

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

Setting Aside the Cares of this Life

There is no question that the pace of life has quickened both at work and at home. More and more is being added on to our plate and more is expected from us. Although we are told that in this era of ipods, voicemail, and email 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*



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

September 5

15th Sunday of Matthew

September 12

Sunday before Holy Cross

September 19

Sunday after Holy Cross

September 26

Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian

MIDWEEK SERVICES

ORTHOS, 9:00; DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30

Wednesday, September 8

Nativity of the Theotokos

Tuesday, September 14

Elevation of the Holy Cross

VESPERS, 7 PM

Monday, September 13

Holy Cross Chapel, Brookline



**WELCOMING A NEW YEAR OF GRACE:
SEPT. 1, THE BEGINNING OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL YEAR**

**Maker of the Universe, O Lord who
alone have power over seasons and
times: bless this year with your
bounty, preserve our country in safe-
ty and keep your people in peace,
through the prayers of the Mother of
God, and save us.**

HOW DO WE ELEVATE THE CROSS IN OUR OWN LIVES?



THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS: SEPT. 14

**"To Your Blessed Cross,
O Christ, we come,**

**And falling down,
adore You,**

**And humbly make
confession full of all
our sins before You."**

We live at a time when many find it difficult to find the right way to live. Many are lost. The world tells us that money, power, fame, pleasure, and the like are the really important things in life. But the Cross reminds us that this is not so, that such things give a distorted picture of life. Morality, purity, honesty, virtue, faith, trust and love, these are the ingredients that make for a meaningful and truly happy life. And these are the virtues that the Cross stands for.

The Cross is our guide in making decisions. During life's journey, we often come to cross-roads and we have to decide which path of life to take. As we ponder life's work, life's partner, and the countless other decisions, it will help to seek light from the Cross of Christ.

The Cross is our guide in sickness and pain. Remember that no person has suffered as Jesus suffered—He who was very God of very God, and yet bore the agony of rejection and crucifixion. He not only suffered in body but in soul as He took upon Himself the burden of humanity's sin. Believing Christians have always turned to the Cross in times of sickness and pain and they have found strength and help there.

The Cross is our guide in times of sorrow. It is always difficult to bid farewell to a beloved parent, child or friend who has died. But the empty Cross serves to remind us that Christ rose from the dead and is victor over the grave. It is to the Cross that we come, heeding Christ's words: "Come unto Me all you that are burdened and heavy laden and I will give you rest ..." (Matt. 11:28-29).

And so, let the Cross of Christ be our guide in life. Let us elevate it within our hearts, seeking guidance, help and direction as we make our way through the years of our earthly journey.



PROSFORA MINISTRY: A HOLY OFFERING

For each Sunday, Prosfora (offering bread) is prayerfully made by members of our community and brought to the Altar before services begin. Part of this bread becomes the Holy Eucharist—other parts become the blessed "Antidoron" that we receive at the end of the Liturgy. When our priests utilize our Prosfora, they pray for us and all the members of our family and loved ones, those living and passed away. They ask God to keep and preserve us through hardship and disappointment, through physical and emotional struggles. This offering bread, made with our own hands, becomes a symbol of the love of Christ for us all and the connection between every member of our parish family. It is a powerful reminder that we are all under His care, that none of us walks alone. Contact Christina Booth Steele to learn more: boothsteele@rcn.com.





BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

A SACRIFICIAL GIFT

Not long after you read this article in the September *Vine*, you will be receiving for the first time your pledge card that will invite you to participate in, without doubt, one of the most significant undertakings in the proud fifty year history of St. Demetrios Church. This is one of the moments upon which our spiritual future will pivot.

It is fair to say, we are all aware that this moment has been coming. The moment when we must think carefully about the participation of each of our families in this grand undertaking and deliberate—with our spouses, children, parents and grandparents—the real meaning of building our new Church that will reflect the unbroken 2000 year Orthodox traditions that bind us all.



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Fr. Alex Chetsas, Co-Pastor
Cathy Smith, Secretary
Peter Gramenelles, Sexton
Chris Pappas, Parish Council President
Eugenia Kourlos, Philoptochos President

Bookstore, Carol Loridas
Choir, Gregory Condakes
Fifty-Something Club, Portia Pantages
Faith and Works Ministries

A Suitable Image, Nancy Savage
Brown Bag Sunday, Lydia Santangelo
Habitat for Humanity, Elaine Fischer
St. Nicholas Angel Tree, Nancy Savage

Hospitality/Fellowship Hour, Mary Ellen Paravalos
Library, Cindy Dabrowski
Orthodox Life Series, James Skedros
Outreach and Evangelism, Peter Gavrilles, Chris Resmini
Philoptochos Care Ministries

Hellenic Nursing Home, Pam Brody
Miracle Kitchen, Dorothea Ocnos
Prayer-Shawl, Tilda Mitsakos
Quiltathon, Debbie Morakis

Prosfora Ministry, Christina Booth Steele
Senior Guild, Tina Haratsis
Stewardship, Dean Coclin

YOUTH

Altar Service, Chris Kourlos, Sam Johnson
Basketball, Fr. Alex Chetsas
Church School, Stavroula Gurguliatos
Church School Outreach, Gloria Moskos
Church School Music Director, Jane Kourtis

GOYA, Sam Johnson & Mina Koukos
Greek Folk Dancing, Margaret Talmers Galatano
Greek Language School, Avra Parpos
HOPE, Donna Markis, Stacy Katsikaris
JOY, Jill Kovatsis
OCF, Chris Resmini, Peter Gavrilles

When we turn our gaze upon our young ones, what do we consider our Greek Orthodox parish will provide for them? What role do we expect our Church to play in their spiritual growth and development? What can they learn from observing us, their parents and grandparents, striving to build for the future of their faith? Will it strengthen them?

We all know instinctively the answers to these questions. I believe we also know that, as those before us, we too understand certain imperatives: one being that we cannot leave to them the task of building a new sanctuary when the need is so apparent in our generation.

But can it be done? Yes! Each steward of our church must make a sacrificial gift—a gift that will reflect the significance of our Church and faith in our lives. For each of us, there is an appropriate sacrificial gift in accordance with our means. We have all read the Gospel and understand the lesson of the poor woman whose small gift was the most generous of all, because for her it was not from her abundance but from her heart!

There are over 600 families, stewards of St. Demetrios Church, that have not yet pledged. The budget approved by the General Assembly is \$6.2 million of which over 47% is already pledged. We ask that you make your pledge payable up to three years in order to invite the most significant gifts that you and your family can make. Understood in this manner, it is abundantly clear that WE WILL DO THIS. Please make the most generous pledge in accordance with your means this month. On your pledge card, you may choose to be recognized or remain anonymous. Very simply, there is no greater cause as Orthodox Christians that bears more directly on our lives than this once in a lifetime pledge towards building our new St. Demetrios Church.

—Peter Bassett



YOUTH

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



CHURCH SCHOOL 2010-2011 BEGINS

We look forward to the upcoming Church School year. Classes begin on Sunday, September 12th 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 are looking for individuals who might be interested in teaching/assisting in the Church School program. If you have a love for children, patience and a strong understanding of our Faith, please contact Stavroula Gurguliatos, Church School Director, at:

stdemetrioschurchschool@verizon.net

We look forward to a wonderful academic year together.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

2nd: Teacher meeting, 6:00 pm, Board Room

12th: First Day of Church School;
Ministry Fair;
Rainbow the Clown at Fellowship Hour

19th: Church School Classes;
Ministry Fair

26th: Church School Classes;
High School Farm Trip (Harvest for Hunger);
Ministry Fair

CHURCH SCHOOL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Recent disbursements from our Stewardship Fund include:

Theophany Orthodox School

Project Bread

Project Mexico

St. Herman Theological Seminary

To our children: Thank you for your weekly offerings!

GREEK LANGUAGE & CULTURAL SCHOOL



What a wonderful feeling! The first day of school is just around the corner. Fr. Nick, Fr. Alex, and the staff of the St. Demetrios Greek Language and Cultural School are excited to welcome you to another year full of exciting and enriching lessons and activities. This year's theme is: Greek School is a garden of knowledge! Let us learn and grow together. We welcome four-year-old children to participate in the Pre-K program. Please mark your calendars with these important dates:

Tuesday, September 7

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Registration

Sunday, September 12

**Registration following Liturgy,
Church Hall**

Monday, September 13

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Teachers' Meeting

Tuesday, September 14

4:00 - 6:00 pm

Classes Begin, Agiasmos Service

"Let's join together as the New Year begins... we'll share and be kind as we work and play, and our friendship will grow with each passing day."

For additional information please contact Avra Parpos at 508-875-2103.

Our future is so bright!



We are here to shine!

"FAMILY NIGHTS" begin October 1



Family Night is a time to come together in learning, fun and community spirit; there is something for everyone: HOPE (K - 2nd), JOY (3rd - 6th), GOYA (7th - 12th), parents and all our parishioners! Our 2010 - 11 Family Night theme will be "Lending

A Helping Hand," which will focus on developing a spirit of outreach and social action among our youth. October's gathering will feature guest speaker Kathy Bakes, who will lead us in developing a very special outreach project for the youth of St. Demetrios.

6:00: Welcome and Brief Worship Service

6:15-7:00: Community Dinner

7:00-8:00: Group Sessions and Dismissal

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

YOUTH



ALTAR SERVERS TO VISIT 6TH GRADERS THIS MONTH

Our Altar teams and leadership scheme have been updated recently—please check your son’s team and schedule, and contact Altar Chairs Chris Kourlos (508-380-8220) or Sam Johnson (916-390-9341) with any questions. On Sept. 26, Altar representatives will visit the 6th Grade Church School classroom to share their enthusiasm and dedication for this special ministry. We hope and pray this visit encourages the boys of the 6th grade to explore all the Altar has to offer. In addition, a training day is being planned for Nov. 7 and an outing for Dec. 4. Details to follow in next month’s *Vine*.

September Schedule

ST. LAWRENCE: Sept. 12 & 26

Captain: Tom Resmini, Vice-Captains: Jason Theoharis & Luke Pashos
Michael Condakes, Walker Littlehale, Perry Maheras, Kosta Pappas, Alex Santangelo, Nick Spinale

ST. STEPHEN: Sept. 5 & 19

Captain: Lee Condakes, Vice Captains: Anthony Chirban
Mike Gatzunis, Matt Gatzunis, Anthony Houhoulis, John Kambouris, Michael Stournaras

GOYA: Fall Events On the Horizon



Hi Everyone!

We’re looking forward to a great year of GOYA! Please make sure to sign up with us at our table during the Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 12, 19 and

26. Our first meeting will be on Sunday, September 19th, during the Welcome Back BBQ. On Sunday, September 26th, we are looking forward to our carwash, which will take place after Church. We need lots of volunteers, so please make sure to come! Hope to see you all there!

Stacey Kourtis, President
staceykourtis@comcast.net

SAINTLY LIVES



ST. HERMIONE Commemorated September 4

St. Hermione was the daughter of one of our greatest saints, St. Philip the Deacon. Early in her life, it became obvious to her family and friends that she had amazing skills as a healer. In the coming years, she dedicated all of her time, energy and creativity to healing sickness, both physical and spiritual.

When the Roman Emperor Trajan heard of her gifts, he attributed them to witchcraft and commanded that she appear before him, thinking he might put her abilities to use for his own selfish reasons. When she refused to be exploited by him, he had her publicly flogged. Trajan’s successor, Hadrian, had a similar dislike and fear of Hermione’s gifts. She suffered much under his rule as well and was imprisoned for years, but all the while she stayed faithful, healing and bringing many to the faith—not to mention many prison guards!

And on the day when Hadrian commanded that she be executed, the newly converted guards broke her out of her dungeon and whisked her away to the safety of the local hills. There she lived and ministered for many years, converting those around her, healing and teaching. When she eventually fell asleep in the Lord—most traditions hold that she was eventually martyred—her disciples carried on her ministry for years to come, never forgetting the example she had set for them as a loving, compassionate healer of God’s people.

Getting Practical: Is your daughter enamored with Hermione Granger, the clever little sorceress of the Harry Potter book/movie series? Why not share the beautiful story of St. Hermione with your daughter, and open her eyes to the holy life of the “real Hermione.” Meeting her interest with your knowledge, creativity and energy will make all the difference.

HOPE & JOY: Another Great Year Arrives

Join us after Liturgy (in the Library) for a brief parent meeting on 9/12, when we’ll make plans for our Family Night on 10/1 and the Prayerful Pumpkin Carving on 10/16. And join us for the upcoming parish hike to Noanet Peak (Dover, MA) on 9/18. This is a beautiful, 2 mile round trip hike that all our families can enjoy, featuring smooth trails, an old mill and great views from the peak. What a terrific way to start our year—look for the sign-up poster outside the Narthex and save the date. We’ll carpool from the Church at 9:30 am. Contact hike leader Phil Stathos for details: philip.stathos@wellsfargoadvisors.com.

HOPE (K–2nd)

Donna Markis:
dmarkis@boston.k12.ma.us

Stacy Katsikaris:
stacy.katsikaris@comcast.net

JOY (3rd–6th)

Jill Kovatsis: ja.k@verizon.net



TIME

by Fr. Alex



"The sun is the same in a relative way, but you're older..."

In high school, I spent many an hour listening to Pink Floyd's "Dark Side of the Moon." I'd lie around for hours with my Walkman (this is now considered an antique),

taking in every word and note. I knew what I was hearing was important but didn't exactly know why. As I look back, I discover more and more; things become clearer. You may recognize the lines above from "Time," a song that speaks of missed opportunity and the mystery of aging. Though everything looks the same to us today, not everything is. We're "older." And the journey from 17 to 40 was in the blink of an eye.

Knowing this, we need to become aware of how precious time is—time with our friends, with our family, with our own creativity and interests, and especially with God. As humans, we constantly kid ourselves into thinking we've got an endless reserve of time, that we're going to live forever. That there's always some "other," more opportune time in the future to nurture our relationship with God.

That other time has to be now. Nothing in our lives is forever. We can run out of time tomorrow, one hour from now, several minutes from now. And what does it mean to invest time in this relationship, to reconnect with God? It can mean prayer; it can mean changing our lives; it can mean focusing more on the precious relationships with those we love. It can mean different things to different people. Only God knows our secret hearts. We know what we have to do to make things right.

And a key part of coming closer to Him is recommitting to Divine Liturgy. The hymns, the prayers, the holy vision we share during these services provide answers that can't be found elsewhere. When we come, we build our relationship with Him; when we bring our children and loved ones, we build our relationships with them as well. We share in God's love; we share our love with one another.

This fall, think about time—how much do you have? How much can you afford to waste? How much has already slipped away from you? What can you afford to put off? Start praying hard again. Start talking to Him. Start appreciating what you have right before you.

Come to Liturgy, come on time and teach those who look up to you to come on time as well. Our children and grandchildren look to us constantly, wide-eyed and trusting. Let's teach them well.

You'll be showing them, through your inspired actions, that time is precious . . . and that time with God is priceless.

QUESTIONS OF FAITH:

REAL QUESTIONS FROM OUR CHURCH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Q: "Fr. Alex, when was St. Demetrios' birthday?"



A: James, while we don't know the exact birthday of St. Demetrios, we do know something even more important—the day he gave his life for God, Oct. 26. This is his real "birthday" and is also the day of his feast, as well as the nameday of our parish. When it comes to the saints, the day that they gave up everything for God, and went to Heaven to finally be with Him, is the most important day of their lives and the one we remember most. This is a new "birth" for them because they're starting a new life in God's Kingdom. What better gift could there be for any of us?

Thanks for the great question! —Fr. Alex

FALL FAVORITES: SAVE THE DATES

October 16: Prayerful Pumpkin Carving



November 6: Pet Blessing





PARISH HIKE TO NOANET PEAK SEPT. 18!



God's creation is alive, full of beauty and inspiration. Let's see it together on this Saturday morning hike in Dover, MA. Our trail will feature magnificent pine forests, an old mill

and gorgeous views of the Boston skyline. Our HOPE & JOY ministries are sponsoring this event, but all families and parishioners are invited to join us. We'll carpool from the Church at 9:30 am and expect to arrive back by 12:30 pm. Hikers should bring water, snacks, sneakers/hiking boots, and should sign up outside the Narthex so chaperones and transportation can be organized. Contact Phil Stathos for details at: philip.stathos@wellsfargo-advisors.com.

OCF WELCOME DINNER/MOVIE NIGHT SEPT. 25!

Our St. Demetrios/Brandeis unified OCF looks forward to another meaningful year of friendship, outreach and learning in the faith. On the 25th, join us at the home of Peter Gavrilles for a casual "welcome back" dinner and movie. In addition to our regular meetings (every other Wed. beginning Oct. 6), a visit from Fr. Mark Leondis, youth director for the Archdiocese, is also in the works for October. We look forward to welcoming Fr. Mark, who is a dynamic youth leader. All are welcome to join. In addition we'll be playing a big role in this year's Brown Bag Ministry. Contact Co-Chairs Peter Gavrilles (peter.gavrilles@maritime.edu) or Chris Resmini (chrisresmini@hotmail.com); or Brandeis President Kristina Yopez (klyopez@brandeis.edu) with any questions.

BASKETBALL LAUNCHES REGISTRATION DRIVE

Look for our table this month at the Ministry Fair, and make sure to join us for the 2nd Annual Basketball Ice Cream Social & Registration Drive on Sept. 26. This will be a great time to share everyone's favorite "food," learn more about basketball at St. Demetrios and register for our 2010-11 season. A parent/player meeting (shoot around and pizza also on the agenda) is slated for Sept. 29 at 7:00 pm, and our first practice will be Oct. 13. Please contact our coaches for more details, and we look forward to another great season of friendship, learning and basketball this year!



ST. DEMETRIOS YOUTH RETURN FROM HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MISSION

by Sophia Koukoulas

Barbara Cambus and I recently returned from a mission trip where we spent a week (June 13-20) working with Habitat for Humanity to assist in the construction of a new home for a needy family in the St. Tammany Parish of New Orleans. The trip was sponsored by the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston. With the support of many, we went to assist those individuals who tragically lost their homes by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

For the majority of the week we were assigned to one house where we worked with a group to put up siding on the outer walls of this home. Even the hottest of days in New England could not compare with the heat we felt while standing up on the scaffold in the hot Louisiana sun. Our motivation to work through the heat came from the encouraging members of Habitat as well as the locals we worked with that were completing their hours in order to qualify for the home we were working on.

Although we did not complete a whole house, we were able to make significant progress on the one we worked on. In fact, in the East St. Tammany Parish where we worked, which is just outside of Louisiana, there has been a total of 125 homes built through Homes for Habitat.

In closing, Barbara and I wanted to thank those members of the church who supported our mission and would like you to know that your help made a big difference to those people in the East St. Tammany Parish area where we worked. If you have not donated to the cause, you are still able to. The support you give through your donations and your prayers are greatly appreciated. Thank you again for all your support!

Donations should be forwarded to the Church office and made payable to "Metropolis of Boston Service Mission Trip"; the annotation should reference "Sophia Koukoulas & Barbara Cambas"

Read Sophia's full article on our "Reflections" blog:
www.stdemetriosweston.org/blog







CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER 2010



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Ecclesiastical Year begins	2 Sunday School Teachers Mtg., 6 pm	3 	4 Feastday of St. Hermione
5 15th Sunday of Matthew	6 LABOR DAY 	7 Greek School Registration, 4-5:30 pm	8 Nativity of the Theotokos Liturgy, 9:30 am Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm Philoptochos Board Meeting, 7:30 pm	9 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	10	11
12 Sunday Before the Holy Cross Church School begins Ministry Fair HOPE/JOY parent meeting	13	14 - Elevation of the Holy Cross Liturgy, 9:30 am Senior Guild Luncheon Greek School Agiasmo and classes begin, 4-6 pm Orthodox Life, 7 pm	15	16 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	17	18 Parish Hike, carpool at 9:30 Bingo at Hellenic Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 2-3:30
19 Sunday After the Holy Cross Ministry Fair Welcome Back BBQ GOYA class visit & GA	20	21 EPOCH Outreach, 10:30 am Greek School, 4-6 pm Orthodox Life, 7 pm October Vine submissions due	22 	23 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	24 Salvation Army Miracle Kitchen, 4-7	25 OCF Welcome Dinner and Movie Night
26 - Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian Ministry Fair Harvest for Hunger Basketball Ice Cream Social Altar Server class visit	27	28 Greek School, 4-6 pm Orthodox Life, 7 pm	29	30 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm		

STEWARDSHIP & PHILOPTOCHOS



A MESSAGE FROM EUGENIA KOURLOS, PRESIDENT

On behalf of Philoptochos I would like to welcome all parishioners back from what I hope was a restful summer for each of you. We look forward to a year filled with events to benefit Philoptochos charities. Also, please join us for a very special evening on October 30th. All the members of Philoptochos look forward to your support as we celebrate and work together to build our new Church.

PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD MEETING:

September 8, 7:30 pm

MEMBERSHIP EVENT:

October 3 (details to follow)



September's National Philoptochos Society Commitments/Programs:

Hellenic College/Holy Cross Scholarship Program:

When he established our seminary in 1937, Archbishop Athenagoras called on Philoptochos to "devote" themselves to our school, "where your sons will be educated as priests and teachers" and urged the ladies to "prove once again your strong faith." In the ensuing years, Philoptochos was, and seventy-three years later continues to be, actively involved in offering financial support to HC/HC. For more than 20 years, scholarships have been awarded to worthy and dedicated students at both schools to assist them with their tuition expenses.

Retired Clergy and Widowed Presvyteres Benevolent Fund:

This program was founded and established by the late Fr. John Zanetos on April 26, 1998. The monies raised through this commitment will be donated in support of our retired clergy, or widowed presvyteres, who are facing financial difficulties.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Stewardship is Spiritual



Preserves, Nurtures Sustains and Grows

As of August 19, 2010, we received 384 pledges totaling \$325,742 of which we received \$207,006 and \$38,503 from 126 non-pledged members.

Orthodoxy in America



The harvest of today contains the seeds of tomorrow.

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF DINNER AND DANCING



Our Philoptochos invites the entire St. Demetrios Community to join us as We Work Together Building On Our Faith, For a Night of Dinner and Dancing:

Saturday, October 30, 2010

Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart Street, Boston

Cocktails at 5:30 pm, Dinner at 7:00 pm

Music by Ta Pethia

All proceeds from the event will benefit the Building Fund. Parishioners will be receiving formal invitations in the mail.

Raffle Details

(tickets on sale soon and available during the Sept. Ministry Fair):

1st Prize: 36 month, 10,000-mile (annual) lease, on a BMW 328i X-drive sedan; or \$15,000 cash.

2nd Prize: 46" Samsung LCD HDTV (\$1699 value).

3rd Prize: \$500.00 cash.



NEWS & EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIOR GUILD: LITURGY AND LUNCHEON ON SEPT.

14TH: Save the date for our first get-together, celebrating the Elevation of the Holy Cross. Bring your stories on "how you spent your summer." Contact Tina: 781-444-2564.

LOOKING FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS: Hosting a Fellowship Hour is a fun way to meet people and serve our Church community. All supplies are provided. If you can help on a Sunday please contact Mary Ellen Paravalos (781-349-8077) or Julie Kavas (781-762-1647).

ANNUAL MINISTRY FAIR: SEPT. 12, 19 & 26: Join us in the hall after Liturgy, where you'll find flyers, calendars and general information on programs of interest. All ministry leaders are asked to have their materials prepared for our parishioners in time for the 12th. The goal is to connect us all to programs of interest and grow the creativity, depth and enthusiasm of our parish family. Please contact coordinators Peter Gavrilles (peter.gavrilles@maritime.edu); or Chris Resmini (chrisresmini@hotmail.com).

METROPOLIS CLERGY LAITY AT HELLENIC COLLEGE/ HOLY CROSS, OCT. 2: Following up on last year's program at St. Demetrios, the parishes of our Metropolis will be gathering on the campus of our beloved seminary. Vital information will be shared and stimulating educational sessions will be offered. Please make this event a priority. Interested parishioners and ministry leaders should register with the Church office.

YOUR FAITH IN MOTION: CONNECTING TO PARISH LIFE ARE YOU INTERESTED IN....

- Assisting in a Church School classroom?
- Offering your time, talent & energy on a special committee/project?
- Lending a hand with outreach projects?
- Helping homebound parishioners with errands?
- Helping with parish mailings?
- Working on cleaning and organizational projects around the church?

If so, then please call the church office! We'll connect you with a meaningful, worthwhile project and help you grow closer to our parish family.

SAVE THE DATE! Important St. Demetrios events:

October 1: Family Night	October 16: Prayerful Pumpkin Carving
October 2: Clergy Laity Conference	October 22: Salvation Army "Miracle Kitchen"
October 5: Greek School Open House	October 30: "Building on Our Faith" Dance
October 13: Philoptochos Board Mtg	November 6: Pet Blessing

RECONNECTING THIS FALL

Do you receive our e-bulletins, mailings, and *The Vine*? Please contact the office if any of your contact information has changed or if you would like to be added to our parish contact list. Our full slate of fall ministries is beginning—stay connected and don't miss out.

ADULT EDUCATION

"Come and See":

A Significant Theme for a Significant Year

For 2010-11, all of our ministries—youth & adult—will revolve around the theme of "Come and See." Whether it's the life of our patron saint, St. Demetrios, the power of community, or the rich teachings of a parable, our educational goal for the year is to help all of our parishioners "see" Christ and our faith through new eyes. Now engaged in our "Building On Our Faith" program, it's all the more important to remember who we are, why we gather at St. Demetrios, and what our faith community really is all about. As Philip challenged Nathaniel, this year let us also "come and see" our beloved Lord with invigorated love and a refreshed perspective.

ORTHODOX LIFE MINISTRY

"Come and See: the Saints of Our Faith"



This year's first mini-course will be taught by Dr. James Skedros and will begin on Tuesday, September 14 and run for five consecutive Tuesdays (through Oct. 12, 7 – 8:30 pm). With Jim's guidance, we'll see the lives of our saints in a new way—recognizing their struggles, spiritual triumphs and the legacy of

hope and faith they've left for us. As always, feel free to bring friends, neighbors or colleagues from work. Everyone is invited to attend, and no previous knowledge of scripture is required for this approachable program.

MEDIA, WITNESS AND OUTREACH



MIRACLE KITCHEN: VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED



As we embark on our 27th year of unbroken monthly service to the Framingham Salvation Army's meals program, we currently find ourselves in need of new helpers and volunteers. Since this mission team is open to all members of our parish—men and women alike—we would like to hear from those willing to share a few hours once a month to help our faithful workers prepare and serve meals for approximately 150 guests. We would also happily welcome assistance from any organizations within our St. Demetrios family to help us maintain and keep this vital ministry available to the needy and hungry of our area. For further information or to offer your services, please call Dorothea Ocnos, coordinator, at (508) 877-5954.

FR. MANIKAS LIBRARY: BOOK OF THE MONTH

AN INVITATION TO THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY by John P. Corsuch

"Something vital is born in us when trust takes root. Something from the ground of life stirs in us once we build on our experiences of God enough to consider moving through our resistances and fears. The promise of something better pulls at us. We are ready to move another step. How do we begin?"



Mr. Gorsuch invites us to join him in answering this question, and he encourages us to face the consequences of a "cluttered" life by learning to trust the inner workings of the Holy Spirit.

We have set aside this book in our Recommendation Shelf. Come and visit our library soon and check us out.

EXCITING NEW ADDITIONS AT THE ST. DEMETRIOS BOOKSTORE

Selections include *The Gurus*, *the Young Man and Elder Paisios* and also *Your Baby's Baptism in the Orthodox Church*. There is also a beautiful display of icons, which can be custom-ordered, and ask us about "Save Light" solar-operated lights which can be used in the home or outdoors.

PHILANTHROPY and SOCIAL ACTION



BROWN BAG BLITZ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3: BENEFITING THE SALVATION ARMY MIRACLE KITCHEN!

OCF members will once again offer us all those wonderful brown bags with directions and an inspirational message. Our Oct./Nov. goal is to collect as many general, non-perishable items as possible for our Miracle Kitchen. This might be a great time to clean out your pantry or pick up a few extra things on your next shopping trip. Please take an extra brown bag if you can! Contact Lydia Santangelo to help: lydiaeventspclst@aol.com.

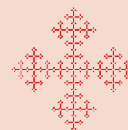


ST. FRANCIS HOUSE & "BRIDGE" WORK CONTINUES

Thanks to the work of dedicated volunteers, our parish is now connected to St. Francis House in Boston, the largest day shelter in New England, as well as Bridge Over Troubled Waters, which services teens in crisis. More help is needed on an ongoing basis, and rides to Boston are provided. Please contact Peter Mitsakos to learn more: 781-899-6583; tpmitsakos@comcast.net.

EPOCH OUTREACH: SEPTEMBER 21 AT 10:30 AM

Join Fr. Nick and Fr. Alex on these wonderful visits with the residents of EPOCH. Together, we can offer them the love of our parish family. Contact Fr. Alex for details.





ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS



Sunday, July 11

Desi Doulos-Ayers, in loving memory of her mother, Irene.

The Brody Family, in loving memory of Benjamin.

Sunday, July 18

The McVey Family, in loving memory of Ian.

Sunday, July 25

The Family of Harry and Betty Rodes.

Sunday, August 8

Chris Pappas and Family, in loving memory of his father, Constantine.

Sunday, August 15

Mickie Avtges Taleas, in loving memory of her parents, Emmanuel and Maria.

WEDDINGS



Elizabeth Charpie and Bailey Fidler were united in marriage on Saturday, July 3. The sponsor was Carolyn Charpie.

Christina Metrakas and Matthew Kitoski were united in marriage on Saturday, July 31. The sponsor was Eugenia Metrakas.

Caitlin Spaulding and Christopher Gumas were united in marriage on Sunday, August 15. The sponsor was Peter Gumas.

FUNERALS

Constantine Pappas of New England and Florida, Tuesday, July 6.

Michael Buras of West Newton, Tuesday, July 20.

May their memory be eternal!

BAPTISMS

The daughter of Peter and Vasiliki Pouloupoulos was baptized on Sunday, June 27, and named **Isadora**. The sponsor was Maria Sergent.

The daughter of Gustavo and Eleni Jolon was baptized on Sunday, July 25, and named **Isabella Irina**. The sponsor was Litsa Ioannidou.

The daughter of Douglas and Kristine Cauti was baptized on Sunday, August 15, and named **Nichole Eve-Phyllis**. The sponsors were Pamela McNamara and Peter Rodis.

The son of Leo and Christy Romanick was baptized on Saturday, August 21, and named **Noah**. The sponsors were Mark Travers and Deborah Baker.

*May God bless them
with His divine grace!*



ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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WESTON, MA 02493

