

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)

CONTENTS

Liturgical
 Schedule.....2

On the Holy
 Transfiguration.....3

Youth.....4-5

Photos.....6-7

Calendar.....8

Philoptochos
 & Stewardship.....9

News & Events.....10-11

Announcements.....12

FR. NICK'S MESSAGE

Family and Home Life Check List

Dear Parishioners,

There has been a proliferation of shows that show how to do just about everything around your home. Always, there is someone who has done this before standing by and who inspects the work to make sure that things are done properly. The inspector also provides a checklist so that the homeowner knows what has to be done and what codes need to be satisfied as the project moves towards completion.

Such a checklist also exists for every Christian home. This checklist is drawn from God's own admonition and His inspired Word. In addition to Scripture, we also have Christ's example, the Apostles actions and the Church and Saints who lived each day of their lives according to a "spiritual checklist" written on every faithful heart. As summer winds down and soon we will be getting read to resume our regular fall and winter schedule, let us ask ourselves where family spiritual priorities are for your family and where Christ and His Church fit into your home life. Ask these questions honestly and prayerfully to see whether or not you and your family live by these principles and what needs to be done to do so.

Check Sheet for Home Life:

- Is faith in God an essential element in home life? Are decisions in the home made in such a manner as to recognize God and to respect rights of each member? As parents, is our religious faith vital enough to be seen in everyday conduct? Do we, as parents, seek to lead our children to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior?

- Is provision made in the home for daily worship? Does the entire family attend church regularly? Do we permit houseguests to interfere with church attendance? Does the weather make any difference in our church attendance? Do we plan outings, athletic activities, and trips at hours which conflict with church services?

- Do we criticize church programs and its leaders in the presence of our children and friends? Do we invite friends, neighbors, and relatives to attend services with us and make special provision to encourage them to come? Do we make sincere effort to improve our talent for use in the kingdom of God? How Christian is our home?

Now that you have read your "Family and Home Checklist", what "renovations" and "projects" will we be doing and planning when fall comes? As the famous Home Depot slogan goes that certainly applies here- "You can do it... we can help".

With Love in the Lord,

Father Nick



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

August 6-Holy Transfiguration

August 13-10th Sunday of Matthew

August 20-11th Sunday of Matthew

August 27th-12th Sunday of Matthew

MIDWEEK SERVICES

August 2

Paraklesis, 6 pm

August 4

Paraklesis, 6 pm

August 5-

Great Vespers at Holy Transfiguration in Lowell, 7 pm

August 7

Paraklesis, 6 pm

August 9

Paraklesis, 6 pm

August 11

Paraklesis, 6 pm

August 14-

Great Vespers at the Dormition Church in Somerville, 7 pm

August 15-

Orthros & Divine Liturgy for the Dormition of the Theotokos, 9 am

August 29-

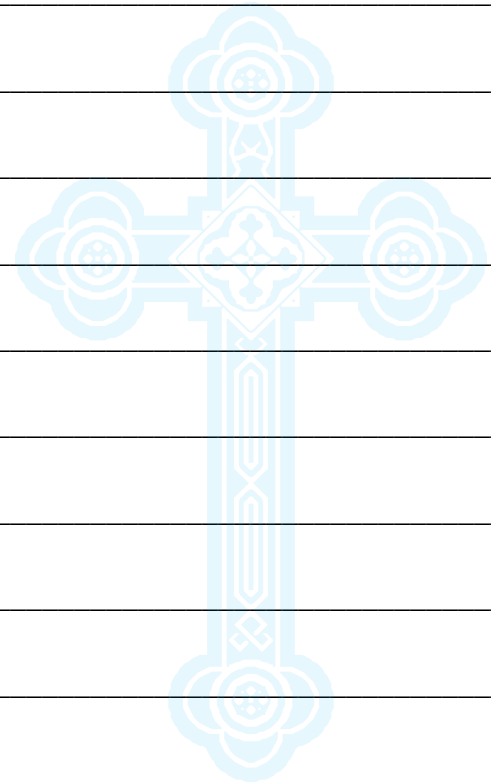
Orthros & Divine Liturgy for Beheading of St. John the Baptist, 9 am



UNDERSTANDING THE PARAKLESIS SERVICE

The Paraklesis to the Most Holy Theotokos is a supplicatory service chanted in Orthodox churches to honor the Theotokos and ask for her intercessions on behalf of the living. In fact, the faithful are invited to submit the names of loved ones in need of prayer, to be read during the services. Within its sublime poetry, the love and compassion between the Theotokos and Christ is invoked, as is the great mystery of the Incarnation. The service may be chanted during times of sorrow or spiritual need and also during the first 15 days of August, the Dormition Fast. It was composed in the 9th century but its content remains highly relevant. Throughout the Dormition period, we hope you will join us as often as possible for these unique services. They will offer you, and yours, great spiritual sustenance. **A listing form is available here and will also be found in the Narthex. Lists need only be submitted once to be read at each service.**

THE PARAKLESIS SERVICE



ON THE TRANSFIGURATION...



HOW TO TRANSFIGURE YOUR LIFE

The following article was borrowed from the Director of Y2AM (Youth and Young Adult Ministries) of our Archdiocese. It challenges us to look at the Transfiguration Event and Feast of our Lord and offers us opportunities and suggestions to be transformed, changed, and to grow. I hope you find it helpful.

On August 6th we celebrate the Transfiguration of the Lord. Yet it wasn't just Christ who changed on Mount Tabor.

The truth is far more challenging.

It's true, Christ was transfigured, revealing the glory of His divinity. Yet something also changed in His disciples. Something was transfigured in them, allowing them to see Christ more clearly. As we will sing during the service Vespers on the night before, they looked upon Christ and "were changed by divine ecstasy."

So how can we look upon Christ and see Him more clearly, as our Lord and Savior? How can we open our lives to this transfiguration?



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Gina Pagonis, Parish Council President
Nikki Stounaras, 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, Fr. Vincent Minucci
Greek Folk Dancing, Margaret Talmers
Greek Language School, Avra Parpos
HOPE, Diana Katsikaris & Mina Johnson
JOY, Fr. Vincent Minucci
Young Professionals, Samuel Johnson
Brown Bag Sunday, Alex Santangelo
IOCC, Andrea Katsenes

1. **Take time to be silent, everyday.**

Our lives are full of so much clutter, both outwardly and within. Taking time to be silent allows us to see ourselves more clearly, free of distractions. It also opens us to the still, small voice of God, which is so easy to miss.

2. **Pray regularly, everyday.** Give thanks to God when you wake up, and before you eat. Reach out to Him in moments of both sadness and joy. Work out a prayer rule with your spiritual father. And don't be afraid: that prayer can be simpler than you think.

3. **Attend the divine services.** It's good to attend any service, and it's easier now during the Dormition Fast, when parishes celebrate the Supplication Service more frequently. Yet as Christians, we are truly ourselves when we gather for the ultimate celebration: the Divine Liturgy. Experience the presence and reality of God's Kingdom, as we taste and see that the Lord is good.

4. **Love your neighbor.** The Liturgy does not end when we go home on Sunday. That's when the *Liturgy after the Liturgy begins*. Every act of love—both great and small—is for the salvation of the world, transforming us and all creation.

May we all experience the transformative grace of our Crucified and Risen Lord.

Peace,
Steve
Director, Y2AM



YOUTH

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

METROPOLIS OF BOSTON SUMMER CAMP-WEEK 4



GREEK LANGUAGE & CULTURAL SCHOOL

The first day of school is just around the corner! Father Nick, Father Vinnie, and the Greek School staff are enthusiastic about welcoming students and parents back to another school year full of educational lessons and enriching activities for children in grades PreK – 6.

Come Grow with Us!

Please mark your calendars with these important dates:

Sunday, September 10
Registration following Divine Liturgy
Church Hall

Tuesday, September 12
4:00 – 6:00 pm
Registration, Agiasmos Service, Open House

For additional information, please contact Avra Parpos at 508-875-2013





GOYA End of the Year BBQ



Father's Day Coffee Hour



Church School Graduation & Scholarship Sunday



GREEK SCHOOL GRADUATION

We are very proud of our very own Mary Markis, who represented St. Demetrios at the Metropolis of Boston Greek School Graduation in May. Mary spoke about Aristotle and his influences on the world. She did a terrific job and we are so proud of her!





PHOTOS

Greek Fest— June 10th & 11th



Metropolis of Boston Awards Banquet



PHOTOS

New Philoptochos Board Members



Habitat for Humanity



New Doors on the Iconastasion





CALENDAR

AUGUST 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Paraklesis, 6 pm	3	4 Paraklesis, 6 pm	5 Great Vespers at Holy Transfiguration in Lowell, 7 pm
6 Holy Transfiguration Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30 am	7 Paraklesis, 6 pm	8	9 Paraklesis, 6 pm Philoptochos Board Meeting, 7 pm	10	11 Paraklesis, 6pm	12
13 10th Sunday of Matthew Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30 am	14 Great Vespers at Dormition Church at Somerville, 7 pm	15 Dormition of the Theotokos Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am	16	17	18	19 Hellenic Nursing Home, 2 pm
20 11th Sunday of Matthew Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30 am	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 12th Sunday of Matthew Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30 am	28	29 Beheading of St. John the Baptist Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am	30	31		

STEWARDSHIP & PHILOPTOCHOS



PHILOPTOCHOS

A luncheon invitation to all our Philoptochos women and friends of Philoptochos.

Please come and join us as we launch a new and exciting year of Philoptochos on September 17, 2017, following the Divine Liturgy.

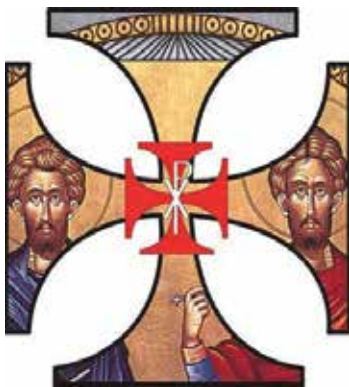
We invite you to a beautiful welcome back luncheon. As Philoptochos women we continue the work of our parents and grandparents and begin our own tradition. Join our army of women in service to our Lord through this dynamic ministry. Come, meet and greet our new board members.

Please know how important you are in building a community that reaches out to the marginalized, the sick, poor and the hungry.

We hope you will be able to join us on September 17th for a lovely afternoon. We can't wait to tell you of our plans and events for the upcoming year. Come and See.

- The Philoptochos Board

More information will be forthcoming.
Wait and see.



STEWARDSHIP

WE CAN BE PART OF THE CHURCH'S MISSION

With the benefits we receive from our church, we can share in its high missions, both spiritually and materially.

Simply because God has created us, we owe Him our love, obedience and worship. We can follow the teachings of Christ as preserved in His Church. We can learn the biblical teaching (Ten Commandments, Christ's gospel, etc.) and seek, with God's help to live it. We can honor our Creator regularly by participating in the Divine Liturgy each Sunday and on major holy days.

Membership in the Church, also grants us the privilege to contribute to the best of our ability to the material needs of our parish. That is why Our Lord taught us that it is "more blessed to give than to receive". Educational, social, missionary and charitable work of our Church can spread and help more people as we make it possible for the gospel of Christ's love to reach others.

When your church asks for your support, keep in mind that your gifts (time, talent, and treasure) is a direct response to Christ's call who taught, *Give and it will be given to you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over... for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.*



THE FR. MANIKAS LIBRARY

The Icon, The Image of the Invisible by Egon Sendler



Contains a three-fold study:

- 1) its theology and history;
- 2) its aesthetic elements;
- 3) its techniques in creating an icon. We have set aside this book in our Recommendation Shelf. For similar books check out catalog K (Icons, Symbols, Vestments, Church Architecture).

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

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.



SENIOR GUILD

Dear Senior Guild Members,

The Senior Guild will be attending Divine Liturgy on September 14th (The Exaltation of The Holy Cross). There will be a Luncheon Meeting following Divine Liturgy. The Senior Guild will be having A Welcome Back Fun and Games Day on September 25th. The activities for the Fun and Games Day are TBA. Please check the Sunday Bulletins, and the Senior Guild Bulletin Board for more information about the Fun and Games Day. The Senior Guild hopes to see you there! Thank you.

Artemis Martakis

THE SERVICE OF SUPPLICATION: PARAKLESIS

The Service of Supplication, which is also known as Paraklesis, is offered especially at times of sickness, temptation or discouragement. The various prayers ask the Lord for guidance, personal strength and healing. Many of the hymns and prayers are directed towards Mary, the Theotokos, and they ask for her assistance. Orthodoxy affirms that each of us, with Mary, the Saints and the faithful departed, is united in a bond of faith and love in Christ.



Save the date for
An Evening to Benefit IOCC.
Saturday, October 14, 2017. St. Demetrios
Greek Orthodox Church, Weston, MA.
Details to follow—stay tuned!

IOCC offers emergency relief and development programs to those in need worldwide.
Read more at ioccc.org.





ST. PHANOURIOS- AUGUST 27

As to St. Phanourios' life, nothing specific exists because all evidence has been destroyed through time. The only concrete evidence known of the Saint is the discovery of an icon, on the island of Rhodes, around 1500 AD according to the Synaxarion.

While the island of Rhodes was under enemy control, the ruler at that time decided to repair the walls surrounding the city. There were ruined homes at the city's outskirts, and it was believed that these homes were once part of an old fortress which existed there. The ruler intended to use the rocks from the ruins to repair the walls. The remains of a beautiful church were found amongst the ruins. During the excavation many icons were discovered. The images on all the icons were worn away with time, except one. The Bishop of the island, Nilos, was called and read the writings on the icon, "St. Phanourios."

In the middle of the icon is the image of the Saint dressed in armor. He looks very young, holds a cross in his right hand on top of which is candle. Around the main portion of the icon are twelve scenes from the life of the saint. They are:

- Being questioned before the magistrate, defending his faith.
- Being stoned by soldiers about the head and mouth forced to deny Christ.
- Stretched on the ground and flogged with sticks and clubs.
- Tortured by removing his flesh.
- In prison asking God for continued strength.
- Again, questioned before the magistrate.
- Being burned with torches.
- Tied to an apparatus to crush his bones.
- In a den with wild animals, which become tamed by God's grace
- Soldiers try to crush him under a boulder.
- In front of an idol with lit coals in his hands, he is being pushed to make sacrifices.
- Standing in a large fiery furnace with his hands lifted towards Heaven.

It is from these scenes that the Saint was a martyr and a very pious man. The church was restored and has been the source of many miracles.

There is a tradition concerning St. Phanourios and his mother who was a very troubled woman. His love for his mother caused him to pray for her incessantly. Even at the time of his death he did not forget his mother and prayed aloud, "For the sake of these my sufferings, Lord, help all those who will pray to Thee for salvation of Phanourios' sinful mother."

On the day of the Saint, there is a tradition that the faithful bake a special bread, "Phanouropita." The name, Phanourios, comes from the Greek word, "phanerono," which means to reveal." He is known to help people find lost items. After the lost item is found, a Phanouropita is made, in honor of his mother; it is blessed and given to the poor or shared with others in thanksgiving.



PRAYER TO ST. PHANOURIOS

Lord Jesus Christ, the heavenly Bread, the bountiful provider of the food which remains unto the age, the giver of goods, the one who through Elias sprang forth uncultivated food, the hope of the hopeless, the help of the helpless and the salvation of our souls. Bless these gifts and those who offered them for your glory and in honor of the holy glorious great-martyr Phanourios. Grant also, O Good one, to those who prepared these breads, all your earthly and heavenly goods. In joy, gladden them with your face; show them ways towards salvation. Quickly fulfill the petitions of their hearts and their every violation, leading them towards the working of your commandments, so that they may always in gladness and delight praise in hymns and glorify your all-honorable and majestic name through the intercessions of the very-blessed Theotokos, of the holy glorious great martyr Phanourios, the wonderwork and all of your Saints. Amen.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers were generously donated by the following parishioners:

June 11-
In memory of Petros (Peter) Markouizos
In tribute to loved ones from Patti Dukakis

June 18-
From Jane Bouyoukas in memory of her son Nicholas

June 25
In memory of Nicholas Condakes
In memory of Eve Rodis

July 9-
In loving memory of Nicholas Bartzokis
From Pam Brody in loving memory of son Benjamin

July 16-
In loving memory of husband Nicholas from Angeliki Giovannes
In memory of Aikaterini Razis
From Patti Dukakis

July 23-
Despina Doulos-Ayers and Charles Doulos in memory of their mom Irene

BAPTISMS

The son and daughter of Nicolai and Sophia Begg were baptized on Saturday, July 1st, and were named Lucas and Leah. Their sponsors were Yanni and Sali Diamond.

The daughter of Jarrod and Anastasia O'Neil was baptized on Sunday, July 2nd, and was named Hayden. The sponsor was Charles and Annabella Diamandis.

The son of Ben and Eleni Simmoneau was baptized on Sunday, July 30th, and was named Dean. The sponsor was George Dedes.

FUNERALS

George Siogas of Brookline, June 9
Peter Souris of Wellesley, July 27

May their memory be eternal!

WEDDING

Joseph Fantony and Sophia Paraschos were united in marriage on Saturday, June 3rd. Thier sponsor was Alexi Paraschos.



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