



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

Where is our Youth?

Dear Parishioners,

Certain questions always arise when speaking about our young people: Where is our youth? Will they remain within the Church? What is our Church doing to keep them close to their faith? Perhaps a recent study may shed some light on this conversation. There is the notion that if the young attend church often, they will steer away from trouble. To test this principle, a large number of young men who had gotten into trouble were followed. Growing up, 53% of these young men went to church twice a month and 27% attended weekly. They believed in God, the 10 Commandments and even prayed. Yet, they got into trouble. Why? Why was there such a disconnect between what they learned and their actions?

The study showed that these young boys hear and accept truths about God, the faith, morals, and other teachings intellectually, but not internally. There was no connection between the teaching and the actual truth that God took in them. The boys in the study, and by extension all of us, do not think—and more importantly believe—that God “personally” loves us! What’s missing?

In order to have the fullness of the faith impact our lives, young and old alike, we must make the connection with the Living Lord. Coming to church, learning about the faith and experiencing Him through participation for an hour or two a week begins the process of building a strong foundation. If we wish to build on that foundation, we must be introduced to a “Living” Lord who, as St. Paul says, “...loved me and gave Himself for me.” St. Augustine puts it this way, “...a God who loves us as if there were only one of us in the universe.”

If we want our youth, and all of us for that matter, to be fully engaged and develop a life-long relationship with Christ and His Church, we must literally “fall in love” with Him. If the Church is seen only as just another institution, then God will be missing from His Church and His words and commandments will be left unheeded because His love and presence will also be missing. We must continue our “Holy” work that begins on Sunday throughout the coming week. As parents, mentors, priests and leaders, we must show by true example how we live the faith by bringing Christ into our conversations, our homes and speak gently and lovingly about His Church. If we do so, then the question of “Where is our Youth?” will be evident, for following the commandments will not need to be forced or a burden, but a true, lasting joy.

*With Love in the Lord,
Fr. Nick*

SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

October 5

2nd Sunday of Luke

October 12

7th Ecumenical Council

October 19

3rd Sunday of Luke

October 26

6th Sunday of Luke and St. Demetrios Feast Day

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Saturday, October 25

Vespers, 6 pm

ST. DEMETRIOS THE GREAT MARTYR: TRULY GREAT

St. Demetrios is, of course, the patron saint of our church. Throughout the year we gather together as a Church family and, encouraged by his inspirational story, we strive to live a Christ centered life, just as he did.



Only a small number of saints are called "Great" in our Orthodox Church. Even fewer are known as "Great Martyrs." St. Demetrios is one of those few given this honor and distinction by the Church. While many know about his life, to draw closer to him and what he means to us all, it is important to relive and remember his life.

St. Demetrios died for his faith during the violent persecutions of the Emperor Diocletian in the year 306. Demetrios was a soldier in the Roman Army and was also a skilled orator and leader. More important, he was a Christian in a time when those who believed in Christ were hounded by pagan rulers and killed for their faith. Demetrios was named to a governmental position as consul of Thessalonika, but instead of persecuting Christians there, he preached to them and guided them.

It wasn't long before the emperor heard of strong faith and commitment to ministry, and he ordered him arrested and imprisoned. While there, he urged a young christian named Nestor to engage in combat with a famous gladiator who had murdered many a believer in the amphitheater over the years. This time, the gladiator was overwhelmed by the much smaller Nestor, who prayed with St. Demetrios who called upon God for strength in battle.

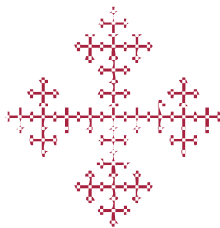
Humiliated over Nestor's spiritual and physical victory, the emperor soon after ordered Nestor and Demetrios executed.

A church was built over the remains of St. Demetrios at Thessalonika and devotion to him spread far and wide. This early church was destroyed by fire in the 7th century and was replaced by another edifice, adorned with Byzantine-style mosaics.

Icons of St. Demetrios depict the saint in a number of ways: often as a young soldier with a lance and shield; a victorious soldier upon a horse; as a deacon; and other times as a protector of children. He is profoundly revered in Europe and his feastday is commemorated with great festivity in Thessalonika, where he is considered the patron saint of that city.

As his feast approaches on October 26, we pray that the faithful of our parish are inspired by his holy life—his strong faith, compassion, courage and fortitude. A blessed feast to our entire St. Demetrios family!

ACTS OF KINDNESS



What did Christ teach us about this?

In Matthew 25:35, Christ tells us: *"I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, thirsty and you gave Me something to drink. I was a stranger and you took Me in..."*

Doing acts of kindness is the Christian way of life. We do them because this is how we follow His example.

Don't let a day go by without doing something for someone else. Truly the world will be a better place if we do.



BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

UPCOMING EVENTS

What an incredible phenomenon in mid-September! St. Demetrios was FULL of the faithful with families guiding children to the next Sunday school year, parishioners

reacquainting themselves with old friends, plans being made, and church calendars compared!



ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Fr. Nicholas Krommydas, Pastor
Cathy Smith, Secretary
Nicholas Korderas, Sexton
Tom Gatzunis, Parish Council President
Athena Kalyvas, Philoptochos President

Bookstore, Carol Loridas
Choir, Genie Leussis, Chris Tzellas, Athena Kalyvas
Faith and Works Ministries

A Suitable Image, Nancy Savage
Brown Bag Sunday, Lydia Santangelo
St. Demetrios Inner-City Outreach, Peter Mitsakos
St. Nicholas Angel Tree, Nancy Savage

Hospitality/Fellowship Hour, St. Demetrios Philoptochos
Library, Cindi Dabrowski
Orthodox Life Series, James Skedros
Outreach and Evangelism, Stacey Kalivas
Philoptochos Care Ministries

Hellenic Nursing Home, Pam Brody
Prayer-Shawl, Tilda Mitsakos
Quiltathon, Debbie Morakis
Visitations, Valerie Wiegel

Prosfora Ministry, Christina Booth
Senior Guild, Artemis Martakis
Stewardship, John McVey

YOUTH

Altar Service, Chris Kourlos
Basketball, Jack Markis
Church School, Stavroula Gurguliatos
Church School Music Director, Jane Kourtis

GOYA, Vincent Minucci
JR. GOYA, Jill Kovatsis
Greek Folk Dancing, Margaret Talmers
Greek Language School, Avra Parpos
HOPE, Donna Markis
JOY, Jill Kovatsis
OCF, Vincent Minucci

Some upcoming events: more information on the status of the construction of the church furnishings will be coming your way in a letter from Furnishings Chair Peter Condakes.

Be on the lookout for it and please read it carefully. There is much valuable information and a detailed presentation on the status of available gifts that so many of you have requested. The Committee has been working over the summer on refining the final designs and building schedules. You will be very impressed!

The General Assembly is set for November 9th and the Building Committee is asking all parishioners who have made pledges to consider accelerating their payment schedule so that the interest cost to the church is minimized. We are incredibly fortunate to have such unwavering support from our parish and we remain well within budget, but every dollar spent on interest is unavailable for our sacred missions.

Let's all make the effort to review our remaining pledge obligations and make an early payment. There is no more significant year end donation. We strive to make an even more positive announcement at the General Assembly!

—Peter Bassett



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome to St Demetrios Church School. We are excited that you decided to bring your child/children to Church School. We are all committed to do our best in bringing 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. We welcome you to our school!

It was wonderful to see and meet so many parents and new families during the ministry fair. Please take an interest in what your children are being taught in Church School. Ask and discuss with them what they learned. Try to incorporate the lesson into your family time. Always feel free to contact your children's teachers with any issues or even to help clarify a particular lesson.

A few of our upcoming church school events include:

- October** 1st Grade Bulletin Board Display
- October 5** Church School Classes; CS Staff Meeting
- October 12** Family Worship
- October 19** Church School Classes
- October 26** Church School Classes; Feast Day of St. Demetrios

If you have not registered your child (children) yet, please pick a registration form from the church and return it as soon as possible to Stavroula Gurguliatos, Church School Director.

Halloween: Not the Day, but the Way

By Fr. John Vlahos

While I was studying at the Seminary, it struck me that half of my friends had participated in Halloween throughout their childhood. They looked at Halloween as the one day of the year where they dress up in their favorite costumes and embark on a candy-gathering adventure throughout their neighborhoods. The other half of my friends had never went trick or treating because their parents would not allow it. They felt that no matter how universal and supposedly harmless Halloween appeared, it has unholy and dark origins and should therefore be avoided.

Ultimately, I believe that to what extent someone participates in Halloween should be determined in consultation with one's parents and their parish priest.

If one were to participate in Halloween, caution should be used to not trivialize and play down the serious reality of the devil, demons and evil. Throughout the Bible, Jesus confronted demons and those who were workers of iniquity. In fact, whenever Jesus appeared the demons would cry out: Why are you here? Why are you ruining things for us? Why are you tormenting us before our time? As the Truth and the Light, Christ is always victorious over all evil and darkness.

Thus, costumes that lend themselves towards wickedness and darkness such as witches, demons, mummies, monsters and the like should be avoided. We are to in no way align ourselves with the powers of evil and sin.

Costumes that promote a more wholesome and joyful feel like angels, saints, princesses, superheroes and cartoon characters are much more appropriate. The challenge is to use our God-given creativity and celebrate both the light and life He brought into this world and His victory over evil!

Youth groups within our parishes can create a wide variety of wholesome parties for our children. For those parents that accompany and supervise their children as they canvass the neighborhood, they can perhaps have their children add "God bless you" to their thanks for treats. Faith-filled joy and not fear should permeate all that we do as Christians.

Fr. John is the Proistamenos of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in New York City.

GOYA Reflection

Hello Vine Readers! My name is Michael Razis. I am a senior in high school, and I am an executive officer of St. Demetrios Weston's GOYA. GOYA has always played a significant role in making my church experience more enjoyable, as it provides a great opportunity for me and other kids of a Greek Orthodox background to convene and appreciate the religious and cultural aspects of being a Greek-American.

Every year, St. Demetrios' GOYA officers have worked to facilitate a warm environment that welcomes Orthodox youth from all over the Boston area. This year, we are working towards establishing this environment yet again by organizing some really fun events. Every year, Weston's GOYA holds two fundraisers: the September Car Wash and the Wing-a-thon, both of which are always successful and enjoyable events for GOYAns. These events always highlight how fun it is to be a part of a group of kids that enjoys bonding while celebrating and preserving the traditions and values of Greek Orthodoxy.

While there is an established group of officers within our GOYA, all members' thoughts and opinions are valued equally. For this reason, we have worked as a group to plan out some future events. Keeping in line with our goal of making GOYA consistently more fun, the other officers, GOYA members, and I have discussed a variety of possible event ideas. Some of these include another trip to New York City, short camping trips, community clean-up work, bonfire/s'mores cookouts, nursing home visits, hospital visits, and laser tag. These events draw a brief outline of the fun things GOYAns do in addition to the intriguing educational setting that the High School Church School offers.

Being a GOYAn is powerful because it enables busy American teens, like me, to connect with their religious and cultural roots amongst other teens in the same situation. All of the GOYA officers encourage any non-GOYAn high school students to sign up and join GOYA as soon as possible. The program and our church can only benefit from more teens that are passionate about celebrating similarities and differences that make up each individual's background. To sign up, please seek out any GOYA officer: William Luzaitis, Francesca Skedros, Robbie Smith, Cassie Cicalis, or myself, or reach out to Vincent (Vinnie) Minucci, our GOYA supervisor and Pastoral Assistant.

SAINTLY LIVES

ST. LUKE, COMMEMORATED OCTOBER 18



Saint Luke was born a Greek and a Gentile in Antioch, Syria. He was a physician and writer of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. Luke became a close companion of St. Paul and accompanied him on his missionary journeys. In the Gospel of Luke he emphasizes Christ's compassion for sinners and for those who suffer. We can also find in Luke's account of the gospel, a strong emphasis on the role women played in Christ's ministry. Luke's Christian ministry can be

followed in the book of Acts. It is believed that Luke lived a long life and died c. 74 in Greece. He was the first Christian physician and is venerated especially by physicians and surgeons. Saint Luke is also considered the patron saint of painters because according to tradition, he had painted images of the Theotokos and of Jesus Christ.

Basketball



With the school year in full swing, we have begun to organize our Teams for the 2014-15 Metropolis Basketball League. This is a tremendous Ministry. Last year upwards of 80 kids participated. It is a great opportunity for fellowship and making friendships within our community. The program has a nominal cost of approximately \$125.00 per child, which includes a uniform.

As in prior years, we anticipate fielding Teams in each of the 4 divisions; JOY Jr. (co-ed ages 8 to 10), JOY (co-ed ages 10-13 and grades 5 to 8), Girls GOYA (ages 14-17) and Boys GOYA (ages 14-17). Children's ages are determined as of 9/1/14. JOY Jr. and JOY games are held at St. Demetrios on Saturday afternoons. GOYA games are held on Sunday afternoons at Hellenic College in Brookline. All Teams have one practice a week at St. Demetrios.

To sign up your children or volunteer to coach, or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Emanuel "Jack" Markis at EJMarkis@Markislaw.com.



Social Media

If you are interested in writing content or contributing to our social media presence at St. Demetrios Weston, be sure to follow us on Instagram: @StDemetriosWeston, follow us on Twitter: @SaintDemetrios and like our Facebook page: "St. Demetrios Church, Weston". If you would like to write content for these pages email Vincent Minucci at vminucci@stdemetriosweston.org for more information!

GOYA Car Wash



Saint Demetrios Church Annual Fall Dance

Join us for a Night of Dinner and Dancing
on Saturday, October 18, 2014 at the Boston Marriott Newton
2345 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton

Music by Ta Pethia
Cocktails: Six O'Clock Dinner: Seven O'Clock

Email Andrew Zarou at Andy_zarou@yahoo.com



SAINT DEMETRIOS CHURCH
ANNUAL DANCE

Chris' Crusaders: CIDP Walk



Elevation of the Holy Cross



Greek School Agiasmo



Movin' Out



Senior Guild Luncheon



OCTOBER 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Prayer Shawl Knitting Ministry, 1:00 pm	2 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	3	4
5 2nd Sunday of Luke GOYA Meeting	6	7 Greek School, 4-6 pm	8 Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm Philoptochos Board Meeting, 7 pm	9 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	10	11 Learning Program, 8:30 am
12 7th Ecumenical Council	13	14 Greek School, 4-6 pm	15 Prayer Shawl Knitting Ministry, 1:00 pm	16 Senior Guild Luncheon, 1-3 pm Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	17	18 Pam's Run, 9:30 am GOYA Apple Picking, 11 am Hellenic Nursing Home, 2:30 pm St. Demetrios Dinner-Dance
19 3rd Sunday of Luke	20	21 Greek School, 4-6 pm	22	23 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	24 Metropolis Federation of Greek Orthodox Musicians Annual Conference begins	25 St. Demetrios Feast Day Vespers Reception
26 6th Sunday of Luke St. Demetrios Feast Day Feast Day Luncheon	27	28 Greek School, 4-6 pm	29 Prayer Shawl Knitting Ministry, 1:00 pm	30 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	31	

PHILOPTOCHOS

October is a very special month at Saint Demetrios. Parishioners have returned from summer holiday and are now participating in the ministries of the Church. We look forward to celebrating the Feast Day of our Parish on Sunday, October 26 with various services. Please see the schedule below of upcoming events in October, November and December.

Baby Shower for Natalie Mott – Sunday, November 2. New mother-to-be Natalie Mott is expecting a boy! Please join us after Liturgy in the small social hall at 12:30 to celebrate the occasion. Natalie is registered at Babies "R" Us. RSVP by October 24 to Presbyteria Elaine at ekrommydas@verizon.net or Athena Kalyvas.

General Assembly Meeting – Wednesday, November 12. As part of a National Philoptochos obligation, we will honor Veterans in November. You will be hearing more information about a special program for our Veterans as part of the General Assembly Meeting at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 12.

Metropolis of Boston Philoptochos Fashion Show – Saturday, November 15. Save the Date: Lombardo's – Randolph, Massachusetts. Contact Philippa Condakes at pjcondakes@comcast.net for more information.

Christmas Wreath Making Social – Wednesday, December 3. Plan an evening of fellowship and Christmas cheer while we decorate wreaths for our homes.

Christmas Bake Sale – Sunday, December 14. Chairpersons: Gena Liacopoulos, Christina Booth and Francesca Callas. More details to follow.

If you are interested in helping or being part of any activity or program, please contact me at: adkayvas@gmail.com, or (781) 718-5264. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Athena Kalyvas, President

New Fellowship Coffee Hour Procedure

The Philoptochos has undertaken the scheduling of the Fellowship Coffee Hour for the Parish. Pam Brody and Eugenia Kourlos will lead the process and create rotating Philoptochos teams to assist the "host" families with the fellowship hour. Below we have provided three options describing this process:

Option A: The host family provides the pastry, set up, serving and clean up.

Option B: In the event that a Parishioner does not wish to make or purchase food items, the host family can forward a check payable to Saint Demetrios Church in the amount of \$200.00 to serve approximately 250-300 people and provide the following: koulourakia, paximadia, and other appropriate cookies. The host family provides setup, serving and clean up.

Option C: In the event that a Parishioner has scheduled a Memorial Service or other family event and desires to provide a more extensive coffee hour, the Parishioner can ask and coordinate with the Philoptochos to prepare, in addition to the items above, items such as spanakopitakia, tiropitakia, small sandwiches, fruit platter etc.

The Philoptochos will provide a price list for these items based on cost per piece or by the dozen. With each of the above options, St. Demetrios will provide coffee, coffee filters, milk, sugar, paper products, tablecloths. Additionally, the family name will appear in the weekly bulletin as host of that week's Coffee Hour.

Parishioners who wish to host the Coffee Hour will contact the Church Office/Cathy Smith who will forward their name and contact info (phone number and email address) to Pam Brody, 781-864-5327, Brodster52@yahoo.com and/or Eugenia Kourlos, 508-735-8866, kourkat@comcast.net. Pam and Eugenia will contact the family and discuss the above information and provide a step-by-step information sheet on the set up, serving and clean up procedure.

Please contact Pam or Eugenia if you wish to host a Sunday coffee hour or be part of the team.

STEWARDSHIP

Dear Stewards in the Lord,

It is with great joy that I write to all of you. Having been encouraged by our Parish Council, Dean Coclin, chair of the Stewardship Committee, and our dear Presbyter, Father Nick, I have agreed to become the chairperson of our Stewardship Committee. I recognize what a privilege it is to serve our beloved St. Demetrios in this way; but I also realize that although I may have accepted the chair of the Stewardship Committee, it is we, all of us, who are Stewards of Christ.

The word 'Steward' derives from Old English and refers to a person who acts as an agent for another, or, one who has charge of a household for another; and in this regard it is akin to the Greek word, *oikonomos*, which refers to one who manages a house. In this respect we are all Stewards of Christ. Each and every one of us is called upon to help 'manage,' or more rightly 'care for' the house of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Each and every one of us is asked to do his or her utmost to use our time, talents, and treasures for our beloved Mother Church, the Body of Christ.

Through Baptism you and I are called. I am simply one part, and one part does not the body make. Without your Stewardship, our beloved church, our beloved faith cannot reach its full spiritual potential – let not the words of the poet 'It might have been,' be our words – but with each of us devoting our time, talents, and treasures, as representatives of Christ on earth, we can and will see our Lord's boundless Grace descend upon all of creation.

I also want to let you know that we are currently working with the Archdiocese downloading new software that will enable us to better communicate with each of you. Over the next few months we will be gathering information and integrating this software into the every day life of our church. At the appropriate moments, we will be asking you for your help in order to make these communications more efficient and valuable for each of us as we endeavor to strengthen our love and faith in Christ Jesus.

God bless you all and may the Holy Spirit continue to strengthen and guide each and every one of us Godward!

With love and best wishes,
John R. McVey
Chair, Stewardship Committee

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIOR GUILD. Save the Date: Thursday, October 16, 1-3 pm. Come and join us for refreshments and bingo in the Small Hall. If you have any questions please contact Artemis Martakis at 508.785.0045 or Cindi Dabrowski at 508.881.6598. We will have a great time.

NEW DAY FOR THE PRAYER SHAWL KNITTING MINISTRY. We will meet every other Wednesday at 1:00 pm in the library, so three times this coming month: Oct. 1, 15, and 29. If you are a knitter or prefer to crochet, come join us. We have the yarn and size 13 needles, or bring your favorite needles. We welcome your ideas for other knitting projects such as socks or scarves for those in need.

BAKERS NEEDED FOR ST. DEMETRIOS VESPERS RECEPTION. We will be hosting a reception following the St. Demetrios Feast Day vespers Saturday, October 25. If you are able to bake something for this event, please contact Presbytera Elaine at ekrommydas@verizon.net.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND AND CONSTANTINOPLE RESCHEDULED. Our trip to the Holy Land and Constantinople has now been rescheduled for April 19-30, 2015. The pilgrimage is a 12-day tour highlighting the most sacred places of our Lord's life, and a visit to Constantinople. If interested we do have some available seats left. Please contact the church office for more information or speak to Fr. Nick directly.

PARISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9. 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 fall assembly on November 9, immediately following Divine Liturgy in St. Demetrios Hall.

Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer
2. Clergy Report - Fr. Nick
3. President's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Stewardship Report
6. Building Committee Update
 - 6.1. Church Furnishings Update
7. Old/ New Business
8. Closing Prayer

ST. DEMETRIOS FEAST DAY CELEBRATION!



Our celebration for St. Demetrios will begin on Saturday, October 25 at 6 pm with Vespers in our Church. Clergy from all over the Metropolis will be joining us. A reception will follow.

On Sunday October 26, our community will come together to celebrate the memory of our Patron Saint, St. Demetrios. His

Eminence Metropolitan Methodios will be with us to celebrate the Divine Liturgy and the Metropolis of Boston Choir Federation will sing the Divine Liturgy. It will be a joyous celebration! After Liturgy, the parish will be hosting a luncheon in honor of this remarkable Saint and our beautiful community. Please join us!

ST. DEMETRIOS CHOIR AND ANNUAL FEDERATION CONFERENCE

On Friday, October 24 through Sunday, October 26, the St. Demetrios Parish will host two very special events: the Feast Day of the Church and the 2014 Metropolis of Boston Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians Annual Conference. The Church Music Federation convenes annually at different locations throughout the Metropolis to learn new music and how to better serve our respective communities.

This year, the participants of the Conference will sing the music of Presbytera Anna Gallos, wife of the late Reverend Father George Gallos, who served the St. Demetrios Parish as Presbyter from 1965-1975. Presbytera Anna was very active with the Junior Choir, Greek School and Church School.

The Conference begins Friday, October 24 and continues throughout the day Saturday, October 25 with rehearsals and workshops, followed by the St. Demetrios Vespers Service at 6:00 pm. On October 26, Saint Demetrios Sunday, the combined choirs will sing the Liturgical Music composed by Presbytera Gallos during the Divine Liturgy, officiated by His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios.

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, October 26 to hear the inspiring music of Presbytera Anna Gallos and support the efforts of the Choir Federation and the St. Demetrios Choir.

WELCOME VINNY!



We want to officially welcome our new Pastoral Assistant, Vincent Minucci, or Vinnie, who will be working to organize programs for our youth and coordinate ministries with Fr. Nick. Vincent is originally from New York and a graduate of Hellenic College (2009) and Holy Cross (2012). While at the Seminary, Vinnie was the

Program Director of the Sonia Belcher's HCHC Admission Ambassadors, a group that focused on running Youth Retreats across the country and promoting the school. After graduating Holy Cross, Vinnie worked at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America in New York City as the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Direct Archdiocesan District. Vinnie was recently married to his wife, Nadia, who holds her Science Doctorate and is currently working at Harvard School of Public Health. Nadia is excited to get involved and assist in coaching Girls Basketball!

Vinnie has a passion for Summer Camp and has spent many memorable summers at Camp Saint Paul in Litchfield, CT. He is eager and excited to work with all the great people of St. Demetrios and is truly humbled by and grateful for the warm welcome he has received here at St. Demetrios. Vinnie can be reached by email at vminucci@stdemetriosweston.org or by calling the church office.



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

We invite you to come and visit the parish library and see how much we have grown thanks to the recent donations from our parishioners. The library is open every Sunday after Liturgy and Monday through Friday from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. As outlined in the Library Policies and Procedures please fill out both cards and leave the orange card in the metal box. Date is the month and year when you borrow the book. This will help us to keep track of our books.

RECENT DONATIONS:

Papas' Greece, by Tessa and Bill Papas

An affectionate, humorous look at life in Greece during the seventies.

Greece Observed, by Andre Barret

A collection of unforgettable memories throughout Greece and its islands. In addition, there are itineraries and tips for the visitor.

These books have been set aside on our Recommendation Shelf. They need to be returned within two weeks. To renew, please contact Cindi Dabrowski at 508.881.6598.

Important! Please check for books that you may have forgotten to return. We have several cards which indicate that books were checked out but never returned. For the library to function successfully, we need everyone's cooperation.

Remember, this library is for you and your family.

GROUND BLESSING AT ST. NICHOLAS, NYC



A Ground Blessing ceremony for the St. Nicholas National Shrine at the World Trade Center in New York City is set for Saturday, October 18 at 12:00 pm. The ceremony will include a combined prayer service of blessing the site, a doxology (a service of thanksgiving) and a memorial service for the victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The small Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Nicholas, which was established in 1916, was completely obliterated on September 11 when the South Tower fell. The new Saint Nicholas National Shrine will be rebuilt only a short distance

away at 130 Liberty Street, overlooking the 9/11 Memorial.

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America will preside at the historic event with the participation of the hierarchs of the Holy Eparchial Synod of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. It will be attended by dignitaries and officials of the City of New York, officials of the States of New York and New Jersey, chaplains and interfaith representatives, family members of victims of 9/11, representatives of Archdiocese institutions and organizations and many faithful Orthodox Christians.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers were generously donated by the following parishioners:

September 7

Cindi Dabrowski, in loving memory of her husband, Joseph.

September 28

Jane Bouyoukas, in loving memory of her husband, Pete.



WEDDINGS



Ryan Joyce and Pamela Charpie were united in marriage on Saturday, August 30. The sponsor was Robert Charpie.

Marwan Awad and Lilian Chryssis were united in marriage on Sunday, September 21. The sponsor was Eleftheria Kekaki.

Mark Gefteas and Estelle Houde were united in marriage on Saturday, September 27. The sponsor was Michael Gefteas.

CHRISMATION

Erica Marken on September 21st.

FUNERALS

James Atsales of Charlestown, September 2.

Despina Pantos of Newton, September 19.

May their memory be eternal!

ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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