




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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Dear Parishioners,

Christos Anesti- Alithos Anesti!

***"This is the day of Resurrection; let us be radiant for the festival, and let us embrace one another... Let us forgive all things on this the day of the Resurrection."
(Doxastikon of Pascha)***

Some forty days ago we all embarked on a Lenten journey that would ultimately bring us to an empty tomb that could not contain the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. When we started our journey our guiding principle was to repent asking for forgiveness and to recall what Christ has offered to secure our Salvation. He destroyed death, our mortal enemy, by His death and through His resurrection granted us forgiveness and once again brought us into union with Himself.

Now, having lived through that experience we have come to our destination- Pascha- an oasis of infinite joy, promise and love. No matter to what degree we have participated during this Lenten season, as St. John Chrysostom reminds us, the invitation is offered to all. Whether our efforts begun the first day of Lent, during the few days of Holy week or at the eleventh hour on Pascha night- even if we came but for a few minutes, we are all invited to celebrate without exception the **victory over death** through our Risen Lord. It is because of His Resurrection that we have all been set free and the possibility of forgiveness, of healing and abundant and eternal life, is made manifest through God's plan to reconcile us to Himself and to one another.

There is no greater gift and love for humankind than the voluntary Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection of God's Son, Jesus. St. John Chrysostom's Homily on Pascha night captures the Spirit of this sacred and unending feast:

"Christ is Risen and the angels rejoice! Christ is Risen and life found freedom! Christ is Risen and there is no corpse in the grave! For Christ, being raised from the dead, has become the first fruits of those who sleep. To Him be glory and might forever and ever."

May Our Risen Lord fill each of your hearts with the joy and light of His Resurrection as you greet one another with love, forgiveness and humility proclaiming:

Christ is Risen- Truly He is Risen!

Christos Anesti- Alithos Anesti!

With Love in Our Risen Lord,

Fr. Nick

SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

May 1

Great and Holy Pascha

May 8

Sunday of Thomas, Mother's Day

May 15

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearers

May 22

Sunday of the Paralytic

May 29

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Orthros, 9 am; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 am

Theotokos of the Life Giving Spring, Zodochos Pege, May 6

Mid-Pentecost, May 25

**In case you were wondering how others from around the world say
Christ is Risen:**

Albanian Krishti u Ungjall Vertet Unjal!

Arabic Al Massih Qam! Haken Qam!

Armenian Krisdos hanyav ee merelotz! Orhnyal eh harootiunun Krisdosee!

Bulgarian Hristos Voskrese! Vo Istina Voskrese!

Cantonese Gaydolk folkwoot leew! Ta koksut folkwoot leew!

English Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen!

French Le Christ est Ressuscite! En Verite Il est Ressuscite!

German Christus ist Erstanden! Er ist Wahrhaftig Erstanden!

Greek Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

Italian Cristo `e Risorto! Veramente `e Risorto!

Japanese Harisutosu fukkatsu! Jitsu ni fukkatsu!

Latin Christus Resurrexit! Vere Resurrexit!

Mandarin Jidu fuhuo-le! Ta qeshi fuhuo-le!

Romanian Hristos a Inviat! Adevarat a Inviat!

Russian Khristos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!

Serbian Hristos Voskrese! Vaistinu Voskrese!

Spanish ¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡En verdad ha resucitado!

Swahili Kristo Amefufukka! Kweli Amefufukka!

Turkish Hristos Diril-di! Hakikaten Diril-di!

Ukrainian Khristos Voskres! Voistinu Voskres!

St. George the Trophy Bearer- April 23rd

The great martyr George was the son of wealthy and pious parents, who raised him in the Christian faith. He was born in the city of Beirut at the foot of the Lebanese mountains.

Having entered military service, George quickly attained the rank of millenary, an officer in the Roman army in charge of a thousand or more soldiers, Saint George became a favorite of the Emperor Diocletian.



Diocletian was a talented ruler, but a fanatical adherent of the Roman gods. Having set for himself the goal of reviving dying paganism in the Roman Empire, he went down in history as one of the cruelest persecutors of Christians.

Once, when he heard in a court the inhuman sentence concerning the annihilation of Christians, St. George became inflamed with compassion for them. Foreseeing that sufferings were also awaiting him, George distributed his property to the poor, freed his slaves, appeared before Diocletian and, having revealed himself as a Christian, denounced him for cruelty and injustice. George's speech was full of powerful and convincing objections against the imperial order to persecute Christians.

After futile persuasions to deny Christ, the Emperor ordered that the saint be subjected to various tortures, but St. George manfully endured the sufferings and glorified the Lord. He was ultimately beheaded in 303 AD.

The relics of St. George the Trophy bearer were placed in the Palestinian city of Lydda, in the church that bears his name, while his head was preserved in Rome, in the church that is also dedicated to him.

On icons, the great martyr George is depicted sitting on a white horse and smiting a dragon with a spear. This depiction is based on tradition and relates to the posthumous miracles of the holy great martyr George. It is said that not far from the place where Saint George was born in the city of Beirut, lived a dragon which frequently devoured people. What kind of beast that was, a python, crocodile or large lizard is not known.

In order to appease the wrath of that dragon, the superstitious inhabitants began regularly giving up to it a youth or maiden to be eaten.

Once, the beast began to approach a sacrifice when suddenly a radiant youth appeared on a white horse smote the dragon with a spear and saved the child. This youth was the holy great martyr George. By such a miraculous appearance he caused the extermination of youths and maidens to cease in the environs of Beirut and converted to Christ the inhabitants of that country, who until then were pagans.



BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

XRISTOS ANESTI! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Kristos Anesti

The Building Committee of St. Demetrios Church thanks you all for your profound generosity without which we simply would not be able to worship

together this sacred Pascha in our new church. We have come so far and it is at times like this we are reminded precisely why we have all made a sacrificial gift – just a small token in light of the steps taken by our Savior for which we are eternally grateful.

Recently, we had some brass work installed from Greece. The top of the baptismal font and the spinner of the analogion or chanter's stand.

Thank you from all of us, and my God bless you!



ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Fr. Nicholas Krommydas, Presbyter
Fr. Vincent Minucci, Presbyter
Nicholas Korderas, Sexton
Gina Pagonis, Parish Council President
Athena Kalyvas, Philoptochos President

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

St. Demetrios Inner-City Outreach, Peter Mitsakos
St. Nicholas Angel Tree, Nancy Agris 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, Elaine Ward
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, Fr. Vincent Minucci
JR. GOYA, Jill Kovatsis
Greek Folk Dancing, Margaret Talmers
Greek Language School, Avra Parpos
HOPE, Diana Katsikaris
JOY, Fr. Vincent Minucci
OCF, Fr. Vincent Minucci
Young Professionals, Samuel Johnson





YOUTH

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young..."



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Xristos Anesti!

Thank you to all who volunteered and participated in the many Holy Week activities sponsored by the Church School.

May	Sixth grade Bulletin Board
May 1	Pascha—Agape Service Readers—Family Worship
May 8	Church School Classes; Church School Staff Mtg
May 15	Church School Classes
May 22	Church School Classes
May 29	Family Worship

We are very proud of our very own Faith Cardoza for winning the Senior Division of the District Level Oratorical Festival. She will continue on to the Metropolis Level!!



ALTAR SERVERS

This year's Holy Week was another memorable one. We are thankful to our servers for their time, effort and dedication from Saturday of Lazarus all the way through Agape Sunday. We also wish to thank Mr. Spiro Loukos for once again providing our "Agape Feast." For more information on how to get involved with being an altar server please email Chris Kourlos at kourkat@comcast.net.



Greek Language & Cultural School



This year, the Greek School Graduation Celebration will be held on Friday, May 20 at 7 pm in the Church Hall. Parents, grandparents, and families are invited to attend and help us celebrate the many accomplishments of our Greek School students.

Before we splash into the summer season, our staff and teachers would like to thank all for helping to make this a successful school year. In particular, we appreciate the commitment our families, both parents and students, made to coming week-after-week to experience the richness our Greek heritage has to offer through its language and customs.

"The year has come to an end and it is time to say good-bye for now. We watched our children learn and grow and change from day to day. We hope that all the things we've done have helped in some small way. We hope to see you back in the fall as we leap into another exciting year of learning."

Kalo Kalokairi

HOPE

Monday, April 11th we once again gathered for HOPE! We had such a lovely time talking about Pascha! The children who attended did an excellent job completing their craft regarding Great and Holy Pascha. A clay empty tomb! We read a story about the miracle of Easter and talked about making our cross and had a yummy snack together. Both Father Vinnie and Miss Diana were thrilled with the enthusiasm and participation that the children had to offer to the group. It is with great excitement that the next HOPE meeting will be held **Monday May 9th, 4-5:15pm**. We are very blessed and fortunate to have Theophany School, an Orthodox Pre-K and Elementary School come and join us at our next gathering and lead some activities. All children ages 2-7 are welcome! We hope to see you there!



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

YOUTH

GOYA

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen! We had a beautiful and blessed Holy Week this April starting off with a Lock-In Retreat the night before Lazarus Saturday. We learned about stillness and prayer and performed a service project for people in hospice. We helped make palm crosses the next day and serve breakfast at the Communion Breakfast. On Good Friday we participated in the Church School retreat.

A PASCHAL RESOLUTION

We all use New Years Day as an opportunity for new beginnings: we make some resolutions, set some goals, and try to make the most of a fresh start.

Of course, we can set such a course at any time during the year, but there's something invigorating and inspiring about the newness of a new year. Things somehow feel more possible on January 1st than they do on June 1st or December 1st.

Yet what is new will eventually grow old. Though we may begin our resolutions with excitement, we eventually grow tired of them, and set them aside.

There is another way.

There is life in Christ. True life, true newness.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (1 Corinthians 5:17)

On the glorious day of Pascha, as we joyously proclaim that Christ is risen, we celebrate the beginning of something magnificent. Something beyond articulation.

We celebrate the reality of the resurrection, the reality of a world that will not pass away, the reality of a joy that will never be replaced by pain.

Use this as a chance to look forward, to grow into the person God made you to be. Allow yourself to be made new in Christ. Christ is Risen!

SUMMER 2016 PROGRAMS

Summer Camp :



Ionian Village

Summer Camp: Ionian Village

Session One: June 19 – July 8, 2016

Session Two: July 17 – August 5, 2016

Please call (212) 570-3536 or email ionian-village@goarch.org to be put on the waiting list.



Summer Camp : MBC 2016

Family Camp: June 29-July 3

Session 2: July 4-10

Session 3: July 11-17

Session 4: July 18-24

Session 5: July 25-31

Session 6: August 1-7

Get excited for another amazing summer at MBC! MBC offers three different types of ministry through one camp! One to youth (ages 8-18), one to families (all ages) and the third to campers with special needs through our Embracing Children Program. More information to follow! To register and for more information, go to www.mbcamp.org!

SAINTLY LIVES

STS. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN- MAY 21

This great and renowned sovereign of the Christians was the son of Constantius Chlorus and of the blessed Helen. A great and successful commander, he saw in the sky after midday, beneath the sun, a radiant pillar in the form of a cross with the words: "By this shalt thou conquer." The following night, our Lord Jesus Christ appeared to him in a dream and declared to him the power of the Cross and its significance. When he arose in the morning, he immediately ordered that a labarum be made (which is a banner or standard of victory over the enemy) in the form of a cross, and he inscribed on it the Name of Jesus Christ. The following day, Constantine entered Rome in triumph and was proclaimed Emperor of the West by the Senate. In 325 he gathered the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea, which he himself personally addressed.

As for his holy mother Helen, after her son had made the Faith of Christ triumphant throughout the Roman Empire, she undertook a journey to Jerusalem and found the Holy Cross on which our Lord was crucified. After this, Saint Helen, in her zeal to glorify Christ, erected churches in Jerusalem at the sites of the Crucifixion and Resurrection, in Bethlehem at the cave where our Saviour was born, another on the Mount of Olives whence He ascended into Heaven, and many others throughout the Holy Land, Cyprus, and elsewhere.





PHOTOS

Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday



PHOTOS



Senior Guild



Philoptochos Retreat & Koulourakia Baking



GOYA Lock-In



PHOTOS

Greek Independence Day Celebration



Join us for the
Peter James Condakes Memorial
Golf Tournament

Saint Demetrios Church



Monday
May 23, 2016
12:30 PM



Woodland Golf Club

1897 Washington Street
Auburndale, MA 02466

Registration/Lunch & Practice
10:30 am-12:15 pm
Best Ball/Scramble
12:30 pm
Dinner/Raffle & Auction
6:00-7:30 pm

For more information visit our **NEW** online registration and
Auction site at:

BidPal.net/pjcgolf

or
Anthony Marken at
agmarken1@comcast.net

Sunday of the Holy Cross



STEWARDSHIP & PHILOPTOCHOS



PHILOPTOCHOS

Dear Philoptochos Members,

Christ has Risen! Truly He has Risen! I hope that you had a blessed Pascha.

Thank you to the following for their tireless efforts in preparation of Holy Week and the Anastasi services.

Palm Sunday Bake Sale - Jane Kourtis and Presbytera Athanasia Papademetriou for organizing a very successful annual event. Thanks to all of our Parishioners who purchased baked goods for the Pascha celebration in their homes.

A very special thank you to Georgia Cosmopoulos and her group who baked the koulourakia, Georgia Mavro and team for the kourabiedes and to Jilma Meimaridis and Christina Booth who baked the tsourekia! We have such wonderful talent in our Parish!

Easter Egg Dyeing - Thank you to Joanne Charpie and her team members who worked together in preparing the beautiful Easter eggs for Anastasi. Thank you to Debbie Morakis and the ladies who wrapped the Easter eggs with the tulle on Holy Friday.

Thank you to Olga Bassett, Dorothy Sophocles and Ally Spilios and all who assisted in decorating our Epitaphio so beautifully for the Holy Friday services.

Care Ministry - Thank you to Valerie Wiegel and all who visited the homebound parishioners with Pascha baskets. It is so important to remember those who are not able to attend Church services.

Easter Lamb Raffle - Pam and Jenn Brody for their diligence in selling the lamb raffle chances and congratulations to the lucky winners!

Anna and Ted Ioannou

George Makris

May Lau

Georgia Mavro

Spiros

Ellen Giannacopoulos

Cynthia Camp

Upcoming Events

General Assembly Meeting - Wednesday, May 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Please attend this important meeting to vote on the charitable disbursements. In order to vote, you will be required to have your 2016 membership dues paid. Refreshments will be served.

Following the meeting, our parishioner, Matina Psychogeos will present her book, "English Words Deriving from the Greek Language" followed by a book signing. This Lexicon/Dictionary gives an accurate testimony to the influence and contribution of the Greek language to English. A portion of the book sale proceeds will benefit the Philoptochos.

We hope to see you at the General Assembly meeting. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the Philoptochos charities.

With love in Christ,

Athena Kalyvas, President

STEWARDSHIP

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I was getting lunch the other day and among the entrees being offered were slices of fried eggplant with melted cheese on top in a base of marinara sauce. They looked so fresh and delicious. I started to reach for them, but then stopped. I opened the Daily Reading app on my smart phone and read that it was a strict fast day. Instead of the eggplant, I went to the salad bar and loaded up on some healthy greens. I paused as I gathered my salad and thought about the strictures of our faith, about the beauty of being reminded to fast, about how I wouldn't even know to pause and take stock of my spiritual life if not for Christ's descent to earth and in that moment I was overwhelmed as I thought about how blessed I am to be a disciple of Christ.

I don't see fasting as a detriment, but as a stepping stone, as a small, personal sacrificial offering of gratitude for what was sacrificed for all of us. I believe the heart of stewardship is a grateful offering of who we are given joyfully to our Lord and Savior.

I pray that each of us makes the most of this Lenten period by pausing to reflect on how we may demonstrate more fully our gratitude for that which can never be repaid: eternal salvation. I know that I and the other members of the stewardship committee wish each and everyone of you peace and spiritual fulfillment during this most holy season of light, love and reflection. May God continue bless you all.

With love and best wishes in Christ,

John McVey

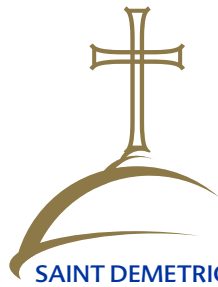
Stewardship Chair.



CALENDAR

MAY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Great and Holy Pascha Agape Vespers, 11 am	2 Bright Monday- Offices Closed	3 Greek School, 4-6 pm	4	5	6 Theotokos of the Life-Giving Font Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am	7 Learning Program
8 Sunday of Thomas Mother's Day	9 HOPE (ages 2-7), 4-5:15 pm	10 Greek School, 4-6 pm	11 Parish Council, 7 pm Philoptochos General Assembly, 7 pm	12 Choir Rehearsal, 7 pm	13	14
15 Sunday of the Myrrh- Bearers Parish General Assembly	16	17 Greek School, 4-6 pm	18	19	20 Greek School Graduation, 7 pm	21 Hellenic Nursing Home, 2 pm
22 Sunday of the Paralytic	23 Condakes Memorial Golf Tournament	24	25 Mid-Pentecost Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am Senior Guild Luncheon following	26	27	28
29 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman	30 Memorial Day- Offices Closed	31				



SAINT DEMETRIOS

GREEK TAVERNA

JUNE 11, 2016



Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
57 Brown Street • Weston, MA
Saturday, 3pm - 10pm
Free Admission • Food • Pastries
Greek Music • Kids Activities

GENERAL ASSEMBLY NOTICE



A special General Assembly will be held on May 15th, 2016 immediately following the Liturgy. The assembly's agenda consists of one item and related matters namely; renewal of our existing mortgage which expires on June 30th, 2016, an update on the building project and additional necessary maintenance in both the new and old buildings. Your presence and participation are very important so please plan to attend.



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIOR GUILD

The next meeting of the Senior Guild is May 25th. The Senior Guild proudly presents Joanne Koenig Coste, a world renowned expert on Alzheimer's Disease (AD). Joanne will speak to us today about caring for patients with Alzheimer's Disease. Joanne would like you to ask questions of her during her presentation. Please tell your friends and family to join the Senior Guild in welcoming Joanne Coste to our St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church.

If anyone has any questions please contact Artemis Martakis @ (508) 785-0045. The Senior Guild hopes to see you there.

ST. DEMETRIOS BOOKSTORE

Now available are beautiful hand-made icons, including silk-screen productions and our St. Demetrios crosses in silver and gold. Also, there are many Lenten books, including "Introduction to St. Gregory Palamas by Fr. George Papademetriou and St. John Climacus: The Ladder of Divine Ascent.

ANNUAL MINISTRY AWARDS BANQUET

This year's representative from St. Demetrios to the Annual Metropolis Awards Banquet is Chris and Eugenia Kourlos, beloved parishioners, friends and stewards of our parish. We thank Chris and Eugenia for all that they've done for our parish, most especially their integral involvement in Philoptochos and Altar Boys. Congratulations! The banquet will be held at Lombardo's (6 Billings Street, Randolph, MA) on Sunday, June 12. Reception is at 5:30 pm with dinner at 6:30 pm. \$75 per person. Please contact the church office to reserve/organize a table.

BOOK OF THE MONTH

Praying with Icons by Jim Forest

Fascinating and beautiful, introduction to the tradition of icons with special emphasis on their function in the spiritual life. Provides a personal and practical guide to how one prays with icons. Also contains meditative reflections on some of the most typical icons. This book can be found in the recommendation shelf.

We have set aside this book in our Recommendation Shelf. If you need to keep this longer than two weeks, please contact Cindi Dabrowski at 508-881-6598. Other books on this subject can be found in section K

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.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers were generously donated by the following parishioners:

April 10

The Sotir Family in loving memory of Arthur Sotir.

April 17

Anita Hatzis, in loving memory of her husband, Thomas and the Malinowski Family in loving memory of Robert.



BAPTISMS

The daughter of James Fagan and Carol Charpie baptized on Saturday, April 16th, and named Cathryn Eve. The sponsor was Elizabeth Fidler.

The son of Jason Malinowski and Chelsea Allen was baptized on Saturday, April 16th, and named Andrew. The sponsor was Paige Malinowski.

The son of Alexander Christopher Chrysis and Lindsay Carol Brundt was baptized on Sunday, April 17th, and named Dylan George. The sponsor was Elizabeth Kalemos.

FUNERAL

Rita Dudziak, March 31

Loucas Prodromou, April 1

Mary Demos, April 1

May their memory be eternal!



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