

# 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

Pascha is once again upon us and the Resurrection of Christ will be celebrated joyfully by Orthodox Christians throughout the world. Pascha- the **Passover** and hope of those who have been liberated from bondage of **sin** is indeed the **feast of feasts** for all Christians. Not Easter, a pagan holiday, but Pascha which is the death of death and the good news of Christ's Resurrection that has the power to transform lives and the world as well. As the **Passover** liberated the Hebrews from the bondage of Pharaoh, leading them to the Promise Land, so does Christ's Resurrection lead us to eternal life.

Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 15:20-24 speaks to us about the impact of Christ's Resurrection. **"Christ is risen from the dead as the fruits of those who have fallen asleep. As death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead also comes through man. Just as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ..."** Christ's Resurrection changed death from a fearsome end into a way that leads back to God. That is the essence of Pascha, the joy and hope we celebrate with much solemnity and jubilation each year.

Will others see Christ, our Risen Lord, in us, how we think, what we say and do? Will they recognize it in how we live and care for one another through the example set by Christ's sacrifice and Goodness? Will others discover not us necessarily but Christ Himself, who told us to **"let your light shine before people so they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven"** (Matthew 5:16) This may very well be the litmus test as to whether Pascha is a once a year fleeting celebration of many or the singular transformative event of the Resurrection that leads to newness of life. If our identity as Orthodox Christians and members of His Body, the Church, is rooted in a relationship with the Risen Christ, then the hymn of Pascha "As many of you were baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:27) will take on a new meaning- a new purpose – as He becomes alive in us!

May I ask that you **"rekindle the gift of God that is in you"** (2 Timothy 1:6) so that His glorious Resurrection may shine brightly through you. Let us not forget to strive and live Pascha each of the 364 days that follow, working with the humility, sacrifice, hope and love that Christ's blessed life offers from His empty tomb. Wishing you and your loved ones a Blessed Pascha.

With Love in our Risen Lord,

Fr. Nick



# LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

## SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

### SUNDAY SERVICES

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

April 2, Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

April 10, Palm Sunday

April 16, Great and Holy Pascha

April 23, Sunday of Thomas

April 30, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearers

Agape Vespers, 11 am

### MIDWEEK SERVICES (OUTSIDE OF HOLY WEEK SERVICES)

April 3- Great Compline, 6 pm

April 5- Presanctified Divine Liturgy, 6 pm at Taxiarchae in Watertown

April 21- Orthros & Liturgy for Zoodochos Pege/The Lifegiving Font, 9 am

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE APRIL 9TH-16TH

Palm Sunday Evening, April 9

Bridegroom Service, 7 pm

Holy Monday, April 10

Bridegroom Service, 7 pm

Holy Tuesday, April 11

Bridegroom Service & Hymn of Kassiani, 7 pm

Holy Wednesday, April 12

Presanctified Liturgy, 9 am

Holy Unction (Afternoon), 3:30 pm

Holy Unction (Evening), 7 pm

Holy Thursday, April 13

Vesperal Liturgy (The Mystical Supper), 8 am

The Passion of our Lord (Reading of 12 Gospels), 7pm

Holy Friday, April 14

The Royal Hours, 9 am

Apokathelosis (Taking down of Christ from the Cross), 3:30 pm

Epitaphios (The Lamentations), 7:30 pm

Holy Saturday, April 15

Divine Liturgy, 8 am

The Resurrection of our Lord (Pascha) Vigil begins, 11 pm

**Great and Holy Pascha, April 16**

Agape Vespers, 11 am

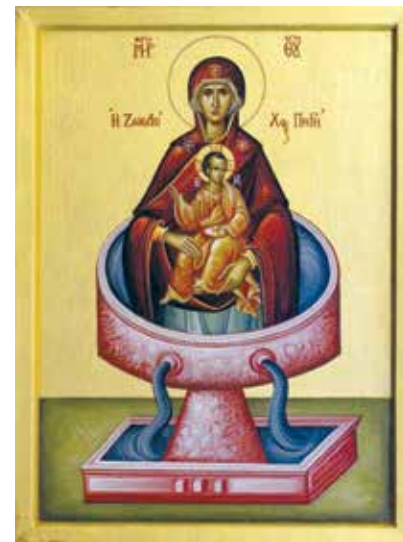


### LENTEN VISITS

If you have a homebound family member who would welcome a visit this Lenten season, please contact Fr. Nick or Fr. Vinnie before Holy Week to make arrangements.

### HOLY CONFESSION

Like the Prodigal Son, we have all been away from God on some level, and it is time to “come home” to our Father who is loving, compassionate and forgiving. Holy Confession is a powerful way to examine our lives and reflect on our spiritual progress, especially during this Lenten season. Please make arrangements with Fr. Nick as soon as possible. Father will be hearing confessions until Holy Tuesday.



### APOLYTIKION OF RENEWAL FRIDAY APRIL 21

*O Theotokos, your church is like the Garden of Paradise, since it pours out healings and cures like ever-living rivers. We come to it with faith, and we draw strength and eternal life from its water, through you who are the Spring that received Life himself. For you intercede with Christ our Savior, who was born from you, and you entreat Him to save our souls.*



## SUGGESTIONS FOR THE REMAINDER OF LENT AND HOLY WEEK

- Eat less and abstain from meats and dairy products at least on Wednesdays and Fridays, as a way of denying yourself and building physical and spiritual discipline.
- Repent daily and honestly, trying to eliminate certain sins and shortcomings from your life, with God's help.
- Read and pray, ideally on a daily basis. Concentrate on Holy Scripture (even a paragraph a day) and make the time to dialogue with God through prayer.
- Be more charitable with your time, talent and resources. Find someone who needs you and serve this person as you would Christ Himself.
- Attend worship services regularly, from Sunday Divine Liturgy to PreSanctified Liturgy and, especially, Holy Week. Our Lenten journey began on Clean Monday and leads to Pascha, the climax of this spiritual pilgrimage, when we reaffirm our profound belief that...

"Christ is Risen from the Dead, By Death Trampling Upon Death, Granting Life to Those in the Tombs!"



### 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**, Tom Camp

#### YOUTH

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

**GOYA**, Susan Kourtis  
**Greek Folk Dancing**, Margaret Talmers  
**Greek Language School**, Avra Parpos  
**HOPE**, Diana Katsikaris and Mina Johnson  
**JOY**, Fr. Vincent Minucci  
**OCF**, Fr. Vincent Minucci  
**Young Professionals**, Samuel Johnson



*The Mother cried aloud, when  
she saw her Son hanging on the  
Cross;  
The Maiden pierced to the heart,  
cried out fervently shedding tears.  
O Light of my eyes, my sweetest  
Child, how are You now covered in  
the grave?"*  
—Lamentations of Holy Friday  
Evening



*"Arise O God, and judge the earth;  
for You shall take all nations to  
Your inheritance."*  
—Divine Liturgy of Holy Saturday  
Morning





# YOUTH

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

## GOYA

Hello GOYAnS and Parents!

This month in GOYA we will holding our annual lock-in to mark the beginning of Holy Week will be held on Friday, April 7-Saturday, April 8. The lock-in will officially begin at 8pm on Friday, April 7 at the church. We would love for our GOYAnS to join us, with their families if they can, at 6:30pm that same night for Family First Friday which will then lead into the lock-in. The lock-in will include several sessions focused on Holy Week and Pascha, as well as some fun activities such as board games, basketball, etc. The lock-in will conclude with Divine Liturgy on the morning of Saturday, April 8 on the Saturday of Lazarus.

We hope to see you all there! Please RSVP if you will be able to attend. As always, please let us know if you have any questions at [susanathkourtisib@verizon.net](mailto:susanathkourtisib@verizon.net).



## YOUTH BASKETBALL



The Metropolis Basketball playoffs were held over the weekend of March 3rd. Due to the large number of teams this season, the games were held at Hellenic College, St. Vasilius in Peabody and at our own court here at St. Demetrios. It was a great weekend of exciting basketball. Watertown won the title in the Girls GOYA division, Andover won the Boys GOYA title and our St. Demetrios Team coached by Elias and James Tsiantoulas, won the middle school JOY division. We had a great time at the Metropolis awards Banquet which was held on March 18th at the Taxiarchae Church in Watertown.

## GREEK LANGUAGE & CULTURAL SCHOOL



On Saturday, March 25th, Grade 6 Teacher Youly Karanou organized a field trip to the Greek Consulate in Boston. The students and parents met with the Consul General, Mrs. Ifigenia Kanara, and enjoyed their visit as part of their Greek Independence Day social studies program.



On Sunday, March 26th after liturgy, the Greek School led by Avra Parpos celebrated Greek Independence Day and the Annunciation of the Theotokos in cooperation with the Greek Sunday Dancers led by Margaret Talmers. The children made their parents and community proud of them. Thank you to all of the staff, teachers, parents and volunteers who made this event a success.



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

# YOUTH



## CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

- April 2 Church School Classes; Oratorical Festival
- April 9 Palm Sunday – Family Worship
- April 12 Holy Wednesday – Afternoon Epistle Readers
- April 14 Holy Friday – Retreat; Flower Girls  
(2nd gr. in afternoon, 5th gr. in evening)
- April 16 Pascha – Agape Service Readers – Family Worship
- April 23 Church School Classes
- April 30 Church School Classes



**ORATORICAL FESTIVAL** - The Oratorical Festival for the Junior (grades 7-9) Division and Senior (grades 10-12) Division will take place on Sunday, April 2nd, during their scheduled class time. Students have already received information regarding the festival topics. Please encourage your child to participate

### HOLY WEEK CHURCH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

#### **Saturday, April 8th- SATURDAY OF LAZARUS**

##### **9:00 am –Liturgy and Palm Making**

All Church School students and families are invited to prepare Palms for Palm Sunday Service.

#### **Sunday, April 9th- PALM SUNDAY**

##### **Family Worship/No Classes**

#### **Wednesday, April 12th- HOLY WEDNESDAY**

We need students to read the Epistle (4th grade and up) for the afternoon service.

#### **Friday, April 14th- HOLY FRIDAY**

- There will be a Church School student retreat 11:30-3:00 p.m. Sign up by the Church entrance
- Second grade girls will participate in the afternoon procession.
- Fifth grade girls will participate in the evening procession.

#### **Sunday, April 16th - PASCHA – AGAPE SERVICE**

##### **Family Worship/No Classes**

We need foreign language readers (students and adults) to help read the Agape Service Gospel. Last year we were fortunate to have the Gospel read in Latin, Spanish, French, Arabic, German, and Chinese. If you are interested in reading a portion of the Gospel in a foreign language, please contact the Church School director, via email at [stdemetrioschurchschool@verizon.net](mailto:stdemetrioschurchschool@verizon.net).



## SUMMER 2017 PROGRAMS



### **Summer Camp: Ionian Village**

Session One: June 24-July 13, 2017  
Session Two: July 21-August 9, 2017  
Please call (212) 570-3536 or email [ionianvillage@goarch.org](mailto:ionianvillage@goarch.org) to be put on the waiting list.



### **Summer Camp : MBC 2017**

Session 1: July 3rd-July 9th  
Session 2: July 10th-July 16th  
Session 3: July 17th-July 23rd  
Session 4: July 24th- July 30th  
Session 5: July 31st-August 6th

## ALTAR SERVERS

Our servers are encouraged to attend the services during Holy Week and to arrive on time in order to vest appropriately. Contact Chris Kourlos with questions: [kourkat@comcast.net](mailto:kourkat@comcast.net).



## GREEK DANCING

### **St. Demetrios Dancers perform in Wellesley!**

On Wednesday, March 1st, students in our Greek dancing program performed at the Fiske Multicultural Festival, held at the Wellesley Middle School, to an enthusiastic crowd of Fiske Elementary School families. Mary Markis, Alexandra Papavassiliou, Paris, Katerina and Christina Fotiadis danced the well known Kalamatianos and Gaitanaki, a colorful dance featuring a wooden pole with brightly colored ribbons. Gaitanaki is associated with Apokries (οι Απόκριες), also known as Carnival, the period just before Great Lent begins.





# PHOTOS

## Orthodox Life



## Senior Guild Luncheon



## Sunday of Orthodoxy



## Greek School





# PHOTOS



## Lenten Services



## Basketball



## Philoptochos Lenten Retreat





# CALENDAR



## APRIL 2017



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>2- Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt</b>	3 Koulourakia Baking Great Compline, 6 pm	4 Koulourakia Baking	5 Presanctified Divine Liturgy AT Taxiarchae in Wassertown, 6 pm	6	7 Family First Friday, 6:30 pm  GOYA Lock-In, 8 pm	<b>8- Lazarus Saturday</b> Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30 am Communion Breakfast and Palm Cross Making
<b>9- Palm Sunday</b> Palm Sunday Luncheon Nymphios/Bridegroom Service, 7 pm	<b>10- Holy Monday</b> Nymphios/Bridegroom Service, 7 pm	<b>11- Holy Tuesday</b> Greek School, 4 pm Nymphios/Bridegroom Service, 7 pm	<b>12- Holy Wednesday</b> Presanctified Divine Liturgy, 9 am Holy Unction, 3:30 pm Holy Unction, 7pm	<b>13- Holy Thursday</b> Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil, 8 pm	<b>14- Holy Friday</b> Royal Hours, 9 am Church School Retreat, 11 am Apokathelosis/Descent from the Cross, 3:30 pm Lamentations, 7:30 pm	<b>15- Holy Saturday</b> First Resurrection Service, 8 am Anastasi Service, 11 pm
<b>16- Great and Holy Pascha</b> Agape Vespers, 11 am	17	18	19 Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1 pm	20 Choir Practice, 7 pm	<b>21- Zoodochos Pege/The Lifegiving Font</b>  Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am	22
<b>23- Sunday of Thomas</b>	24	25 Greek School, 4 pm	26	27	28 GOYA Dance, 6 pm	29 Evening of Greek Songs, 7 pm
<b>30- Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearers</b> Greek Independence Day Parade  Greek Dancing End of Year Party, 11:45 am						



# STEWARDSHIP & PHILOPTOCHOS



## PHILOPTOCHOS

Dear Philoptochos Members,

Thank you to the members that attended the Lenten Retreat at the St. Methodios Retreat Center. A very special thank you to Fr. Nick, Presbytera Elaine and Nikki Stournaras for organizing a very reflective and inspirational retreat.

### Upcoming Events:

**Palm Sunday Bake Sale** – Sunday, April 9

Buy your Easter breads and pastries for your family and friends at the Annual Bake Sale. Contact Jane Kourtis if you are available to prepare baked goods at (781) 363-6636 or jkourtis@comcast.net.

**Lamb Raffle** - The drawing of five legs of lamb will be held on Palm Sunday, April 9 after the Liturgy. See Pam Brody during the coffee hour to purchase your chances to win.

**An Evening of Greek Song in Concert** – Saturday, April 29, 2017. Join the Saint Demetrios Philoptochos for An Evening of Greek Song in Concert. A musical journey through Popular Songs, Rebetika, Laika and Traditional Folk Music featuring the Penny Muse Band. Tickets: \$50.00 per person. Reception: 7:00 p.m.

Performance: 8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Saint Demetrios Social Hall. For more information, contact Matina Pappas at mpappas@paphome.com or (617) 335-5593. All Proceeds Benefit the Saint Demetrios Philoptochos charities.

**Philoptochos Elections** - The Philoptochos General Assembly and elections of the board will be held on Wednesday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m. We welcome all members of the Philoptochos to participate in the work of this philanthropic organization by serving as a member of the board or on a standing committee. This is a wonderful opportunity to offer your talents to our Church and engage in fellowship with the women of our church family. Please contact: Amalie George (781-953-2493), Stephanie Skedros (978-760-3347) or Aida Gennis (508-650-3869) for more information.

**Annual Membership Drive** – Renew your 2017 membership and join the largest Christian women's organization - the Philoptochos. If you plan to vote at the May 17 General Assembly, you will be required to have your 2017 membership dues paid. For more information on joining the St. Christine Chapter, please contact Eugenia Kourlos at ekourlos@gmail.com or Athena Kalyvas at adkalyvas@gmail.com.

**Hosting Fellowship Coffee Hour** – Please contact Pam Brody at 781-864-5327 - Brodster52@yahoo.com or Eugenia Kourlos at 508-735-8866 or ekourlos@comcast.net if you would like to host coffee hour. What a great opportunity to meet and greet other Parishioners and assist with this very important Fellowship Hour!

### Philoptochos Supports the Mission Projects

Please remember that the Philoptochos is here to help the St. Demetrios Community members participating in any mission or service trip. Contact Jenn Brody at Brody.Jenn@gmail.com or 781-864-5032 with any questions or inquiries.

### Hellenic Nursing Home Visits

Pam Brody visits the Hellenic Nursing Home the third Saturday of every month. Contact Pam for more information. (781) 864-5327 or brodster52@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your continued support of the Philoptochos charities. We wish you a joyous Pascha.

With Love in Christ,  
Athena Kalyvas  
President

## STEWARDSHIP

Dear fellow stewards in Christ,

At our General Assembly meeting in January, we shared the Stewardship Committee's goals for the year, which are as follows:

- Develop a shared Mission and Vision statement for our Parish  
- A guide for all that we do and seek to do
- Improve our Church database so we can improve our communications with our Parishioners
- Encourage broader participation in our many Ministries
- Over time, increase the percentage of our total Parish expenditures that are funded through Stewardship

During the year, we will be updating you on our progress towards achieving our goals, and this is our first update.

**Develop Shared Mission and Vision Statement.** We are happy to report that, following considerable effort and collaboration among the leaders of our various ministries, our parish council members and our clergy, we have finalized the shared Mission and Vision Statement for our Parish.

### Our Mission

To preserve, practice and proclaim the Orthodox Christian Faith in order to glorify God, sanctify the faithful, enhance the spiritual life of our parishioners, grow our parish through baptism and chrismation, and support educational and philanthropic activities that foster our mission.

### Our Vision

For St. Demetrios to be a growing community full of love, faith and fellowship, in which:

- We strive to fulfill the message of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as handed down through the Apostles, our Orthodox Christian Faith, our Church fathers and traditions
- We all actively participate in the life of the Church and growth in the Faith
- We express our Faith and Christ's love through the offering of time, talent and treasure
- We connect and communicate within and outside the parish community to promote the Faith

We received numerous contributions from many of our ministry leaders and Parish Council members as part of this process, and we would like to sincerely thank each of them for their time, effort, and support. Their thoughtful input into creating our final parish Mission and Vision Statement has been invaluable.

*Keep on the look-out for new signage and other materials where we will be proudly displaying our shared Mission and Vision Statement!*

In Christ Jesus,  
Tom Camp  
Stewardship Committee Chairman  
tcamp63@gmail.com

## FR. MANIKAS LIBRARY

### We recommend:

*Bartholomew, Apostle and Visionary*, by: John Chryssavgis



This first comprehensive biography introduces a great contemporary apostle of Christ with his powerful message of reconciliation, peace, love, hope and ultimate redemption. We have set aside this book in our Recommendation Shelf. For similar books check out catalog M (Church and Byzantine History).

The Library is opened every Sunday after Divine Liturgy as well as Monday through Friday, 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM. 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.

We invite you to come and visit the library. Remember, this library is for you and your family. Check us out.

## ST. DEMETRIOS BOOKSTORE

New Lenten books are now available for adults and children for spiritual enlightenment. These are: *Great Lent* by A. Schmemmann, *Great Week and Pascha in the Greek Orthodox Church* by Fr. A. Calivas and *The Lenten Spring* by T. Hopko. There are also other new books for children: *Miracle of the Red Egg*, *Holy Week and Pascha* and *Heaven Meets Earth - Celebrating Pascha and the Twelve Feasts*.

Additionally, the bookstore has a variety of hand-made icons, crosses and other religious items that are excellent for gifts. Come and browse!

## SENIOR GUILD

Dear Senior Guild Members,

The next meeting of the Senior Guild is on April 21st (The Theotokos of the Life-Giving Font). There will be a Senior Guild Luncheon following The Divine Liturgy. We will discuss the June Event. If any Senior Guild Members have any questions please contact Artemis Martakis @ (508) 785-0045. The Senior Guild hopes to see you there.

Artemis Martakis

## PASCHA- AGAPE SERVICE- READERS NEEDED-

We need foreign language readers (students and adults) to help read the Agape Service Gospel. Last year we were fortunate to have the Gospel read in Latin, Spanish, French, Romanian, German, and Chinese. If you are interested in reading a portion of the Gospel in a foreign language, please contact the Church School director, via email at [stdemetrioschurchschool@verizon.net](mailto:stdemetrioschurchschool@verizon.net).

## PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE

Come get your tsourekia, koulorakia, and other Easter/Pascha goodies at this year's Philoptochos Palm Sunday Bake Sale! Due to a quick sell-out last year, we are preparing more breads and koulorakia to have enough for all.

Help is welcome at our baking workshops: Koulorakia Workshop: Monday and Tuesday, April 3 and 4, 9am – 3pm. You may come for all or part of the workshop; more help is needed later in the day. Tsourekia Workshop (for braiding only): Saturday of Lazarus (April 8), 12:00 pm. Homemade baked goods are also welcome. Please contact Jane Kourtis (781.363.6636) or Maria Katsikaris (781.248.9684) with any questions.



## PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIPS- DEADLINE APRIL 21

As you contemplate undergraduate or graduate school, plan to apply for the Philoptochos Scholarships which are offered each spring to honor young people throughout our community. Criteria reach across a broad spectrum of involvement from dedication to parish, love of the arts, academic achievement, service to others and more. For almost four decades, young people have been recognized with awards given in memory of some of our parish's most beloved former members. Applications may be obtained: 1) on the Philoptochos page of the parish website at: <http://www.stdemetriosweston.org/philoptochos/> by going to Resources & Scholarships; 2) by email request to Kathy Hamilton at [vlhakes@comcast.net](mailto:vlhakes@comcast.net) or 3) by calling the church office to have one mailed to you. Questions may be directed to Nancy Agris Savage at [NancyASavage@gmail.com](mailto:NancyASavage@gmail.com).



## THEOPHANY SCHOOL COMMUNITY MOVIE NIGHT

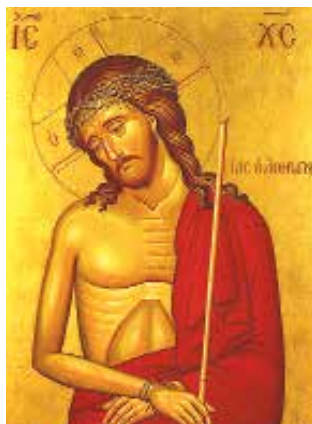
Calling all Families to join the Fun! Theophany School invites families to join a Fun Free Family Movie Night on Friday, April 21, 5-8 pm, at the School. In lieu of a traditional open house, the School is hosting a movie evening for all families, both current and prospective, interested in building fellowship with other families in the area and sharing and learning more about the School. Admission, food, and drink are free! Bring a sleeping bag or blanket, and enjoy the show! For more information, please contact Theophany School (781.444.3058), 754 Greendale Avenue, Needham, MA 02492.



# HOLY WEEK



## PALM SUNDAY, HOLY MONDAY & HOLY TUESDAY EVENING

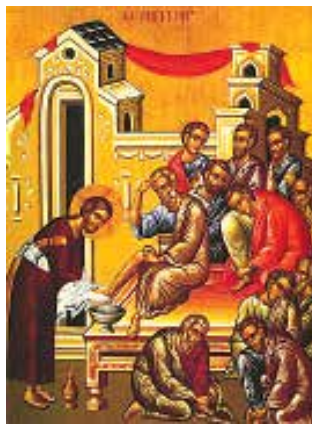


The first three days of Holy Week remind us of Christ's last instructions with his disciples. These teachings are remembered in the celebration of the Great Compline, Matins, Hours, and Liturgy during these days. The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts celebrated these days includes readings from Exodus, Job, and Matthew. The Matins services of the evenings of Palm Sunday, Holy Monday, and Holy Tuesday, anticipating the events of the next day, share a common theme. These Bridegroom Services are derived from the Parable of the Ten Virgins, which calls for preparedness at the Second Coming, for the "thief comes in the middle of the night." (Matt. 26:1-13)

## HOLY SATURDAY

Great and Holy Saturday Vespers and a Divine Liturgy of St. Basil are served, marked with readings of Psalms and Resurrection hymns that tell of Christ's descent into Hades, celebrated as the "First Resurrection" of Adam and the conquering of Death. It is appointed by the typikon to be celebrated in the afternoon, though it is served in the morning in many places. This service comes from the ancient liturgical tradition of the Church of Constantinople and was its primary Paschal service. The hymn "Arise O God" from the Psalms was the original primary Paschal hymn before "Christ is risen" came to take its place. Its place as the ancient Constantinopolitan Paschal celebration is what gives the service such a bright and resurrectional character.

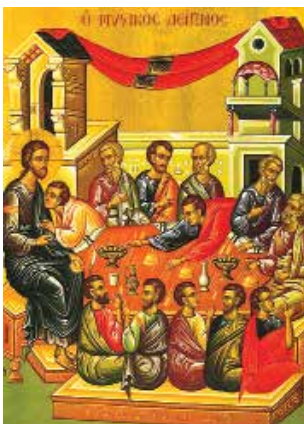
## HOLY WEDNESDAY



Within the past two centuries, Byzantine practice has developed to include the mystery of Holy Unction, which is celebrated on Holy Wednesday, commemorating Christ's anointing with myrrh. The service ends with the priest anointing the faithful with holy oil. The services appointed by the Typikon for the evening of Holy Wednesday recall that on this day Judas betrayed Christ, which led to the tradition from Apostolic times of fasting on Wednesday throughout the year. It also focuses on the Mystical Supper, which is celebrated in the liturgy of the following day.



## HOLY THURSDAY

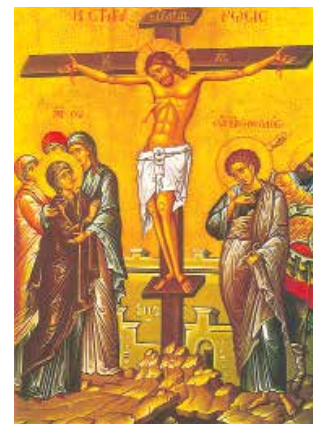


Holy Thursday begins with the celebration of vespers and the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil with a Reserved Eucharist in representation of the earthly presence of Christ realized at the Last Supper. In the evening, anticipating the Matins of Friday morning, the Holy Passion service of the reading of the Twelve Gospels is conducted. In these readings Christ's last instructions to his disciples are presented, as well as the prophecy of the drama of the Cross, Christ's prayer, and his new commandment.

## PASCHA

Pascha, the Feast of Feasts, as midnight approaches the priest taking a light from a vigil light within the altar passes the flame to the faithful for their candles while singing "Come ye and receive light from the unwaning life, and, glorify Christ, who arose from the dead." The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the center of the Orthodox Christian faith. To the Orthodox, the celebration of Pascha reveals the mystery of the eighth day. It is not merely an historical reenactment of the event of Christ's Resurrection. It is a way to experience the new creation of the world a taste of the new and unending day of the Kingdom of God. This new day is conveyed to the faithful in the length of the paschal services, in the repetition of the paschal order for all the services of Bright Week, and in the special paschal features retained in the services for the forty days until Ascension. Forty days are, as it were, treated as one day.

## HOLY FRIDAY



Great and Holy Friday begins with reading of the Royal Hours leading up to Vespers of Friday afternoon, at which time the removal of the Body of Christ from the Cross is commemorated. The priest removes the Body of Christ, the Epitaphios, from the Cross, wraps it in a white cloth and carries it into the altar. In an evening service, called the Lamentations at the Tomb, the priest carries the Epitaphios, the painted or embroidered cloth representation of Christ, from the altar around the church before placing it in the Sepulcher, a bier symbolizing the Tomb of Christ. This procession, with the faithful carrying lighted candles, represents Christ's descent into Hades.





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ALTAR FLOWERS

*Altar flowers were generously donated by  
the following parishioners:*



March 12: In loving memory Olga Prifti from her daughter Janet.  
From wife Vivian in loving memory of Lawrence Kreig.

March 19: In loving memory of Alexios from Angelica Giovannse.

March 26: From the family of Robert M. Malinowski for his birthday.

## BAPTISMS



The son of Manoli Stavroulakis and Nancy Rodrigues was baptized on Saturday, March 4th, and named Konstantinos. The sponsors were Ioanni Nash and Despina Fetfatsidis.

The son of Jason and Chelsea Malinowski was baptized on Saturday, March 25th, and named Bennett. The sponsor was Paige Malinowski.

## FUNERALS

Marion Vican Lucas of Weston, March 4  
Peter G. Drake of Osterville, March 13  
James N. Philopoulos of Canton, March 17

*May their memory be eternal!*



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