the Social Hall or contact Mary Ellen Paravalos at paravfam@yahoo.com or 781.349.8077.

ST. NICHOLAS GIVING TREE THANK YOU. For the 11th year, our parish joined together to put our many blessings to work for those who have less. The St. Nicholas Giving

Tree produced an overflow of love and beautifully wrapped gifts for 200 children currently under the care of the Department of Children and Families. A big thank you to all those who contributed gifts, and to those "Santas" who helped with the distribution. Happy New Year! — Nancy Agris Savage

AGRIS SCHOLARSHIP'S 21ST YEAR. Six \$5,000 scholarships are given annually in memory of Peter Agris, the late founder of The Hellenic Chronicle and a long-standing parishioner. Candidates may download an application at www.alphaomegacouncil.com. Applications, transcripts, any published works and the required essay must be returned by email to nancysavage@gmail.com, or by mail to: The Peter Agris Memorial Scholarship Committee, C/O Nancy Savage, 9 Nonesuch Dr, Natick, MA 01760, **no later than March 1, 2013.**



NOTE FROM DN. ALEXANDROS

WHAT IS CHRISTIAN LOVE?



Valentine's day is almost here! Thursday, February 14th will soon arrive, and with it, nearly 58 million pounds of chocolate in the United States alone. We know, however, that there is more to this day than candy, it is a day to reflect and express our love to those for whom we care. I recently saw a card which read, "God is Love" tucked under the Christian Love genre of the

Valentine's Day card shelf at the store. It made me think, what is Christian love? How is Christian love different than any other kind of love?

The Ancient Greeks defined four types of love: agápe, éros, philía, and storgē. These are briefly described as general affection, physical affection, friendship, and natural affection (that of a parent for a child). The Ancient Greeks would tuck Christian love under the category philía. But with which of these loves does God love us?

If we believe that God is love, as we are taught in scripture (1 John 4:16), then we must understand how this love was shown. The greatest expression of God's love for us is found in John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." As St. Paul wrote in the book of Romans, "God demonstrated His own love for us in this way: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." In the marriage service, we read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, describing love as patient, kind, not envious, not boastful, not proud, not rude, not self-seeking, and not quick to anger. So what can we make of all these ways God shows His love to us?

Love, ultimately, is an attribute of God. Love is a core aspect of God's character, His Person. Although complex, all of God's attributes are in perfect harmony. Everything God does is loving, just as everything He does is just and right. God is the perfect example of true love, in that He accepts us back through repentance, even after we've pulled ourselves away from Him through sin. It is our participation in God's love that is Christian love. Love is not a component, but the purpose of our Christian lives.

THANK YOU ST. DEMETRIOS PARISH!

My wife, Stephanie, and I would like to thank all those who attended and prayed for us as the next step of our ministry unfolded at my ordination to the Diaconate on January 21. Our Saint Demetrios community is near to our hearts; thank you for all of the love and support you have shown us.

—Dn. Alexandros



FR. MANIKAS LIBRARY

BOOK OF THE MONTH

Five Steps to Spiritual Growth: A Journey
by Peter M. Kalellis

Thoughts by the author in his prologue: "I had planned to write this book later in my life when my maturity, clarity of mind, and self-confidence were developed and synchronized. After several requests, it seemed I had no choice but to tackle the task, although I felt inadequate in dealing with issues of faith. The writing brought me face to face with myself, so that by the time the manuscript was completed, I had engaged in thorough self-analysis, self-evaluation, self-discipline, and trust in Jesus Christ, the king of kings and perfecter of life."

Dr Kalellis is a noted psychotherapist, lecturer and writer.

This book is located on the Recommendation shelf or in Section Q.

The Library is open every Sunday after Divine Liturgy as well as Monday through Friday, 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM. We invite you to come and visit the library to check out some of these books. Remember, this library is for you and your family.

BROWN BAG BLITZ IS FEBRUARY 24.



The Beneficiary of this winter outreach will be the Boston Rescue Mission. Please return donations to the church by February 24.

Thank you to all who continually support this important outreach of our parish, and to the Santangelo and Cicalis family for organizing and facilitating the distribution. To help with this ministry, contact Lydia Santangelo: lydiaeventsp-clst@aol.com.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUNERALS

Pam Washek of Wayland, December 2.
James Petrakos of Westwood, December 6.
Thelma Marakoulos of Framingham, January 14.
May their memory be eternal!

CONDOLANCES

Condolences are extended to:
Philippa Condakes, on the falling asleep of her mother, Mona Budding.
Patti Dukakis, on the falling asleep of her sister, Mary Laganas.
Judy Houhoulis, on the falling asleep of her mother, Margaret Lifrieri.
John McVey, on the falling asleep of his mother, Margo McVey.
Amy Acampora Pagonis, on the falling asleep of her mother, Lena Acampora.
May their memory be eternal!

BAPTISMS

The daughter of Frederick and Elaine Duguay was baptized on Saturday, January 12, and named Alexa Christina. The sponsors were Diane Kiladis and Ted Puccini.

The daughter of Fotios and Nicole Mpouris was baptized on Saturday, January 12, and named Helena Bernadette. The sponsor was Chrisanthi McMorrow.

May God bless them with His divine grace!

WEDDINGS

Christopher Delozier and Sarah Fenerlis were united in marriage on Sunday, December 9. The sponsor was Jonathan Fenerlis.



SAVE THE DATE!
Important St. Demetrios events:

February 1:
Family Night

February 2:
Presentation of the Lord:
Orthros & Liturgy

February 3:
Parish General Assembly

February 9:
GOYA Day Trip to St. Basil's Academy

