



# St. Demetrios *Parish Newsletter* April 2013

41-47 Wisteria St., Perth Amboy, N.J. 732 826-4466 Fr. Angelo J. Michaels



## APRIL 2013 RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

### Apr 7

Sunday of the Holy Cross  
Κυριακή Γ' των Νηστειών (της Σταυροπροσκυνησεως)  
Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:1-6  
Gospel: Mark 8:34-38; 9:1

### Apr 14

Sunday of St. John Climacus  
Κυριακή Δ' των Νηστειών - του Οσιου Πατρος υμων Ιωαννου του συγγραφους  
Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 6:13-20  
Gospel: Mark 9:17-31

### Apr 21

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt  
Κυριακή Ε' των Νηστειών - Οσιας Μητρος ημων Μαριας της Αιγυπτιας  
Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 9:11-14  
Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

### April 27

Lazarus Saturday  
10am  
Communion Breakfast

### Apr 28

Palm Sunday  
Κυριακή των Βαΐων  
Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9  
Gospel: John 12:1-18

### SERVICES

#### (unless otherwise stated)

Sunday Orthros 9:00 AM  
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

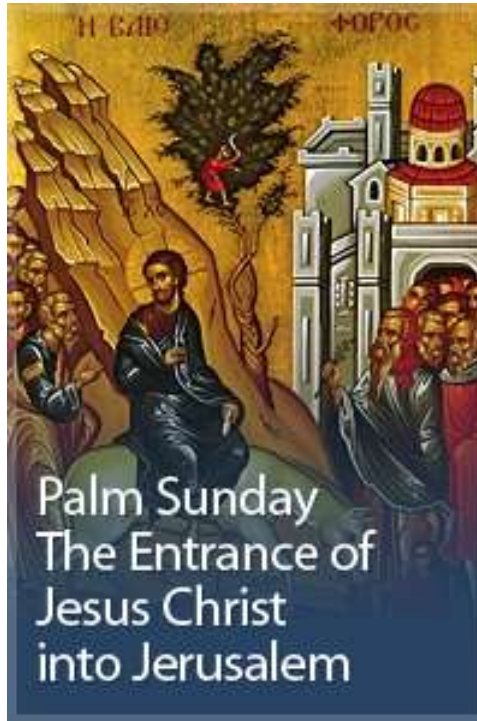
### ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SACRAMENTS

During 2013 Weddings will not be held during Great Lent, Holy week and Easter March 17<sup>th</sup> - May 12<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost June 23<sup>rd</sup>, Sunday August 4<sup>th</sup>.

No Baptisms during Holy Week or any of the Great Feast Days of the Lord.

No Memorials from April 27 - May 23

## Palm Sunday Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup> 2013



On April 28<sup>th</sup> we commemorate the triumphant entrance of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. The people of Jerusalem received Christ as a king, and, therefore, took branches of palms and went out to meet Him, laying down the palms in His path. The people cried out the prophecy of Zechariah: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel" (v. 13; of Zechariah 9:9). The celebration of the Jewish Passover brought crowds of Jews and converted Jews to Jerusalem. They had heard of the works and words of Christ, especially about the resurrection of Lazarus. All the events related to Christ had a Messianic meaning for the Jews at the time. This vexed the high priests and pharisees. As usual, Christ went to the Temple to pray and teach. That evening Christ departed for Bethany. The tradition of the Church of distributing palms on this Sunday comes from the act of the people in placing the branches of palms in front of Christ, and henceforth symbolizes for the Christian the victory of Christ over evil forces and death.

### Philoptochos

### Fashion Show

On March 9th with 165 guests in attendance our chapter celebrated 90 years of service by honoring past presidents and members for their commitment to give love, hope and aid to those in need. A special award was presented to Alexandra for her many years of service.

The Fashion Show fundraiser was very successfully and everybody had a terrific time!

I like to thank the philoptochos board for chairing the event, all our members who helped our family, friends, and parishioners for making this event possible.

StellaWacker  
President



**Fashion Show at Pines a Big Hit**

ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
PERTH AMBOY, NJ

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON  
SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2013  
Following church service

Donations: ADULTS - \$20.00  
CHILDREN 6 to 18 yrs old \$10.00  
For reservations and information please contact:  
Irene Pakis (732) 591-1878  
Presvytera Eva Michaels (732) 738-1902  
Church (732) 826-4466



## *Parish Council*

Kateina Ganiaris - President  
Kathy Kouretas - Vice President  
Christina Garrison - Secretary  
Steve Corodemus - Treasurer  
Eleni Stoimenides  
Alex Vosinas  
Dino Kusulas  
Michael Koudis  
George Petrakakis  
Mark Rasimowicz  
Nick Giannakopoulos  
Gary Ahladianakis  
Nick Pakis  
Helen Horan

Submissions and ideas for content are encouraged and can be emailed directly to the editor at [dkusulas@optonline.net](mailto:dkusulas@optonline.net)

Deadline for submissions for the May 2013 Bulletin is April 10, 2013.

**ORTHODOX CALENDAR**  
[www.goarch.org/chapel/calendar](http://www.goarch.org/chapel/calendar)

**LATEST ISSUE OF THE ORTHODOX OBSERVER**  
<http://goarch.org/news/observer>

Help support the monthly newsletter by placing an ad for your business in each month's edition. Submit your photo-ready business card today. For more details about ad rates please contact [d.kusulas@optonline.net](mailto:d.kusulas@optonline.net).

### **NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL BOARD**

Fr. Angelo Michaels  
Kateina Ganiaris  
Dino Kusulas  
Maria Kakadelis  
Mary Lou Rivera

## *PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*

### BEING A GOOD HOUSE GUEST

With the Lenten season upon us many of us will travel to see family in preparation and to celebrate Easter. When visiting someone's house it is important to be a gracious guest. It could be the difference between a pleasant stay, or never being invited back. Remember when visiting, the basic rules are: arrive on time, being courteous and respectful to all, follow the host's house rules and bring a gift to show your appreciation.

Every Sunday God invites each of us to visit in God's house- The Church. Do we not owe our God at least the basic consideration we would show any host? On Time arrival: The Divine Liturgy starts at 10:00 am. Courteous and respectful: Have I exhibited Agape to all? House Rules: Have you fasted, gone to confession, attended Friday night services for the Annunciation for Theotokos? Did I bring a gift? Have I paid my stewardship to make sure the church expenses are being met to provide holiday functions? Did I consider donating to the epitaphios decoration?

As we come together as a family to prepare for the renewal of life at Easter, let's not forget to be good guests in God's house so the invitation to visit is always a welcomed one.  
Yours in Christ,

Kateina Ganiaris

Board President



## Εκκλησιαστικό Συμβούλιο

Κατίνα Γανιάρης Πρόεδρος  
Αικατερίνη Κουρετάς  
Αντιπρόεδρος  
Χριστίνα Γκαρίσον Γραμματέας  
Σωτήριος Κοροδίμος Ταμίας  
Ελενη Στοιμενιδης  
Αλεξανδρο Βοσινας  
Κωνσταντίνος Κουσουλας  
Δημητρη Κουδης  
Γιωργος Πετρακακης  
Μαρκ Ρασιμονγουιτζ  
Νικος Γιαννακοπουλος  
Κωνσταντίνος Αχλαδιανακης  
Νικος Πακης  
Ελενη Χοραν

Αν έχετε υποβολές και ιδέες  
για το εκκλησιαστικό μας  
περιοδικό, επικοινωνήστε με  
τον Κωνσταντίνο Κουσουλές:  
[d.kusulas@optonline.net](mailto:d.kusulas@optonline.net)

Deadline for submissions for  
the May 2013 Bulletin is  
April 10, 2013.

Ημερολόγιο της Ορθοδοξίας  
[www.goarch.org/chapel/calendar](http://www.goarch.org/chapel/calendar)

LATEST ISSUE OF  
THE ORTHODOX OBSERVER  
<http://goarch.org/news/observer>

Σας παρακαλούμε όσοι έχετε  
επιχειρήσεις, να βάλετε  
διαφήμιση στο εκκλησιαστικό  
μας περιοδικό. Για  
περισσότερες πληροφορίες,  
επικοινωνήστε με τον  
Κωνσταντίνο Κουσουλές:  
[d.kusulas@optonline.net](mailto:d.kusulas@optonline.net)

### Συντακτε

Αιδ. Άγγελος Ι. Μιχαλιός  
Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος  
Κατίνα Γανιάρης  
Κωνσταντίνος Κουσουλές  
Μαρία Κακαδέλη  
Μαίρη Λου Ρίβερα

## **ΜΗΝΥΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΥ**

ΝΑ ΕΙΣΑΙ ΕΝΑΣ ΚΑΛΟΣ ΞΕΝΩΝΑΣ

Με την νηστίσιμη περίοδο κοντά μας πολλοί από μάζ θα ταξιδέψουν να δουν την οικογένεια τους στο πλαίσιο της προετοιμασίας και να γιορτάσουν το Πάσχα μαζί τους. Όταν επισκέπτεστε το σπίτι κάποιου, είναι σημαντικό να είναι αυτός ένας ευχάριστος επισκέπτης. Θα μπορούσε να είναι ανάμεσα σε μια ευχάριστη διαμονή, ή ποτέ να μην κληθεί πάλι πίσω. Να θυμάστε, όταν επισκέπτομαστε, οι βασικοί κανόνες είναι οι εξής: Να φθάνουν στην ώρα τους, να είναι ευγενείς και σεβασμός πρέπει σε όλους, ακολουθούν τους κανόνες του σπιτίου του οικοδεσπότη και να φέρνουν ένα δώρο για να δείξετε την εκτίμησή σας.

Κάθε Κυριακή ο Θεός καλεί τον καθένα μας να επισκεφθεί το σπίτι του Θεού. Την Εκκλησία. Δεν οφελουμε στο Θεό μας τουλάχιστον την βασική κατανοηση που θα ηθελε να δείξει κάθε οικοδεσποτης της υποδοχής; Κατά την αρα της άφιξης. Η Θεία Λειτουργία αρχίζει στις 10:00 το πρωί. Ευγενής και με σεβασμό. Να εχετε εκδηλωση αγαπης σε όλους. Κανόνες στο σπιτι: Έχετε κανει την νηστεία, εχετε πάει για εξομολόγηση, παρακολούθηστε την Παρασκευή την νύχτα τις υπηρεσίες του Ευαγγελισμού της Θεοτόκου; Μήπως να φέρω ένα δώρο; Έχω πληρώσει την διαχείριση του οικονο-μικού μερους για να βεβαιωθω ότι τα έξοδα της εκκλησίας που παρουσιαστη-Καν για να παρέχουν λειτουργίες στις διακοπές των εορτων. Μήπως θα πρέπει να δωρίσω στην διακόσμηση του Επιτάφιος;









Όπως έχουμε έρθει μαζί ως οικογένεια για να προετοιμασθούν όλα για την ανανέωση της ζωής του Πάσχα, ας μην ξεχνάμε ότι είναι καλό οι επισκέπτες στο σπίτι του Θεού, ώστε η πρόσκληση να επισκεφθείτε τον οικον του Θεου να είναι πάντατε μια ευπρόσδεκτη.

Με αγάπη Χριστού,

Κατίνα Γανιάρης Πρόεδρος Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου



**St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church**  
**Holy Week and Easter Schedule of Services for 2013**

<b>Sunday, April 28</b> <b>Κυριακή, Απριλίου 28</b>		<b>Palm Sunday</b> Orthos 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Service of Nymphios 7:30 pm	<b>Κυριακή των Βαΐων</b> Ορθρος 9:00 πμ Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 πμ Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου 7:30 μμ
<b>Monday, April 29</b> <b>Δευτέρα, Απριλίου 29</b>		<b>Holy Monday</b> Service of Nymphios 7:30 pm	 <b>Μεγάλη Δευτέρα</b> Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου 7:30 μμ
<b>Tuesday, April 30</b> <b>Τρίτη, Απριλίου 30</b>		<b>Holy Tuesday</b> Service of Nymphios and Troparion Kassianis 7:30 pm	<b>Μεγάλη Τρίτη</b> Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου και Τροπαρίων Κασσιανής 7:30 μμ
<b>Wednesday, May 1</b> <b>Τετάρτη, Μαΐου 1</b>		<b>Holy Wednesday</b> Holy Unction for the children 4:00 pm Holy Unction 7:30 pm	 <b>Μεγάλη Τετάρτη</b> Μεγα Ευχέλαιον για τα παιδιά 4:00 μμ Μεγα Ευχέλαιον 7:30 μμ
<b>Thursday, May 2</b> <b>Πέμπτη, Μαΐου 2</b>		<b>Holy Thursday</b> Holy Communion for workers 7:30 am – 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 8:30 am – 10:30 am Holy Passion Service 7:00 pm	<b>Μεγάλη Πέμπτη</b> Θεία Κοινωνία για τους εργαζόμενους 7:30 πμ – 8:30 πμ Θεία Λειτουργία 8:30 πμ - 10:30 πμ Η Ακολουθία των Παθών του Κυρίου 7:00 μμ
<b>Friday, May 3</b> <b>Παρασκευή, Μαΐου 3</b>		<b>Holy Friday</b> Reading of the Hours 9:00 am Service of the Apokathelosis 4:00 pm Service of the Epitafios 7:30 pm	 <b>Μεγάλη Παρασκευή</b> Ακολουθία των Ωρών 9:00 πμ Η Αποκαθηλώσις 4:00 μμ Η Ακολουθία του Επιταφίου 7:30 μμ
<b>Saturday, May 4</b> <b>Σάββατο, Μαΐου 4</b>		<b>Holy Saturday</b> Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 8:30 am Orthos of the Resurrection 11:00 pm Resurrection (Anastasis) and Divine Liturgy 12:00 am	<b>Μεγα Σάββατο</b> Θεία Λειτουργία Αγίου Βασιλείου 8:30 πμ Η Παννυχίς 11:00 μμ Η Ακολουθία της Αναστασεως του Σωτήρος 12:00 μεσανυχτα
<b>Sunday, May 5</b> <b>Κυριακή, Μαΐου 5</b>		<b>Easter Sunday</b> Holy Easter – Agapi Service 12:00 pm (Easter Egg Hunt for the Children)	 <b>Το Άγιον Πάσχα</b> Ακολουθία της Αγάπης 12:00 μμ (Εύρεση των αυγών για τα παιδιά)

**CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY, HE IS RISEN!**  
**ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ! ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!**



## Get to Know Your Parish Council Representatives: Kathy Kouretas



My husband Kosta and I were married in 1972 after which we occasionally attended St. Nicholas Church in Newark. We soon moved to Edison and then Perth Amboy. When our first son Stephen was old enough to begin Sunday school looked for a church that was more local and we found St Demetrios. My husband and I became very active in the Orthodox Church. We were members of the Mr. & Mrs. Club, (I served as Treasurer, then President), and my husband served on the Parish council. It was during this time our second son Samuel was born and then our youngest son Gregory.

I began teaching Sunday school when my youngest son was 2 years old. While teaching Sunday school I learned that what the Orthodox faithful believed about God and Jesus were the same Christian values and beliefs I was raised with in the Baptist faith. I decided I wanted to be baptized and with the help of Father Tom Pappalas I studied the history and traditions of the Orthodox faith. My husband almost fell off his chair when I announced I was going to be baptized Orthodox and we were going to be married in the Orthodox Church. I respect him very much for never pressuring me and allowing me to make this decision on my own as it truly meant more to me. Just a funny note my middle son who was in first grade at the time went to school and announced that his mother and father got married over the weekend.

I began as a Sunday school teacher for the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade. I served as the Assistant Director for 2 years. In 1984 I began as the Sunday School Director for a total of 15 years. As Director I tried to create a Christmas pageant each year with something a little extra to enhance the program. I initiated many new Sunday School programs such as Godparent & Grandparent Sundays and honoring the Altar Boys. I wanted to pass on my passion for our religion to the students. I have also been involved with the PTO, Greek School and Philoptochos and served as Philoptochos assistant treasurer. I have chaired many affairs such as church dances, Mother's Day, graduations and Vasilopeta luncheons. I've been on the Parish council for over 10 years serving several terms as secretary and now as vice president.

My wish for St. Demetrios is to see many of the programs and organizations come back and grow not only in size but in our Orthodox faith.

With Love in Christ & God bless you all,

Kathy Kouretas

*Spring is the season for renewal. A season that allows us to shake off the cold and gloom of winter and emerge refreshed to do good work the rest of the year. The same can be said of the Lenten season.*

*It too is a time of renewal for the soul. It is a time to cleanse one's body and spirit and prepare ourselves for the tasks ahead. Lent is a spiritual spring cleaning, a time to reaffirm our convictions. It is a time to emerge from the cold and gloom of what may be weighing down our spirits and renew our faith in our church and ourselves. It is a time when we should prioritize what really has meaning in our lives.*

*During this time of year we come together in God's house as a spiritual family to renew our commitment to Him. We reflect on Christ's suffering and sacrifice. We ask forgiveness for our own shortcomings. We ask for guidance to make wise decisions and for strength to make the right ones.*

*We should be taking advantage of this time of renewal as a community. This is a time to re-commit not only to our faith and ourselves but to our community as well. This is a time to commit to finding the good within ourselves and our community.*

*Everyone has a place at St. Demetrios. Everyone has the opportunity to do something great within the community. Everyone has a choice, everyone has a chance. There is much good work to do and it is good work that helps renew one's faith.*

D. Kusulas

Editor



## CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP IS FAITH IN ACTION

We are merely caretakers of what we possess. God loves us so much that He appoints us Stewards of His earthly kingdom, and grants us the privilege of using that which we possess, to His honor and glory.

God charges us with the responsibility not only of Stewardship over material resources but also of human resources. We are Stewards not only of things but of life itself. We are Stewards of all creation. This is God's loving gift to us.

It is time we recognize that everything has been given to us to manage, cultivate and protect for Him. God gives all to us to use and we in turn return it to Him as our recognition of His love and His sovereignty over our lives. This expression of faith is reflected through our actions; our faith determines the choices by which we live. Stewardship is the key ingredient for that faith. It is easy for all of us to say our prayers, to attend Church and go through the motions. The real test comes in how we manage what God has given us.

Our actions, lives, and giving are the most accurate measure of our faith. The material things in our lives, our time, our talent and treasures speak clearly about what's most important for us, they mold and shape who we are and how we live - we need to ask" do we allow God to enter these areas of our lives?" Does He impact

our thinking in these choices? Christian Stewardship is faith in action.

St. Paul describes it clearly noting that the Corinthian Greeks who were in extreme poverty gave even in their dire hardship to help the Church in Jerusalem. God was the most important part of their lives, influencing all their choices. They chose to give because they trusted God. They gave because love guided their choice. Stewardship is our commitment to Christ, our conscientious choice to support His work and commit ourselves, our whole life, to Christ our God. Stewardship affords us this joyous opportunity to reexamine our priorities and values. It's an opportunity to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and our means. Stewardship enables us to participate more fully in the work God has given each person to do in the Church and in the world.

Our reason for being here today is to celebrate God, celebrate His presence, His power, His love and His promise of fulfillment. In celebrating these realities, new life is given to us. This new life involves a daily recognition that God is the owner and we are the Stewards of His material resources and His human resources as well.



## HOLY WEEK

For many of us, our earliest religious memories are those of Holy Week's solemn services and rituals. Despite their solemnity, these recollections are always fascinating, and remind us of what a Christian is--a person who follows the One who has known acclaim, abandonment, defeat, crucifixion, and finally, the silence of the tomb. But even the finality of that tomb could not silence Him.

It is a week that begins with the resurrection of Lazarus, and Palm Sunday, with its passing moments of popular success, waving palms, and shouted hosannas. It continues with the Last Supper, in which Christ revealed the Bread of Life and the Cup of Blessing that is the Eucharist or Holy

Communion. It continues with the drama of a night of prayer ending in the betraying kiss of a friend, and in arrest and humiliation, and seems to end with Good Friday with His torture, His mother's tears, a shameful death, and the frightening silence that followed.

Holy Week, in its yearly and faithful enactment, teaches us that Christ' love for us could not be crushed. The message which He shared could not be stilled. The large stone could not contain Him in the terrible darkness of that tomb. Jesus Christ also rose from the dead. And together with Him, there arose every hope that we have for mercy, strength, perseverance, and everlasting life.

Holy Week is the sacred time during which these memories

become present in the liturgies and the sacraments of our churches, and in the practices and the rituals of our homes, passed down to us by our parents and teachers in the faith from the beginning until our own day. This is the week in which the life-giving events in the saving ministry of Jesus Christ become real for each of us. It is the week during which Christ turns to us in a real way and says to us, "Come and follow me." He invites us to consecrate our own individual pain and suffering in obedience to God, and to share with Him in the great victory over death which He won for us all. To Him may there be glory forever.

REV. ANDREW DEMOTSES

Αγαπητά μέλη της Κοινότητας μας,

Όλοι ξέρουμε την επιτυχία που είχε το περσινό γεύμα των Βαΐων Γεύμα . Αυτό βέβαια οφείλεται σε εσάς για την αγάπη σας και την υποστήριξη του Αγίου Δημητρίου. Γι 'αυτό και το Ενοριακό Συμβούλιο αποφάσισε να προετοιμάσει μια ειδική και αξέχαστη μέρα για όλους εσάς.

Ελάτε και πάλι φέτος με τις οικογένειές σας και τους φίλους σας και όλοι μαζί σαν μια οικογένεια να συνεορτάσουμε την Αγία ημέρα των Βαΐων.

Βοηθήστε μας, ώστε να μπορούμε να έχουμε τα πάντα έτοιμα για σας, και να είναι μια επιτυχημένη ημέρα για όλους μας. Σας παρακαλούμε να δηλώσετε εγκαίρως συμμετοχή. Η Εκκλησία μας χρειάζεται τη βοήθειά μας και τη στήριξη από όλους μας. Τα εσοδα της ημέρας θα διατεθούν για τις ανάγκες της εκκλησίας μας. Έτσι, παρακαλούμε να υποστηρίξετε την εκκλησία σας.

Θα σας περιμένουμε με αγάπη για όλους εσάς. Σας ευχόμαστε "Καλή Τεσσαρακosti"!

Με αγάπη και σεβασμό,

Η επιτροπή για την Ημέρα

Dear Members of our Community,

We all know the success which we had with Last Year's Palm Sunday Luncheon. This of course is attributed to you for your love and support of St. Demetrios. That's why the Parish Council has decided to prepare a special and unforgettable day for all of you.

Come again this year with your families and your friends and all together like a family celebrate this Holy Day of Palm Sunday.

Help us, so we can have everything ready for you and be a successful day for all of us. For this reason we would like you to make your reservations as soon as possible. Our Church needs our help and support from all of us. The proceeds of the day will go to the needs of our church. So, please support your church.

We will be waiting with love for all of you. We wish you "Kali Tassarakosti"!

With love & respect,

The Committee for the Day



## Who Are You and Why Are You So Special?

Have you ever glanced at the icons that grace our church and wondered, “Who is that Saint? What did he do?”

On the first Sunday of Great Lent, we celebrate “The Sunday of Orthodoxy”. This service commemorates the restoration of our icons for use in our religious services. If you’re anything like me, most of the time I don’t recognize the saint(s) I am honoring or the reason why he or she earned the halo around their blessed head. To remedy that, a brief bio of a saint will be provided in the Newsletter in order to get acquainted with our church’s beloved role models.

I’d like to introduce you to St. George The Trophy Bearer. He’s the saint you usually see riding a horse and driving a spear into a dragon. Do you know the story behind that dragon? There once was a lake inhabited by a dragon that ate the people drawing water. To save his people, the emperor promised that each day a child would be sacrificed to the dragon in order to keep the rest of the people safe. On the day the emperor’s daughter was to be sacrificed, St. George, a dashing young Christian soldier in the Roman army at that time, rescued her by slaying the dragon with the strength of his faith behind him. As a result of this, many people converted to Christianity.

The Emperor was not pleased and sent out decrees against Christians. When St. George learned of this, he knew it was time to make a public confession of his faith in Christ. He sold all his worldly goods and then reproached the sovereign for unjustly shedding Christian blood. The emperor had St. George arrested and attempted to torture the saint into turning away from his faith. But it was because of his faith that St. George survived all methods of torment. When the emperor’s own wife declared herself to be a Christian, the emperor decreed that she and St. George were to be beheaded. Just before he was beheaded, St. George thanked God for helping him through all his torments. When he died, St. George carried away the trophies of eternal glory.

The Feast of St. George is celebrated on April 23rd.

### ο Άγιος Γεωργιος, ο Μεγαλομάρτυρας και Τροπαιοφόρος



Μαζί με την Ανάσταση του Κυρίου, γιορταζουμε και τη μνημη του Αγίου Γεωργίου του Τροπαιοφόρου. Ο Άγιος Γεωργιος γεννηθηκε στην Καππαδοκία της Μικρας Ασιας. Απο τους γονεις του, που ηταν ευσεβεις χριστιανοι, πηρε χριστιανικη ανατροφη. Νωρις ομως εμεινε ορφανος απο τον πατερα του, που καθως λεγεται, μαρτυρησε για την πιστη του Χριστου. Με τις φροντιδες της καλης του μητερα, ο Γεωργιος, προδευε στην μορφωση και στη χριστιανικη ζωη.

Οταν μεγαλωσε, καταταχτηκε στο ρωμαϊκο στρατο του αυτοκρατορα Διοκλητιανου, ενος μεγαλου διωκτης των χριστιανων. Ο Γεωργιος γρηγορα εφασε στο αξιωμα του χιλιαρχου. Ως αξιωματικος ελευθερωσε αιχμαλωτους και υπερασπιστηκε τους φτωχους.

Καποτε ο Άγιος Γεωργιος διαταχτηκε να συλλαβει και να βασανισει χριστιανους. Ομως αρνηθηκε να εκτελεσει μια τετοια διαταγη και ομολογησε με θαρρος μπροστα στον αυτοκρατορα τη δικη του πιστη και την επιθυμια να μαρτυρησει ο ιδιος για τον Ιησου. Ο Διοκλητιανος καταπληκτος προσπαθησε να τον μεταπεισει. Αλλα ο ηρωικος νεας διακηρυξε με πιο πολυ θαρρος: «Ειμαι χριστιανος και θελω να πεθανω για το Χριστο».

Ο Διοκλητιανος δεν το περιμενε και εφριξε με τη σταση του Γεωργίου. Ο Διοκλητιανος, διεταξε να τον φυλακισουν και να τον βασανισουν σκληρα. Αφου τον λογησαν, ξεσκισαν τις σαρκες του με ειδικο τροχο απο μαχαιρια, τον εριξαν σε λακκο με βραστο ασβεστη και κατοπιν τον αναγκασαν να βαδισει με πυρωμενα μεταλλικα παπουτσια. Απο ολα αυτα ο Θεος τον κρατησε ζωντανο και εγινε αιτια να εξευτελιστουν τα ειδωλα και οι εκφραστες τους.

Ο Άγιος Γεωργιος παρα τα φοβερα μαρτυρια θεραπευτηκε θαυματουργικα απο το Θεο. Ηταν το τροπαιο του Χριστου για την υπομονη, το θαρρος και την αγαπη του Αγίου Γεωργίου προς αυτον.

Ο Άγιος Γεωργιος, αποκαλουμενος απο την Ορθοδοξη Εκκλησια Μεγαλομάρτυς και Τροπαιοφόρος. Είναι απο τους δημοφιλεστερους αγιους σε ολοκληρο το Χριστιανικο κοσμο. Η μνημη του τιμαται στις 23 Απριλιου. Η Εκκλησια τον ονομαζει μεγαλομάρτυρα, για την αφταστη υπομονη και τον ηρωισμο του στα μαρτυρια και θαυματουργο για τα πολλα θαυματα του.





## **SACRED MUSIC CORNER**

### **COMPOSER THE LIFE OF ST. DEMETRIOS**

#### **An Oratorio in three parts**

We have all heard of the famous George Frideric Handel's "Messiah" that is sung in churches and concert halls worldwide. An oratorio, is (Music/Classical Music) a dramatic but unstaged musical composition for soloists, chorus, and orchestra, based on a religious theme. But did you know that there was a Greek composer that wrote a world famous oratorio in three movements? And that the religious subject of this composition was the Life of St. Demetrios? His name was Nicolas Astrinidis and among the many symphonic, piano and choral works he composed was the famous Life of St. Demetrios.

Nicolas Astrinidis was born in Romania on May 6, 1921. A wounded and decorated pilot in World War II while serving with the Royal Greek Air Force, He received the Medal for Outstanding Deeds. In 1947, Astrinidis moved to Paris where he completed his formal musical studies at the Schola Cantorum, receiving Diplomas in Piano Virtuosity and Composition. There after he began an unending career worldwide as composer, pianist and conductor.

In 1965 Astrinidis was appointed artistic and musical director of the Philharmonic and Mixed Choir of the Municipality of Thessaloniki, a position which he would hold until 1985. In 1962 he composed and directed the chorus in the Thessaloniki Music Festival presenting the Life of St. Demetrios.

In 1962, the life and martyrdom of Demetrios became the subject of a 90-minute oratorio by Greek Diaspora composer Nicolas Astrinidis. Three parts of the work were premiered at the first Demetria Festival in Thessaloniki on October 26, 1962. The entire oratorio was premiered in 1966 and received subsequent performances in 1985 (Thessaloniki) and in 1993 (Bucharest).

The Oratorio of St. Demetrios is divided in the following sequences:

Prelude --  
Invocation of the Christians to the Lord (prologue) (12:07) --  
Death of Demetrios' father (6:58) --

Demetrios becomes governor of Thessalonika ; Departure of Maximilianos (7:01) -

Arrival of Maximilianos ; Wrath of Maximilianos against Demetrios (8:00) --

Announcement of games at the stadium ; Combat of Nestor and Lyaaios (13:09) -

Grief of Demetrios for the death of Nestor; Martyrdom and deification (epilogue) (22:29).

You can hear and see Composer Astrinidis's video interview (in Greek) on YouTube:

[http://youtu.be/h-U9dzq\\_Hp0](http://youtu.be/h-U9dzq_Hp0)

You can hear and see the 90 minute performance of the Oratorio on YouTube at:

<http://youtu.be/JpUPOkvbhKY>

The Hymn of St. Demetrios can be heard on YouTube and is so beautiful it will be featured on the new church web page:

<http://youtu.be/OSYQnAo4JTU>

The Community of St. Demetrios Perth Amboy NJ is indebted to Professor Ilias Chrissochoidis, Nicolas Astrinidis: Life - Works catalog, Stanford, 2012. ISBN 1478248637 who through his scholarly works has brought the beauty of Maestro Astrinidis's works to this county and into the hearts of so many.



**YOUR AD IN THE**  
**ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**2013 Newsletter Advertising Contract**

We/I agree to place the attached business card ad in the monthly issue of the St. Demetrios Newsletter throughout the remaining issues of 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Business Name (write above)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Address (write above)

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, and Zip Code (write above)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business and/or Cell Phone Number (write above)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name (Please print) (write above)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date :(this date will determine your cost)  
\$25 X \_\_\_\_\_ (number of issues) = \$ (amount of the check enclosed)

I have enclosed a copy of my business card or information.

Please forward this contract, your business card and check made payable to:  
St. Demetrios Church Newsletter  
41-47 Wisteria St.  
Perth Amboy, NJ 08840

**SUPPORT THE SPONSORS OF THE ST. DEMETRIOS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

**Designs By Argiro ("Alicia")**

Specializing in: Wedding Gowns • Formal Wear  
Head Pieces • Customizing • Alterations For All

Argiro Ahladianakis  
149 Clinton St.  
Woodbridge, NJ 07095 (732) 636-6983

**JOHN APOSTOLOS**  
Vice President

**COMPASS ROSE SERVICES, INC.**

---

**INSURANCE**

130 William Street, Room 402 New York, NY 10038  
Telephone: (212) 406-4004  
Fax: (212) 406-4225  
john@compassroseservices.com

ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
PERTH AMBOY, NJ

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON  
SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2013  
Following church service

Donations: ADULTS - \$20.00  
CHILDREN 6 to 18 yrs old \$10.00  
For reservations and information please contact:  
Irene Pakis (732) 591-1878  
Presvytera Eva Michaels (732) 738-1902  
Church (732) 826-4466





~ April 2013 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Goya Meeting 7:30	<b>3</b> Greek School 5PM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Salutation of the Theotokos 7:30 PM	<b>6</b> Oratorical Festival Toms River  Agia Skepi 10am
<b>7</b> Sunday of the Holy Cross Κυριακη Γ' των Νηστειων Baptism 12 pm Tanya & Stephen Kouretas	<b>8</b> Board Meeting 7:30	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Greek School 5PM	<b>11</b> Seniors Meeting 11:00 AM	<b>12</b> Salutation of the Theotokos 7:30 PM	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Sunday of St. John Climacus Κυριακη Δ' των Νηστειων 11 Year Trisagio for Ioannis Ahladianakis	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Greek School 5PM Presanctified Liturgy 7:00pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Akathist Hymn	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt Κυριακη Ε' των Νηστειων	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Greek School 5PM Presanctified Liturgy 7:00pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Presanctified Liturgy 7:00pm	<b>27 Lazarus Saturday</b> 10am Communion Breakfast  Baptism 3pm Eleni & Nick Tsakon
<b>28 Palm Sunday</b> Κυριακη των Βαΐων Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18 Palm Sunday Lunch	<b>29 Holy Monday</b> Service of Nymphios 7:30pm	<b>30 Holy Tuesday</b> Service of Nymphios and Troparion Kassiani 7:30pm	<b>Notes: ** PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE NEW TIMES OF CHURCH SERVICES**</b> <b>Orthros 9:00 AM</b> <b>Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM</b>			

**ONE SEAT REMAINS OPEN ON THE PARISH COUNCIL  
ANYONE WISHING TO BE CONSIDERED SHOULD CONTACT  
KATEINA GANIARIS**

**Agia Skepi Lenten Pilgrimage Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup>  
Book Now - Few Seats Remain  
\$20 round trip – lunch included**



**Agia Skepi Lenten Pilgrimage Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup>  
Book Now - Few Seats Remain  
\$20 round trip – lunch included**

**St. Demetrios Greek  
Orthodox Church**  
41-47 Wisteria St.  
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

**Fr Angelo J. Michaels**  
Phone: 732 826-4466  
Cell: 908 612-5108  
Fax: 732 826-4312

E-Mail:  
[frangelom@aol.com](mailto:frangelom@aol.com)

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at:  
<http://www.stdemetriospa.org>

E-Mail : [stdgoa@gmail.com](mailto:stdgoa@gmail.com)

## GOYA SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON



On Sunday, March 4, 2013, the GOYANs of St. Demetrios sponsored their annual Spaghetti Luncheon. During the luncheon, the youth group displayed all the arts and crafts that they had submitted for Sights & Sounds competition, as well as the trophies received. (Those who were awarded “Honorable Mentions” will be provided with certificates at a later date.) The display of talented arts and crafts ranged from

award winning drawings, eye-catching photography, awesome sculptures and woodwork, jewelry, sewn articles, to delicate works of art, origami, and so much more. In addition, the youth performed musical numbers (vocal and instrumental), a monologue, two dramatic pair skits, their third-place award winning Sherlock Holmes play, and finished with a stunning dance performance.

In closing, Nickolas Vosinas, former GOYAN from last year, paid a touching tribute to the two seniors who will be graduating this year: Carol Khalil and Alexandra Rivera, whose constant dedication, encouragement, and enthusiasm toward the GOYA and its members make them ideal role models. The St. Demetrios community is proud of our youth and wish them continued success and happiness in the future.