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)

## ONTENTS

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## Fr. NICK'S MESSAGE

### **Dear Parishioners:**

There is no question that the pace of life has guickened both at work and at home. More and more is being added onto our plate and more is expected from us. Although we are told that in this era of iphones, voicemails, and emails our lives would be easier, we suspect otherwise. We also see this with our children's activities which often exhaust us and our resources, turn us into chauffeurs and activity coordinators. Managing our busy lives, worrying about tomorrow and overseeing the cares of this life can be truly challenging. The Lord knows this. He knows our needs and knows the challenges we face in our everyday lives. For this reason, He set a day for rest. The Lord's Day, the Sabbath, the Seventh Day, was set aside to rejuvenate the body and fill the soul. It is a day when we are to set aside the cares of life, as the beautiful hymn of the Divine Liturgy reminds us, and to focus on our relationship with God and each other. It is the one day the Lord has set aside to be fully present in Him, and we are invited to be with Him. Sunday worship and the Divine Liturgy are important ingredients toward realizing this goal. However, some feel that "going to church" is a chore and feel more "compelled" to go rather than in the spirit of the psalmist, be able to say, O Lord, I have loved the beauty of your house and the place where your glory dwells. We come to His house each Sunday to hear His word, to pray with others who share the faith, to receive and be reminded of His many blessings. If we come fully prepared, we will stand ready before Him asking that He stir our hearts as we commit our whole life to Christ, who now seeks to dwell within us through His Body and His Blood! What then are we missing when all that is said above never settles into our hearts and our minds? What benefit is gained when we arrive, sadly, at the last moment? How have, indeed, the cares of this life crowded out that **one needful thing**, the desire to be with God? We expect and ask so much from Him as we offer up our requests and prayers especially in times of trouble and need, yet He does not occupy the place of honor and priority that He truly deserves. I am the way and the truth and the life, He tells us. Is He really the way and the truth and the life for us? Perhaps this New Ecclesiastical Year, we can reclaim Sunday to be His day—the Lord's Day. Let us set aside the cares of this life and begin by coming to Church at the very beginning to experience what God desires of us, to Worship and Glorify Him. Let us not neglect what is most beneficial, most important to our souls, by choosing the fleeting and material over the eternal and spiritual. Only God's Presence can help us do that.

With Love in Our Lord,

Fr. Nick

# LITURGICALSCHEDULE

# SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

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

September 4, 11th Sunday of Matthew

September 11, Sunday Before the Holy Cross

September 18, Sunday After the Holy Cross

September 25, 1st Sunday of Luke

MIDWEEK SERVICES
ORTHROS 9; DIVINE LITURGY 9:30

September 8, Nativity of the Theotokos

September 14, Exaltation of the Holy Cross

**PARAKLESIS** 

September 14 (6 pm), September 28 (10 am)

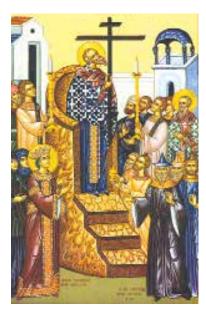
# **Monthly Paraklesis Services**

Beginning this
September, we will be
offering Paraklesis on the
2nd Wednesday of every
month at 6 pm and on
the 4th Wednesday of
every month at 10 am.
We hope you will join us
as we sing this beautiful
service to the Theotokos



### THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS- SEPT. 14TH

For over 1900 years the cross has been a beloved symbol for the believing Christian. We view the cross in two ways. It is, first of all, a sign of Christ's love for us, for it reveals the extent of his suffering and the stark reality of death for our sakes. St Paul speaks of Jesus humbling himself: "...and (He) became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." This is to say, Christ accepted the most



extreme form of suffering and death. Could there be a greater display of love and sacrifice than to live for man and then die for him by Crucifixion?

In the ancient world, crucifixion was the most horrible form of capital punishment; it was used only for the worst criminals. Who can describe the physical pain of hanging on the cross? Who can describe the spiritual pain in those darkest hours? It is no wonder that, upon the cross, He cried out to His Father, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"

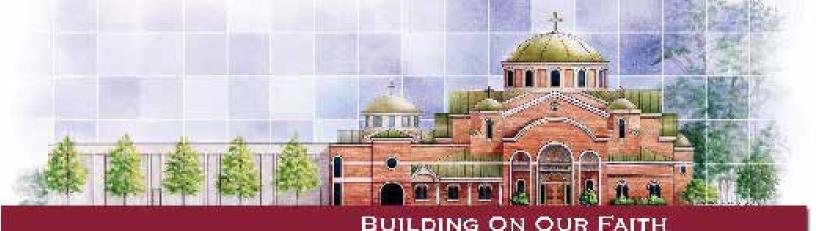
The Cross is, secondly, intimately connected to our own lives. Orthodox Christians must never associate the cross only with Christ, for there is a cross for every believer in the Lord. "Whosoever will come after Me," Christ said, "let him take up his cross, and deny himself and follow Me." So, there is a cross for each of us.

Now it is one thing to glorify and praise the cross as a symbol of Christ's great love and devotion, but it is another thing to accept the cross as central to our daily lives. This is precisely what the cross must be for us — a way of life. For us, to come into the world and be baptized is to become a cross-bearer.

"Save, O Lord Your people and bless Your inheritance; grant victory to the faithful against the adversaries of the Faith. And protect your people, by the power of Your Cross."

—Hymn of the Elevation of the Holy Cross

THE VINE: SEPTEMBER 2016



### **NEW BUILDING UPDATE**

We have had a tremendously productive and busy summer! In our beautiful church, we have seen many of the mosaic ornamental pieces that adorn our marble fixtures installed. The large mosaic arch on the iconostasio has been installed and we eagerly await the rest of the iconostasio to be completed.



57 Brown St. Weston, MA 02493 (781) 237-8612 (fax)

www.stdemetriosweston.org

# **OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**

Marianne Cambas

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

Fr. Nicholas Krommydas, Pastor Fr. Vincent Minucci, Associate Pastor **Marianne Cambas, Office Administrator** 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 Savage

Hospitality/Fellowship Hour, St. Demetrios Philoptochos **Library**, Čindi Dabrowski

**Orthodox Life Series**, James Skedros Outreach and Evangelism, Stacev 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**, Susan Kourtis 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



In our classroom building, we have repainted the walls, put in new carpets and updated the light fixtures in an effort to modernize and update our children's learning space. We know that our Church school, Greek school and youth programs will truly benefit from this update.

We are grateful for the support of you, our faithful stewards of St. Demetrios. Without your support, none of this would be possible. We wish you all a blessed start to this new Ecclesiastical Year!





# CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

We look forward to the upcoming Church School year. Classes begin on Sunday, September 11th at 9:30 a.m. with the start of the Divine Liturgy.

A productive Church School program must incorporate the Divine Liturgy and so we pray and ask that all our students make every effort to arrive by the start of the Liturgy.

During the Ministry Fair, there will be an opportunity to register any new student(s) and/or update parent/student contact information. Please stop by so we can meet. There will be a calendar of events and information to take home.

We would like to thank our teachers for their devotion and commitment to our youth and to the parents for their continued support. We look forward to a wonderful academic year together.

## Upcoming Dates:

September 11 First Day of Church School
September 18 Church School Classes
September 25 Church School Classes



# **GREEK DANCING**

Greek dancing for children in grades 1-12 will be starting up this fall! We offer three different class levels, and meet twice a month from 11:45AM. - 12:45PM.

Sign up at our ministry fair table, or email Margaret Talmers at Margaret.e.talmers@gmail.com with questions.

### A PRAYER FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of children. Please watch over him/her (name) as they go back to school this year.

Keep them safe every day.

Help them to remember that you are right there with them in the halls and classroom.

Help them soak up good knowledge and to dismiss any negative or worldly messages they may hear. Help them treat others with kindness and respect and to guard their hearts with the armor of Your Word.

Give them joy and peace as they put their trust in you.

Amen.



## Orthodox Christian Fellowship

OCF is a campus ministry program that reaches out to our college students throughout the nation. Over 40,000 Orthodox students are enrolled in colleges and universities and it is OCF's goal to keep them connected and active in Christ's Holy Church. Priests, lay leaders and students work together to assist new college students in making the transition from high school to college through fruitful fellowship, community events, group discussions, and the sacramental and liturgical life they have known from home. For more information on OCF's mission and ministries, please visit their website www.ocf.net.

If you know of any college students new to the area, or if your child has left the St. Demetrios area and gone off to college, please assist us by sending their contact info (email address, phone number, campus mail address etc.) to Fr. Vincent by email: frvincent@ stdemetriosweston.org. Thank you!



# **GOYA NEWS**

Hello GOYAns and Parents!

My name is Susan Kourtis, and I will be a GOYA advisor this year, organizing and running events. We'll be kicking off this year of GOYA with our Annual Car Wash on Sunday, September 18 during the Welcome Back BBQ. Come and get your car washed by our GOYAns while you enjoy fellowship with others! This year in GOYA, we will be holding a monthly meeting to update members and plan future events. The meetings will be held after Sunday School in the High School Sunday School room. The first meeting will be on **Sunday**, **September 25**. We hope to see you there! We are praying for an exciting year growing together in Christ. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask! My email is susanathkourtisib@ verizon.net.

# Greek language & cultural School



"Let's join together as the new year begins ... We'll share and be kind as we work and play, and our friendships will grow with each passing day."

What a wonderful feeling, the first day of school is just around the corner! Father Nick, Father Vincent, and the staff of the St. Demetrios Greek Language & Cultural School are excited to welcome you back to school and an academic year full of exciting and enriching lessons and activities.

Please mark your calendar with these important dates:

Sunday, 9/11 Registration, following Liturgy in the Church Hall

Tuesday, 9/13 Registration, Agiasmos Service, Open House, and Social, 4 - 6 pm

In addition, registration will also be held the remaining Sundays in September following Liturgy.

All are welcome. Please note, we welcome 4-year old children to participate in the Pre-Kindergarten program.

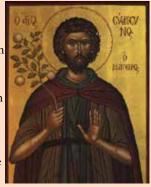
For additional information about our Greek School program, please call the Church Office at 781-237-5561 or Avra Parpos at 508-875-2103.

\*Classes begin at 4 pm.

### **SAINTLY LIVES**

### EUPHROSYNOS THE COOK, COMMEMORATED SEPT. 11

St. Euphrosynos lived as an ordinary monk in the 9th century and was very simple and faithful, humbly serving as the cook of the monastery in which he lived. One night the spiritual father of that monastery dreamt that he was in Paradise where he was surprised to see St. Euphrosynos, who gave him three beautiful apples from a tree there. When he awoke, he saw the three apples lying on his pillow much to his amazement. They were very fragrant. Rushing to St. Euphrosynos, he asked him where he had been last night, and the saint said, "where you were, Father." Before this, no one had paid attention or given respect to the cook in that monastery, but often the opposite. When the spiritual father told the other monks about the holiness of St. Euphrosynos, which he had just discovered, St. Euphrosynos fled the monastery into the desert for the rest of his life, fearing the praise of men. May this humble servant of God teach us by his example and by his prayers to seek the Heavenly Kingdom first, and live humbly serving our brothers or sisters gladly, until Heavenly fruit grows in us. St. Euphrosynos is the patron saint of chefs and cooks.



# PHOTOS AND MORE!













Classroom Renovations





THE VINE: SEPTEMBER 2016

### HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN METHODIOS INVITES YOU TO THE

# **OPEN HOUSE**

# AT THE ST. METHODIOS FAITH AND HERITAGE CENTER

# SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17



FESTIVITIES INCLUDE:

8:30 AM - ORTHROS

9:30 AM - DIVINE LITURGY

FOLLOWED BY:

THE "BLESSING OF THE WATERS" SERVICE & DIVING FOR THE CROSS AT THE LAKEFRONT

DEDICATION AND BLESSING OF THE NEW CABINS, ALPHA OMEGA SOCCER FIELD, AND OPEN AIR PAVILION

BARBEQUE PICNIC LUNCH

CANOE RIDES, BASKETBALL, AND MUCH MORE!! St. Demetrios has chartered a bus to bring members of our community up to the open house. If you are interested, please contact Marianne in the front office (781-237-5561 or office@stdemetriosweston.





FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
THE METROPOLIS OF BOSTON
AT 617-277-4742 OR
METROPOLIS@BOSTON.GOARCH.ORG

RSVP AT: WWW.BOSTON.GOARCH.ORG

# CALENDAR

# SEPTEMBER 2016

SUNDAY	Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 11th Sunday of Matthew	5 Labor Day Church offices closed	6	7 Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1 pm	8 Navivity of the Theotokos Orthros 9 am Divine Liturygy 9:30 am Senior Guild Luncheon	9	10 Agape Prayer Group, 8:30 am
Sunday before the Holy Cross Ministry Fair	12	13 Greek School, 4-6 pm	Exaltation of the Holy Cross Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am Paraklesis, 6 pm  Parish Council, 7 pm	15	16	St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center Open House  Nursing Home
SundayAfter the Holy Cross Ministry Fair Welcome Back BBQ GOYA Car Wash	19	20 Greek School, 4-6 pm	21 Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1 pm	22	23 Agape Prayer Group, 5:30 pm	24
25 1st Sunday of Luke Ministry Fair GOYA Meeting	26	Greek School, 4-6 pm	28 Paraklesis, 10 am	29	30	

# STEWARDSHIP & PHILOPTOCHOS

## **PHILOPTOCHOS**

Dear Philoptochos Members,

I hope that you had a wonderful summer with family and friends. Now, it is time to re-group and begin the new ecclesiastical year so that we can continue the mission of helping the vulnerable and disadvantaged.

The Saint Demetrios Philoptochos is involved in many philanthropic causes including some of the following charities: for the National Philoptochos - St. Basil's Academy and International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), for the Metropolis of Boston - the Philoxenia House and Saint Methodios Faith and Heritage Center, to the local community providing assistance to the Neighborhood Brigade, Wayside Youth and Family Support Network and Second Step of Newton.

Please contact Eugenia Kourlos at ekourlos@comcast.net or (508) 735-8866 if you are interested in membership information.

### Here are a few of the events scheduled this fall.

DATE TO BE CONFIRMED: Rev. Father Theodore Barbas, Chancellor/ Metropolis of Boston will speak on Project Mexico. All Parishioners are invited. More information to follow.

November – Veterans Day Speaker date and speaker to be confirmed.

Wednesday, November 30, 2016 – Matina Psyhogeos 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 our chapter. All parishioners are invited to attend.

Additionally, on Saturday, September 17, 2016 an Open House at the St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center. Orthos: 8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy: 9:30 a.m. There will be a memorial service in memory of our beloved parishioner and Philoptochos member, Sophia Nibi. Many other fun activities throughout the day. If you are able to attend, RSVP at http://www.boston.goarch.org.

The Saint Demetrios Philoptochos is grateful for your continued love and compassion for those in need and look forward to seeing you soon.

With love in Christ, Athena Kalyvas, President

### **STEWARDSHIP**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome back! The Stewardship Committee wishes you the very best as our Liturgical year begins anew. We hope that your summer has been refreshing and that you have had opportunities to get away from the everyday of life for vacationing and for spending more quality time with your families and friends. We also hope that you have had more time for meditation, contemplation and prayer. Through these three practices of faith we are given ways of knowing God's Love and Guidance in our lives on a daily basis.

When we consider our lives, where and how we live, we feel blessed. God has given us opportunities to advance ourselves in so many ways. We are truly blessed. Let us also remember that there are opportunities readily available in our Church: opportunities to make new friends; opportunities to join new ministries; opportunities to increase our faith and the bounty that is Christ. We are truly blessed.

Many of us look at January as the time for new resolutions, but for us as Orthodox Christians, it is when our Liturgical year begins in September for new resolutions. Now, we have the opportunity to try something new. Our ministries are always welcoming and always filled with loving and kind parishioners who would relish the opportunity to share time with you. Please consider the donation of your time as the most precious gift you can give to God and His Church. Time is the one thing we cannot make more of; therefore we donate our time, we are donating that which is our greatest and most precious gift from our Lord and Savior. It is a treasure without measure and such as it holds the key to all of His bounty.

With love and best wishes in Christ, The Stewardship Committee

# NEWS & EVENTS

# EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SENIOR GUILD

Dear Senior Guild Members,

The Senior Guild will be having their firest meeting on September 8, 2016 (The Nativity of the Theotokos) following the Divine Liturgy. The Senior Guild will discuss the December Event.

The Senior Guild will be going to the St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center on September 17, 2016 for the Divine Liturgy with Metropolitan Methodios as the Officiant, and other activities.

The bus will leave St. Demetrios at 7:30 am, and arrive back at St. Demetrios at 5:00 pm. Please bring \$2.00 for the gratuity for the bus driver. The Senior Guild would appreciate as many Senior Guild Members to attend this important event. Please contact Artemis Martakis @ (508) 785-0045 with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

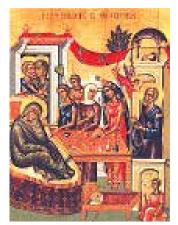
**Artemis Martakis** 

### **WELCOME BACK BBQ**

Our Parish Council invites all to this much anticipated yearly event. The BBQ will take place following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, September 18. Bring family, friends and fellow parishioners for terrific food and excellent company. Our children are encouraged to bring frisbees, balls, and other outdoor toys. While you eat, support our GOYAns by letting them spruce up your car or truck with their annual car wash. Spread the word and see you on the 18th!

### NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS- SEPT. 8TH

We hope you will join us on September 8, as we commemorate this truly joyous feast of our Church. The birth of the Virgin Mary marks a special moment in our spiritual history: the coming into the world- through her parents Joachim and Anna- of the amazing



woman who would play such a vital role in Christ coming into the world. She is our greatest saint, and her life reminds us of the importance of being obedient to the Holy Spirit and our own consciences. Despite her personal worries and concerns, it was her willingness to trust in God's plan that led to the birth of Christ, the great key to our salvation.

### **WELCOME NEW TENANTS!**

Our community of St. Demetrios proudly welcomes the Lifelong Learners Independent Collaborative (LLAIC) as new tenants at our community center. The LLAIC will be using our second floor facilities for their classes starting this month. It has over 300 members and as a thank you, they would like to offer **free** membership to the parishioners of St. Demetrios.

Membership entitles you to sign up for coursesfive weeks or ten weeks in length- and also allows you access to their extracurricular activities at no cost.

If you are interested in taking courses or learning more, visit their website at www.llaic.org or contact Georgia Gefteas at 781-431-7479

# NEWS&EVENTS

## **Community Trip to St. Methodios Center**

By the invitation of Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, please join us on September 17th for a day trip up to the St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center to see the camp grounds and participate in a day of activities. The bus will leave St. Demetrios at 7:30am and return around 5 pm. This is open to everyone!

Please contact Marianne in the front office to reserve your space today (office@stdemetriosweston.org or 781-237-5561).



## Event to Celebrate Longtime Parishioner Pam Manikas Washek Slated for October 18

Pam's Run, a road race and walk to honor the memory and legacy of Neighbor Brigade co-founder Pam Manikas Washek, will take place on Sunday, October 18, in Wayland. Pam was a long-time parishioner of St. Demetrios and the daughter of our former priest, Nicholas Manikas. The money raised from the event will support the organization's programs and expansion to meet the demand for its services. To register

for the walk/run, please visit **www.pamsrun.com**. Once you register, a fundraising page will be created for you automatically. So, please consider forming a team. If you are interested in corporate or private sponsorship opportunities, please contact Stephanie Lawrence at **Stephanie@neighborbrigade.org** or Joanna Manikas at **jmanikas@verizon.net**.





# NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE



#### FR. MANIKAS LIBRARY

During the Ministry Fair do not forget to see us in the library. The library is staffed every Sunday after Liturgy and Thursday mornings. However, you are invited to visit the library whenever the Church office is opened.

# Check these books in our recommendation shelf:

Our Hearts' True Home by Virginia Nieuwsma

Fourteen warm, inspiring stories of women discovering the Christian faith. Even though these women come from a wide variety of backgrounds, their journeys are infused with the love and mercy of God.

The Philokalia is "a collection of texts written between the 4th and 15th centuries by spiritual masters" of the Eastern Orthodox hesychast tradition. They were originally written for the guidance and instruction of monks in the practice of the contemplative life.

For English version check catalogue code Q. For Greek version check catalogue code FF.

As outlined in the Library Policies and Procedures, please fill out both cards and leave the orange card in the metal box (located in the Recommendation Shelf). This will help us to keep track of these books. If you need any book more than one month please contact Cindi Dabrowski at 508-881-6598.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

# ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers were generously donated by the following parishioners:

### August 7

In memory of Effie Anastos.

In memory of Helen K Georgilas, John Gregory (Panopoulos), and Alexis T. Alexander.

### August 14

Maria Vrattos in loving memory of her parents Helen and Steve.

### August 21

In memory of Constantine and Ruth Dadiskos.

The Bartzokis and Forbes families in loving memory of Nicholas.



# BAPTISMS

The daughter of Sam and Sophia Hawilla was baptized on Sunday, August 28th, and named Nicole. The sponsor was George Papadogiannis.

# FUNERALS

Georgios N. Trakadas, July 22

Eleni M. Kyriakis of Natick, August 1

May thier memory be eternal!

## WEDDING

Richard Crifasi and Nicole Santospago were united in marriage on Saturday, August 20th. The sponsor was Alyssa Robidoux.

Edwin Palmgren and Eleni Mandelenakis were united in marriage on Sunday, August 21st. The sponsor was Elena Grammatikakis.

Steven A Georgraklis and Giovanna A. Bortolamedi were united in marriage on Saturday, August 27. The sponsor was Gregory Georgaklis.



ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH