

# 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

### Gratitude

Dear Parishioners,

November is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving. It is that holiday where many of us pause to remember how fortunate we are to have so many blessings and gifts in our life. Although it is a human tendency to want more and to only be aware of what we do not have, Thanksgiving gives us the opportunity to give thanks for what God has given us. The Spirit of Stewardship, of gratitude, and the experience of **it is more blessed to give than to receive** is closer to our hearts during this season of Thanksgiving and of course Christmas.

Recently, I came across a beautiful story of two brothers that I would like to share with you. It is a metaphor of what life could be if love is our primary aim.

*Time before time, when the world was young, two brothers shared a field and a mill, each night dividing evenly the grain they had ground together during the day. One brother lived alone; the other had a wife and a large family. Now the single brother thought to himself one day, "It isn't really fair that we divide the grain evenly. I have only myself to care for, but my brother has children to feed." So each night he secretly took some of his grain to his brother's granary to see that he was never without.*

*But the married brother said to himself one day, "It isn't really fair that we divide the evenly, because I have children to provide for me in my old age, but my brother has no one. What will he do when he is old?" So every night he secretly took some of his grain to his brother's granary. As a result, both of them always found their supply of grain mysteriously replenished each morning.*

*Then one night in the darkness they met each other halfway between their two houses, suddenly realizing what had been happening, and embraced each other in love. The story is that God witnessed their meeting and proclaimed, "This is a holy place-a place of love- and here it is that my temple shall be built." And so it was. The holy place, where God is made known to his people, is the place where human beings discover each other and give to each other in love.*

Imagine a "holy place" such as this where giving of ourselves out of love to benefit the other is possible. Perhaps, although not perfect, our St. Demetrios Church can be that place where we strive to live our Christian faith and **built on our faith**. How can that be achieved? It can be achieved by living the spirit of Thanksgiving and gratitude each day. It also can be renewed each time we come to St. Demetrios and then go out and proclaim the message of love in words and actions wherever we go. Encountering the living Lord in each person we meet on our Christian walk by showing love, compassion, and respect will confirm that God's hand has built **His temple** both physically in our midst and spiritually in our heart. Thanksgiving then will become more than a holiday in November but a constant presence of God in our life.

Indeed, this will be the cause of continued great joy and Thanksgiving throughout the year!

Wishing you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving!

Fr. Nick

## SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

### SUNDAY SERVICES

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

November 5- 5th Sunday of Luke

November 12- 8th Sunday of Luke

November 19- 9th Sunday of Luke

November 26- 13th Sunday of Luke



### MIDWEEK SERVICES (AT ST. DEMETRIOS)

November 13

St. John Chrysostom

Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am

November 16

St. Matthew

Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am

November 21

Entrance of the Theotokos

Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am

November 22

Vespers Thanksgiving Divine Liturgy, 6 pm

### MIDWEEK SERVICES (AT NEIGHBORING CHURCHES)

Holy Archangels- Taxiarchae, Watertown

November 7, Great Vespers, 7 pm

November 8, Orthros and Divine Liturgy, 8:45 am

St. Nectarios- St. Nectarios, Roslindale

November 8, Great Vespers, 7 pm

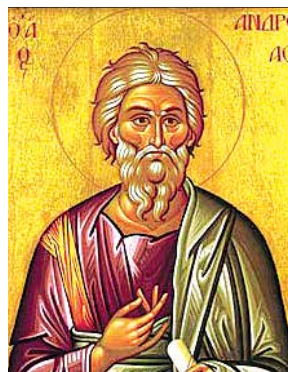
November 9, Orthros and Divine Liturgy, 8:30 am

St. Andrew the Apostle- Metropolis Center, Brookline

November 29, Great Vespers, 7 pm

November 30, Orthros and Divine Liturgy, 8:30 am

### ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE COMMEMORATED NOVEMBER 30



Born in Bethsaida, St. Andrew was a fisherman by trade. He became a dedicated disciple of John the Baptist and then, following his baptism, left him to become the first Apostle of Jesus Christ. He also brought along his brother, Peter. Both are numbered among the Twelve Great Apostles. After Pentecost, St. Andrew was chosen to preach in a host of lands- including Byzantium, Thrace, Peloponnese, Epirus, Georgia and Kiev. He was martyred in the Peloponnese, in the city of Patras, 62 AD

- He is the patron saint of several countries, including Romania and Scotland.
- His feast day is also the name day of our Boston Metropolis.
- Patriarch Bartholomew is considered the spiritual successor of St. Andrew.



### A THANKSGIVING DAY PRAYER

Lord, so often times, as any other day  
When we sit down to our meal and pray  
We hurry along and make fast the blessing  
Thanks, amen. Now please pass the dressing

We're slaves to the olfactory overload  
We must rush our prayer before the food gets cold  
But Lord, I'd like to take a few minutes more  
To really give thanks to what I'm thankful for

For my family, my health, a nice soft bed  
My friends, my freedom, a roof over my head  
I'm thankful right now to be surrounded by those  
Whose lives touch me more than they'll ever possibly know  
Thankful Lord, that you've blessed me beyond measure  
Thankful that in my heart lives life's greatest treasure  
That you, dear Jesus, reside in that place  
And I'm ever so grateful for Your unending grace  
So please, heavenly Father, bless this food You've provided  
And bless each and every person invited. Amen.





As many of you know a Pilgrimage is planned for next May 8th-17th. Many have signed up and others wish to learn more about the trip that will be led by Fr. Nick and Pres. Elaine. An information meeting will be held for all interested on Monday, November 6th at 7 pm. All are welcome.

If you are interested in this truly incredible opportunity contact Fr. Nick at [frnick@stdemetriosweston.org](mailto:frnick@stdemetriosweston.org) or by calling the church office: 781-237-5561. There are pamphlets in the church lobby with additional information. Space is limited so be sure to make your reservation soon.



## ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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### ST. DEMETRIOS CONNECTIONS 781-237-5561 | [www.stdemetriosweston.org](http://www.stdemetriosweston.org)

**Fr. Nicholas Krommydas, Presbyter**  
**Fr. Vincent Minucci, Presbyter**  
**Marianne Kent, Office Administrator**  
**Nicholas Korderas, Sexton**  
**Gina Pagonis, Parish Council President**  
**Nikki Stournaras, Philoptochos President**

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

Brown Bag Sunday, Alex Santangelo  
St. Demetrios Inner-City Outreach, Peter Mitsakos  
St. Nicholas Angel Tree, Nancy Savage

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

**Orthodox Life Series, James Skedros**  
**Outreach and Evangelism, Stacey Kalivas**  
**Philoptochos Care Ministries**

**Hellenic Nursing Home, Pam Brody**  
**Prayer-Shawl, Elaine Ward**  
**Quiltathon, Debbie Morakis**  
**Visitations, Valerie Wiegel**

**Prosfora Ministry, Christina Booth**  
**Senior Guild, Artemis Martakis**  
**Stewardship, Tom Camp**  
**IOCC, Andrea Katsenes**

#### YOUTH

**Altar Service, Chris Kourlos**  
**Basketball, Jack Markis**

**Church School, Stavroula Gurguliatos**  
**Church School Music Director, Jane Kourtis**

**GOYA, Fr. Vinnie Minucci & Jill Kovatsis**  
**Greek Folk Dancing, Margaret Talmers**  
**Greek Language School, Avra Parpos**  
**HOPE, Diana Katsikaris & Mina Johnson**  
**JOY, Fr. Vincent Minucci**  
**OCF, Fr. Vincent Minucci**  
**Young Professionals, Samuel Johnson**

GIVE Thanks  
to the LORD,  
FOR HE IS GOOD:  
HIS Love ENDURES  
FOREVER!

*Psalm 117:2*

### SAVE THE DATE UPCOMING EVENTS

December 3-  
General Assembly

December 8-  
Annual Tree Lighting and Gingerbread House Making

December 10-  
Stewardship Luncheon  
Parish Council Elections (*See Church office for nomination forms.*)

December 17th-  
Church School Christmas Pageant

*more details to follow in the coming weeks*





## CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS



November 5	Church School	Classes; CS Staff Meeting
November 12	Church School	Classes
November 19	Church School	Classes
November 26	Church School	Classes

## GREEK LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL SCHOOL



## SAINTLY LIVES

### ST. CATHERINE THE GREAT MARTYR OF ALEXANDRIA COMMEMORATED NOVEMBER 25



Saint Catherine, who was from Alexandria, was the daughter of Constat (or Cestus). She was an exceedingly beautiful maiden, most chaste, and illustrious in wealth, lineage, and learning. By her steadfast understanding, she utterly vanquished the passionate and unbridled soul of Maximinus, the tyrant of Alexandria; and by her eloquence, she stopped the mouths of the so-called philosophers who had gathered to dispute with her. She was crowned with the crown of martyrdom in the year 305. Her Holy Relics were taken by Angels to the holy mountain of Sinai, where they were discovered many years later; the famous monastery of Saint Catherine was originally dedicated to the Holy Transfiguration of the Lord and the Burning Bush, but later was dedicated to Saint Catherine.

### *Fr. Vinnie's sermon on Putting on the Armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18)- October 15th*



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

# YOUTH

## GOYA

We had an awesome October with GOYA Apple Picking, St. Demetrios Feast Day festivities and our GOYA Fall Camp!



With November, comes Thanksgiving and this month, GOYA will come together with a service based activity to help the greater community. God willing, we will have details soon and will be sure to share it with GOYAns! If you are interested in becoming a part of GOYA, email Fr. Vinnie at [frvincent@stdemetriosweston.org](mailto:frvincent@stdemetriosweston.org).

## FAMILY FIRST FRIDAY!

This month's Family First Friday will NOT be on the first Friday of the month! Due to a scheduling conflict, we will be holding Family First Friday on **November 17th** from 6:30-8:30 pm. Instead of a potluck, we will be having a pizza party (pizza provided!). Please email Pres. Nadia at [presnadia@gmail.com](mailto:presnadia@gmail.com) ASAP so we can properly account for pizza. We ask that you bring one canned good per person so we can donate to a local food bank. Our activity this month will be centered around Thanksgiving! Looking forward to seeing you on November 17th! Don't forget to RSVP!







# PHOTOS

## Habitat for Humanity Playhouse Building



## Senior Guild Luncheon



## Quilt-A-Thon Ministry





# PHOTOS



## St. Demetrios Feast Day 2017



## NOVEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1 pm GOYA Girls Basketball Practice, 6 pm GOYA Boys Basketball Practice, 7:30 pm	3	4 Agape Prayer Group, 8:30 am
5 <b>5th Sunday of Luke</b> Church School Greek Dancing, 11:45 am	6	7 Greek School, 4 pm Conversations on Orthodoxy, 7 pm Vespers AT Watertown, 7 pm Joy Basketball Practice, 6 pm GOYA Boys Basketball Practice, 7:30 pm	8 <b>Holy Archangels</b> Vespers AT Roslindale, 7 pm Philoptochos Board Meeting, 7 pm	9 <b>St. Nectarios</b> GOYA Girls Basketball Practice, 6 pm GOYA Boys Basketball Practice, 7:30 pm	10	11
12 <b>8th Sunday of Luke</b> Church School	13 <b>St. John Chrysostom</b> Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am	14 Greek School, 4 pm Joy Basketball Practice, 6 pm GOYA Boys Basketball Practice, 7:30 pm	15 Nativity Fast Begins Veterans Day Ceremony, 7 pm	16 <b>St. Matthew</b> Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1 pm GOYA Girls Basketball Practice, 6 pm GOYA Boys Basketball Practice, 7:30 pm	17 Family First Friday, 6:30 pm	18 Agape Prayer Group, 8:30 am Hellenic Nursing Home, 2 pm
19 <b>9th Sunday of Luke</b> Church School Greek Dancing, 11:45 am	20	21 <b>Entrance of the Theotokos</b> Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am Greek School, 4 pm Joy Basketball Practice, 6 pm GOYA Boys Basketball Practice, 7:30 pm	22 Thanksgiving Eve Vespers AT Brookline, 6 pm	23 Thanksgiving Church Offices Closed	24 Church Offices Closed	25
26 <b>13th Sunday of Luke</b> Church School	27	28 Greek School, 4 pm Joy Basketball Practice, 6 pm GOYA Boys Basketball Practice, 7:30 pm	29 Wreath Making Event, 5 pm Vespers AT Brookline, 7pm	30 <b>St. Andrew</b> GOYA Girls Basketball Practice, 6 pm GOYA Boys Basketball Practice, 7:30 pm		



# STEWARDSHIP & PHILOPTOCHOS

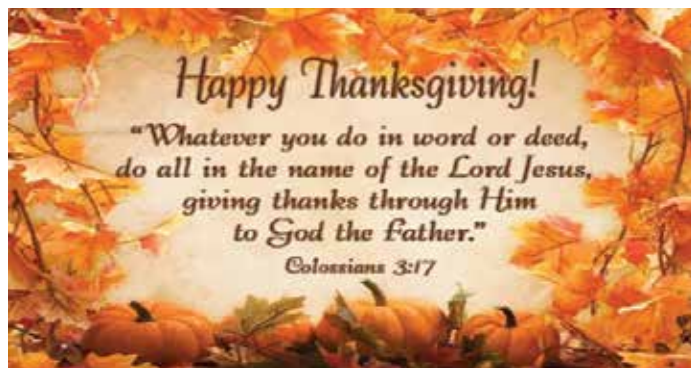
## PHILOPTOCHOS

I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge—God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 1:4–8, NIV)

The month of gratitude is here. I thank God for my Philoptochos board and all the women who serve and its members of this philanthropic organization. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank both our priests Fr. Nicholas and Fr. Vincent for leading us in worship and in spiritual counsel. Whenever we need help with office and other matters we want to let Marianne know how much we appreciate her help. One way we will show appreciation this month is through honoring our veterans. We are most appreciative of all that our church does for us and all the people that work hard and give of their treasure, talents, and heart.

Please join us on November 15th at 7:00 in the evening to honor our veterans. Philoptochos will also have an evening of wine and cheer as we decorate our Christmas wreaths on November 29th.

Love In Christ,  
Nikki Stournaras



Join us for some holiday cheer with our  
**Wreath-Making Event**  
on  
**Wednesday, November 29, 2017**  
Social Hall  
7:00pm

**Open to all parishioners and friends!**

**\$40 per person**

Enjoy some fellowship, refreshments and libations  
while you decorate your Christmas wreath!!!

Please sign up and pay **in advance** so that we may have enough supplies.

**Reservation Deadline- Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>**

[amalie@aaageorgecpa.com](mailto:amalie@aaageorgecpa.com)

Amalie Ann George (781-953-2493)

Sponsored by the St. Demetrios Philoptochos

Also feel free to bring your own additional decorations - and a pair of scissors.

## STEWARDSHIP

In the early days of our Church, St. Paul provided guidance about stewardship. In his Second Letter to the Corinthians (9:6-11), he told us to remember that,

- God is the source of all we have, both for ourselves and for all our good works,
- each person "... must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver", and
- our generosity will both enrich our lives, and produce thanksgiving to God.

To better explain this message, St. Paul told his contemporaries what they already knew: a farmer who plants only a few seeds will have a small harvest, whereas a farmer who plants lots of seeds will have a big harvest. In Paul's message, we Christians are the farmers, our contributions of time, talent, and treasure are the seeds, and the enrichment of our souls and thanksgiving to God are our harvest.

Thank you to all our fellow "farmers" for your continued supply of "seeds" to support all we do at St. Demetrios.

In Christ,  
Tom Camp  
Stewardship Chair  
Email: [TCamp63@gmail.com](mailto:TCamp63@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 781-985-2125



## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SENIOR GUILD

Dear Senior Guild Members,  
The Senior Guild would like to Thank all of its members who attended the October Meeting of the Senior Guild. I would like to thank my ladies who work in the kitchen preparing our delicious meals. The October meeting was very successful. The next meeting of the Senior Guild will be on **November 21**, (The Presentation of The Blessed Virgin Mary). We will discuss the December Event of going to The Dolphin Restaurant in Natick. Please tell me if you are going to the Luncheon at the November Meeting. If you have any questions please contact Artemis Martakis @ 508-785-0045. The Senior Guild hopes to see you there.

### CONVERSATIONS ON ORTHODOXY

Join Fr. Nick and Fr. Vinnie as we examine current events and topics and discuss them through an Orthodox Lens. November 7 from 7 till 8:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you then! If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Vinnie at [frvincent@stdemetriosweston.org](mailto:frvincent@stdemetriosweston.org)

### ST. DEMETRIOS ORTHO-TAXI SERVICE

We miss you when you are not with us!  
If you need a ride to and from church, St. Demetrios has a new round-trip taxi service, ORTHO-TAXI. The roundtrip fare is \$5 which will be donated to the Senior Guild.

To use ORTHO-Taxi, call the church office (781-237-5561). Leave your name and phone number by Friday at noon for Sunday Liturgy and two days in advance for all other services and events. You will then receive a call from your driver to arrange a pick up time.

## AXIOS TOM GATZUNIS!

On October 22nd, St. Demetrios' very own, Tom Gatzunis was made an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in New York City at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity by Archbishop Geron Demetrios of America. Tom joins approximately 15 other Archons from our St. Demetrios community. AXIOS Tom!



*THE REASON FOR THE SEASON...*

### THE 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ST. NICHOLAS

### GIVING TREE MINISTRY

For the last 16 years, our community has brought the miracle of the most holy season of Christ's birth to more than 3,000 children under the care of the Dept. of Children and Families.

These children have been removed from their homes through no fault of their own, often separated from parents, siblings & grandparents.

~ something difficult for us to fathom ~

Particularly during the blessed holidays.

Again this year, the names and "wish lists" of these children will be available in the parish hall on three successive Sundays

~ November 12, 19 & 26 ~

Come join together with your family to sponsor one or more children for whom you can personally deliver the joy of Christmas!

Questions? Nancy Agnis Savage 508-652-9020

[NancyASavage@gmail.com](mailto:NancyASavage@gmail.com)



# NEWS & EVENTS



*In memory of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Ian Thomas McVey, USMC*  
**Philoptochos Seeks Donations for Veterans**  
**November to Remember Veterans**

**"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."**  
**Psalms 46:1**

This year our November Drive will continue to include two opportunities to assist Veterans in need. We ask for your continued generosity with this annual ministry of helping our Veterans.

The Thanksgiving for Veterans drive provides a complete Thanksgiving meal to a Veteran family.

**Veteran Thanksgiving Meal**

- 60 turkeys, frozen or fresh
- 200 canned/non-perishable sides: cranberry sauce, squash, vegetables, stuffing, boxed potatoes.

The Operation Housewarming Project, provides housewarming baskets to those veterans transitioning to independent living.

**Housewarming Baskets; All new – No used items PLEASE**

- |                                       |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Broom/Dustpan                       | Mop                      |
| • Bucket                              | Toilet brush & holder    |
| • Shower curtain                      | Shower rings             |
| • Dishpan                             | Dish rack/tray           |
| • Dish Cloth/Towel                    | Cleaning sponge          |
| • Flashlight/Batteries                | Toothpaste               |
| • Dish Soap                           | Liquid hand soap         |
| • Bar soap (pkg. of 4)                | Paper towels (pkg. of 4) |
| • Toilet paper (pkg. of 4)            | Trash container/bags     |
| • Bath towel/wash cloths (2 to start) | Laundry detergent        |
| • Small bathroom trash container      | All purpose cleaner      |

**\*Gift cards to local supermarkets and monetary donations to purchase items are also welcome. Checks payable to: St. Demetrios Philoptochos.\***

Contact: Chris Kourlos: 508.380.8220 or Eugenia Kourlos: 508.735.8866 or kourkat1@gmail.com

**Please submit contributions during the social hour by November 19th.**

## CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AND GINGERBREAD HOUSE MAKING NIGHT

Join us on December 8th for our annual Tree Lighting and Gingerbread House making event. This is truly wonderful way to bring together family and friends. Details and sign-up sheet to follow in the coming weeks.



## FR. MANIKAS LIBRARY



Book of the Month:

Festival Icons for the  
 Christian Year by John  
 Baggley

Written by a western  
 Christian who has come

to value the Orthodox tradition of iconography, Festival Icons for the Christian Year opens up aspects of Christian discipleship which have been handed on to us the Orthodox tradition of iconography, and shows how icons take us into the heart of the Christian revelation, engaging our heart, mind, body and soul. We had set aside this book on our recommendation shelf. Similar books can be find under catalog K (Icons, Symbols, Vestments, Church Architecture).

We invite you to come and visit the parish library. The library is opened every Sunday after Liturgy. However, you are welcomed to visit the library when 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. Date is the month and year when you borrow the book. This will help us to keep track of our books.

Remember, this library is for you and your family.

## IOCC- THANK YOU!

Last's month's event, *An Evening to Benefit IOCC*, was a great success. Thank you to the many of you who came out to support and learn about a great organization that is helping the lives of so many individuals world-wide. A special thank you to the Philoptochos who helped sponsor this event and to Chris Pappas for preparing the technological aspects of the evening.





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ALTAR FLOWERS

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



October 1- In memory of Christina and  
Peter Giamogianis from Nick and Maria.

October 15- In loving memory of son  
Alexios from mother Angeliki Giovannes.

October 22- In loving memory of Sophia  
and Anthony Marken.

October 29- In memory of James Philo-  
poulos from parents, Nicholas and Mary  
Philopoulos.

## BAPTISMS

The daughter of Timothy and Erica  
Marken was baptised on Saturday,  
October 21, and named Serena. The  
sponsor was S. Nicholas Kriketos.

The son of Nick and Stephanie Anto-  
nopoulos was baptized on Saturday,  
October 21, and named John. The  
sponsor was Athena Ziogas.


The son of Mark and Estelle Gefteas  
was baptized on Saturday, October  
28, and named Bryce-Stanley. The  
sponsor was Michael Gefteas.

## FUNERALS

Danny (Daminanos) P. Laskaris of  
Canton, October 15

Rose Ballas Katsenes of Newton,  
October 24

May their memory be eternal!



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