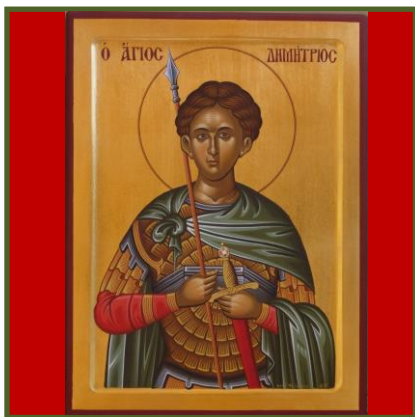




St. Demetrios *Parish Newsletter* March 2015

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



March 2015 RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

March 1 Epistle - St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40
Ἑβραίους 11:24-26, 32-40

Gospel - John 1:43-51
Ἰωάννην 1.44-52

March 8 Epistle - St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 1:10-14; 2:1-3
Ἑβραίους 1:10-14; 2:1-3

Gospel - Mark 2:1-12
Μάρκων 2.1-12

March 15 Epistle - St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:1-6
Ἑβραίους 4:14-16; 5:1-6

Gospel - Mark 8:34-38; 9:1
Μάρκων 8.34-38, 9.1

March 22 Epistle - St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 6:13-20
Ἑβραίους 6:13-20

Gospel - Mark 9:17-31
Μάρκων 9.17-31

March 29 Epistle - St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 9:11-14
Ἑβραίους 9:11-14

Gospel - Mark 10:32-45
Μάρκων 10.32-45

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SERVICES (unless otherwise stated)

Sunday Orthros 9:00 A.M.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SACRAMENTS

No Baptisms will be scheduled during any of the Great Feast Days of the Lord.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE SALUTATIONS TO THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

by Archbishop Stylianos of Australia

For five consecutive weeks, the Churches and our souls will resound with the "hails" that are chanted to her. We were taught this "greeting" to the Virgin Mary by the Archangel and, as we repeat it, we desperately try to find our own personal "share" of this joy.

The person who possesses even a minimal degree of piety in accepting that God created the world and "all that is therein, has already been established "on the rock of faith". Then all of creation, both inside and outside of us, becomes a cause for doxology.

"Hail, you who are full of grace, the Lord is with you ..."

Here, the "greeting" is a divine message. As it comes from the mouth of an Archangel, it announces and proclaims a **truth of life**. This is precisely why it concerns not only the Virgin Mary, but all those who wish to live. Here the word "hail" (which in the Greek haire means "rejoice") does not only mean 'Joy', a concept which is so **fluid and indefinite**. We can interpret it according to our own desires. Joy is in this instance is determined by its source. We can see — if we look carefully — that it is expressed as the precious **product** of a special favor and blessing.

It is, therefore, revealed to us that "joy", which is certainly everyone's most spontaneous and justifiable pursuit, cannot be conceived as an **individual achievement**, nor can it be reduced to an **individual manner of living**. True joy is not **manufactured** arbitrarily; it is **granted**, thereby creating substantial "communion" between free and unselfish persons.

The intelligible triangle of Lord-grace-joy leads us to the conclusion that the communion of persons in freedom cannot continue to be called joy when it remains on the merely **horizontal** level. Joy (chara) has the necessary presupposition of grace (chari) from above, which is why the **horizontal** must continually be enriched and sanctified by the vertical. This almost mystical and unacknowledged, but clearly **religious**, dimension of joy is still hidden.

The pinnacle of the relationship between joy and salvation as "communion" and communication, in terms of both the horizontal and the vertical, can be seen in the following verse of the Akathist Hymn: **"O cause for joy, endow our thoughts with grace that we may cry to you"**. This verse is indicative of the incomparable spiritual sensitivity of the Byzantine people.

We can say in conclusion that the grammatical correlations and alliterations in the whole text of the Akathist Hymn point to one goal only; to show that joy, which is undoubtedly the final surpassing of the fear of death, is inseparably bound up with the grace of God's omnipresence. This is the inexhaustible gift of His love. We experience Him not as a vague idea, or as an unknown and inaccessible Principle, but rather as "Emmanuel" according to His own revelatory affirmation.

Christian joy is not merely something corresponding to "happiness" or "pleasure". It is given out of the utter love of God alone, and constitutes a completely free gift of His grace. It is lost only when one rejects that grace, i.e. when one denies the presence of God everywhere. The Church therefore rightly chants to the Mother of God, "Hail, you who are full of grace, the Lord is with you, and through you He is with us".

from Voice of Orthodoxy, vol 20/3, March 1999





Message from Father Angelo

As we approach the Holy and Great Lent, our church calls upon its members for prayer, fasting and forgiveness for one another.

As your priest, it is my duty and obligation to apologize to the whole community. For the past six months I wish to ask everyone and anyone that I have hurt or caused any pain to all those that I owe them an apology. I ask you for to forgive me for anything that I have done knowingly or unknowingly. Even if any of my decisions have hurt anyone again I ask for forgiveness. Forgiveness is an essential part of the Christian Orthodox faith.

THE MAN WHO FORGIVES, WILL BE FORGIVEN

If anyone says, "I love God" and hates his brother, he is a liar. For he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God, whom he has not seen. Love calms, frees and extends the heart and verifies it, while hatred painfully contracts and disturbs it. Those who hate others, torture and tyrannize over themselves, therefore they are the most foolish of the foolish ones. "My life is Christ," Our Lord demands that his children will forgive and reconcile especially on the Sunday before Great Lent. "Forgive and ye shall be forgiven."

Η ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΗ ΤΟΥ ΠΡΩΤΟΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΕΡΟΥ

Αγαπητοί ενορίτες,

Καθώς πλησιάζουμε την Αγία και Μεγάλη Τεσσαρακοστή, η εκκλησία μας καλεί στην προσευχή, στην νηστεία και στην συγχώρεση. Ας είμαι πρώτος. Επειδή είμαι ιερέας είναι το καθήκον και η υποχρέωσή μου να ζητήσω συγγνώμη από όλη την κοινότητα. Θα ήθελα να ζητήσω συγγνώμη. Αν έχω προσβάλει κανέναν, σας ζητώ συγγνώμη και να με συγχωρήσετε για οτιδήποτε έχω κάνει εν γνώσει ή εν αγνοία.

Η συγχώρεση είναι ένα ουσιαστικό μέρος του Ορθόδοξου Χριστιανικού ήθους.

Ο άνθρωπος ο οποίος συγχωρεί θα συγχωρηθεί.

Αν κάποιος λέει, «αγαπώ τον Θεό» αλλά μισεί τον αδελφό του, θεωρείται ως ψεύτης γιατί αυτός που δεν αγαπάει τον αδελφό του, τον οποίο ο ίδιος έχει δει, δεν μπορεί να αγαπήσει τον Θεό, τον οποίο δεν έχει δει. Η αγάπη ηρεμεί και επεκτείνει την καρδιά και την επαληθεύει, το μίσος οδονηρά συμβάσεις και διαταράσσει την αγάπη. Εκείνοι που μισούν τους άλλους βασανίζουν τον εαυτό τους ως εκ τούτου είναι οι πιο ανόητοι από τους ανόητους.

Ο Άγιος Ιωάννης της Κρονστάνδης γράφει στο "Η ζωή μου στο Χριστό" ότι ο Κύριος μας απαιτεί να συγχωρήσουμε και να συμφιλιώσουμε, ειδικά την Κυριακή πριν από την Μεγάλη Σαρακοστή. Συγχωρήστε και θα συγχωρηθείτε. Ο Κύριος Ιησούς Χριστός μας ζητάει να συγχωρήσουμε ο ένας τον άλλο. Ο Θεός μας έχει δώσει εντολή να βάλουμε ένα τέλος στα τα προβλήματα μας επειδή είναι ευεργετικό για εμάς. Όποιος συγχωρεί τις αμαρτίες των γειτόνων του, θα λάβει ο ίδιος τη συγχώρεση από τον Θεό σύμφωνα με την υπόσχεση του Σωτήρα. Ας συγχωρήσουμε από την καρδιά μας τις μικρές αμαρτίες των άλλων και θα συγχωρηθούμε για όλες τις αμέτρητες αμαρτίες μας μπροστά του Θεού.

Υπάρχει κάτι καλύτερο και πιο ευνοϊκό από αυτό; Αν η αγάπη σας για τον Θεό και τις Δέκα Εντολές Του δεν μας κάνει να τους συγχωρήσουμε, να τους συγχωρήσουμε για τα δικά μας συμφέροντα. Ας μην επιτρέψουμε την υπερηφάνειά μας για να απαγορεύσει την συγχώρεση. Η κακεντρέχεια μας τυφλώνει και δημιουργεί τους δικούς μας εχθρούς. Με αυτόν τον τρόπο πάμε εναντίον του Θεού με τα μάτια μας ανοιχτά και κατευθύνουμε την λεπίδα της δικής μας κακίας στην καρδιά μας. Εμείς δηλητηριάζουμε την υγεία μας και εμείς οι ίδιοι αναζητούν την αιώνια καταδίκη για την ψυχή μας. Υπάρχει τίποτα πιο ανόητο από αυτό;

Ζήτησα τη συγχώρεση όλων. Αν σας έχω προσβάλει, ζητώ συγγνώμη. Ανεξάρτητα από το λόγο, σας παρακαλώ να μην κατέχει πλέον εχθρότητα. Σε κάθε Θεία Λειτουργία, στην Κυριακή Προσευχή, λέμε «άφες ημίν τα οφειλήματα ημών, ως και ημείς αφίμεν τοις οφειλέταις ημών» διότι ο Ιησούς Χριστός είπε «συγχωρήστε και θα συγχωρηθείτε».

Ας έχουμε όλοι μια χαρούμενη και ειρηνική Μεγάλη Τεσσαρακοστή.

Ειρήνη σε όλη την ανθρωπότητα και σε όλον τον κόσμο.

Στην Διακονία Του,
Πάτερ Άγγελος Μιχαλιός
Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος



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Deadline for submissions for the
April 2015 Bulletin is
March 10, 2015.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MARCH 2015

My soul, my soul arise! Why are you sleeping? The end is approaching and you will be confounded. Awake then, and be watchful, that you may be spared by Christ God, Who is everywhere and fills all things (Kontakion, Great Kanon of Saint Andrew of Crete).

“The season of Great Lent is the time of the soul’s awakening from the sleep of sin, or from sheer indifference, apathy, or what the saints call acedia—a condition of spiritual torpor or unsatisfied restlessness.” Fr. Steven Kostoff.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

WAKE UP! BE VIGILENT! LET US WALK THE PATH OF THE LENTEN JOURNEY TOGETHER TO BE READY FOR THE LORD.

Our church has planned numerous activities to reawaken the spirit, cleanse the body and clear the mind. Some of these include:

MARCH 1 (REAWAKENING THE SPIRIT) ORTHODOXY SUNDAY-REOPENING OF AHEPA CHAPTER WITH NATIONAL AHEPA PRESIDENT AS OUR GUEST. GEORGE PETRAKAKIS WILL REOPEN OUR AHEPA CHAPTER AND AWAKEN THE SPIRIT OF FELLOWSHIP WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY.

MARCH 6, 13, 20, 27, The Salutations to the Theotokos for the First Four Fridays of Lent. On the first four Fridays of Lent, according to the current Constantinopolitan practice, we chant the Service of the Salutations to the Theotokos at Small Compline. In the evening, we read Small Compline through the Creed, and then chant the Canon of the Akathist in its entirety, in each ode doing six troparia, including the eirmos. {Clear your mind} of all sorry, anger, depression, sinful thoughts, and fill it with praise to the Theotokos.

MARCH 7, 14, 21, 28 CHURCHWIDE SPRING CLEANING OF THE CHURCH AND AUDITORIUM. EACH SATURDAY OF MARCH THE BOARD WILL LEAD A GROUP TO CLEAN UP, REPACK AND DISPOSE OF CLUTTER THAT HAS FILLED THE CHURCH. COME FOR A HEALTHY WORK OUT OF CLEANING THE PHYSICAL BODY OF OUR CHURCH IN PREPARATION FOR EASTER.{Cleanse the body}

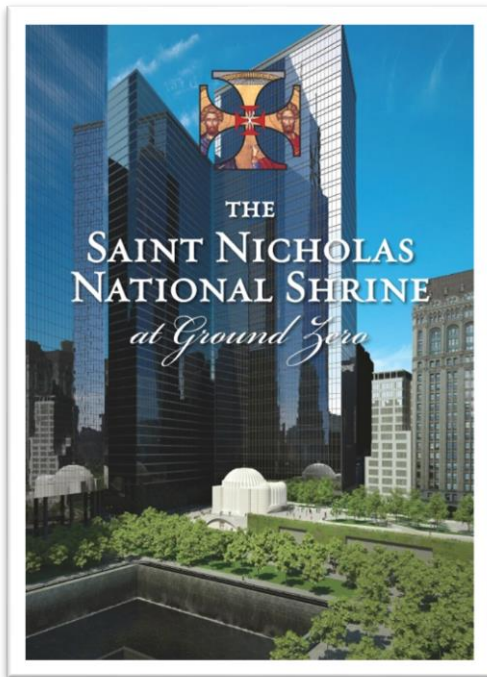
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING A NOTICE FOR A MARCH MEETING WILL BE MAILED OUT. COME HEAR ABOUT THE STATE OF OUR CHURCH FROM YOUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND AUDIT COMMITTEE.

SO WAKE UP ST. DEMETRIOS PARISHIONERS. JOIN THE STRUGGLE FOR SALVATION AND PREPARE YOURSELVES MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT IN THE LENTEN SEASON.

**MARINA CORODEMUS, PRESIDENT
ST. DEMETRIOS BOARD OF TRUSTEES.**



St. Demetrios Philoptochos of Three Hierarchs Chapter 1032



Dear Philoptochos Members, I am looking forward to our first general meeting on Feb 28th and to start our year with love, and commitment for all in need. Members and non-members are welcome to join us.

We have recently picked up the supplies using funds donated by St. Demetrios community for the Albanian school. A third delivery will be made to the school of school supplies for a wish list they made at Lakeshore School Supplies. In addition Ted Kaidas will be visiting the school and will be delivering books for grades 1- 6. I am looking forward to hearing his impression of his trip.

One of our biggest fundraisers this year will be for the Saint Nicholas National Shrine, which is being built at Ground Zero near the original site of Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. It will be a house of worship for the Greek Orthodox community, a place of prayer and solace for all people, and will undertake an important role in our national community through inter-faith relations across our nation.

A national Philoptochos fundraising effort, initiated by our Archbishop Demetrios, has begun to raise \$8 million to support the rebuilding of St. Nicholas. His Eminence is asking every Philoptochos member to consider a donation of \$100 (or any amount higher or lower) for this very worthy cause. We need to raise a little more than \$3,000. If you would like to write a check please make it payable to Philoptochos of St Demetrios, with "St. Nicholas Shrine" on the memo line.

Donations from both members and non-members are welcome. Thank you for helping build a church!

Kali Sarakosti!
Stella Wacker-President
Philoptochos Society of St. Demetrios



BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEW STEWARDSHIP POLICY

Right after Jesus fed five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish and after the crowds went away, Jesus asked the disciples to get on a boat and row to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus stayed behind; he went up on a mountain to pray. Night fell, and the disciples' boat was in the midst of a huge storm. The disciples rowed against the wind and weren't getting very far and huge waves put the boat off course. Jesus saw this from the mountainside, and went to them, of course, by walking on land, and on water. The disciples looked up and saw Jesus walking on water and didn't know if it was actually Jesus or just His Spirit. Peter asked if he could walk on water with Him, and Jesus said "Come." Peter came out of the boat and was walking on water, until he felt the wind and the waves and focused on them. As soon as he took his focus off Jesus, he began to sink. Jesus didn't let him get hurt, but pointed out that Peter started sinking when he lost his faith. The story also tells us that as soon as Jesus got on the boat, the storm totally stopped.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, this is a time for us to reflect, and to ask ourselves whether as a Community we have been acting in faith or whether our problems have overcome us and we have been acting in fear. We know Jesus is watching over us, but have we been focusing on Jesus, or have we been focusing on all our problems? I heard someone say, it is hard to see the rainbow when you are in the middle of a storm, but as Christians, that is our challenge. We must see the rainbow even though there are so many issues to solve and address.

This Board is committed to faith. It is committed to take the focus off our problems and, through our Most Holy Panagia and St. Demetrios, re-focus us on Jesus. God has sent us examples of faith very nearby that we can closely follow. Recently the Board held a retreat at Aghia Skepi. The kalogries and Gerontisa at Aghia Skepi welcome everyone with pure love. Any time you ask them what they need, they immediately say they don't need anything, because God will provide. While there, we looked for a collection tray or somewhere so we may leave a donation. There were no collection trays or boxes. They happily served us food, they embraced everyone with love, and become an example of pure faith.

God has put a Vision in this Board's hearts. A Vision that reflects a church that is overflowing with parishioners, overflowing with children, overflowing with hospitality, overflowing with love, overflowing with abundance. Brothers and sisters in Christ, God is with us and as are our Most Holy Panagia and St. Demetrios. Our next step is to look within and reflect. What is our purpose? What is the gift we have that we are here to give to the world? How can we bring to Christ our authentic self? Our authentic self is filled with love for each other. Our authentic self experiences the love of God, the abundance of God, the Joy of God. In our authentic state there is no giving, because everything we try to give comes back one hundred-fold, and everything we do brings us joy and happiness. What is it that you do that brings you joy and happiness? Have you had the time to express that lately? This is an invitation to express our love and faith within our Church and within our lives. This is an invitation to become a Community of giving, knowing that regardless of how much we try to give, lots more comes back sometimes in a priceless way of joy, love, abundance, and happiness.

How can the Board help? If you would like to be a member of our Church, but have not been able to do so because of the minimum stewardship commitment; this is an invitation to become a member of our St. Demetrios Church in faith. We invite you to give what you can, whatever makes you happy, and nothing more. If this translates in giving your time, your talent - your harisma, we invite you to give that and cherish in the joy of all that comes back into your life. We would like to make our St. Demetrios Church a place that is spiritually uplifting for all its members. If you wish you had lots of money to give, not only to the Church, but other causes, and would like to learn a money management system, we will hold a money management session from a best-selling book and seminar. We need to remember that money and abundance is an outcome not a means. It is an outcome of pure faith, an outcome of focusing on Jesus and inviting him into our boat, into our lives.

Does our Church have lots of needs? Absolutely!! It has more needs than many other churches. We could go on and on with all the things we need, and all the problems we have. It is time we all believe and know that our Most Holy Panagia and St. Demetrios are with us, and God will provide.



Νέα Διαχείριση από τό Διοικητικό Συμβούλιο

Αμέσως μετά από όταν ο Ιησούς τάισε το πλήθος των πέντε χιλιάδων ανθρώπων με πέντε άρτους και δύο ιχθής, και μετά απο οταν τά πλήθη έφηγαν, ο Ιησούς ζήτησε από τους μαθητές να πάρουν μια βάρκα και να ταξιδεψουν απέναντη, στην Θάλασσας της Γαλιλαίας. Ο Ιησούς έμεινε πίσω, ανέβηκε σε ένα βουνό για να προσευχηθή. Έπεσε η νύχτα, και το σκάφος με τους μαθητές βρεθηκε μεσα σε καταιγίδα. Οι μαθητές ταξίδεβαν κόντρα απο τον άνεμο, ενώ τα ψηλά κύματα έριχναν το πλοίο τους εκτός πορείας. Ο Ιησούς είδε τι γίνονταν από την πλαγιά του βουνού, και πήγε στους μαθητες του, περπατώντας πρώτα στην γή, και μετα στην θαλασσα. Οι μαθητές ειδαν τον Ιησού να περπατάει στο νερό και στην αρχή φοβήθηκαν, ενώ ο Πέτρος ζητησε από τον Ιησου αν μπορή να έρθη κοντά του και να περπατήσει στο νερό μαζί Του. Ο Ιησούς του είπε: «Ελα». Ο Πέτρος βγήκε από το σκάφος και άρχισε να περπατάη στο νερό μαζί του. Μα ξαφνικά ένιωσε τον άνεμο και τα κύματα επάνο του και φοβήθηκε. Από τη στιγμή που πήρε την ματιά του από τον Ιησού, ο Πέτρος άρχισε να βυθίζεται. Ο Ιησούς δεν τον άφησε να βυθιστή, αλλά του ήπε του Πέτρου οτι άρχισε να βυθίζεται μονο όταν έχασε την πίστη του, οταν σταματισε να κοιτάζη κέ να αισθάνετε τον Ιησου κοντα του. Το Ευαγγέλιο μας λέει, επίσης, ότι μόλις ο Ιησούς μπηκε στη βάρκα, η καταιγίδα αμέσως σταμάτησε.

Αδελφοί και αδελφές εν Χριστώ, αυτή είναι η κατάλληλη στιγμή να κοιτάξουμε μέσα μας κε να ρωτήσουμε τον εαυτών μας εάν σάν κοινότητα έχουμε πίστη, αγάπη, και αυτοσεβασμό. Ολοι ξερουμε οτι ο Ιησούς Χρηστος εινε στην ψυχή μας, και εινε παντα κοντα μας, αλλα μήπως μερικές φορές μας παρασίρουν τα προβλήματά μας και ξεχνιόμαστε; Άκουσα κάποιον να λέει, ότι είναι δύσκολο να δούμε το ουράνιο τόξο όταν είμαστε στη μέση μιας καταιγίδας. Αλλά ως Χριστιανοί, πρέπει να ξέρουμε ότι μετά από κάθε καταιγίδα υπάρχει ένα όμορφο το ουράνιο τόξο. Πρεπη να βλεπουμε το ουράνιο τόξο, ακόμη κι αν υπάρχουν τόσα πολλά θέματα και τσα πολλα προβληματα στην ζωη μας.

Αυτό το Διοικητικό Συμβούλιο μας ζητά να στρέφουμε τά μάτια μας προς την πίστη. Αντι να βλεπουμε μονο τα προβληματα, ας αρχησουμε να ξερουμε οτι η Παναγια μας, και ο Άγιος Δημήτριος εινε μαζί μας, να μας βοηθησουν να τρεψουμε τα ματια μας προς τον Ιησου. Ο Θεός μας στελνη κοντα μας παραδείγματα της πίστεως ώστε να μπορούμε να τα ακολουθήσουμε. Τον περασμένο μήνα, το Συμβούλιο της εκκλησίας μας ταξιδεψε ενα Σαββατο στην Αγία Σκέπη. Οι αδελφές και η Γερόντισσα στην Αγία Σκέπη καλοσορίζουν ολους με αγνή αγάπη. Κάθε φορά που ρωτάς τι χρειάζονται, αμέσως λένε ότι δεν χρειάζεται τίποτα, γιατί η Παναγία τους παρέχει όλλα. Ολοι μας ψάχναμε για ένα δίσκο συλλογής ή κάπου για να βαλλουμε την προσφωρα μας. Δεν υπήρχαν ουτε δίσκοι συλλογής ουτε κουτιά για δωρεές. Με χαρά μας σέρβιραν, και με χαρα αγκαλιάζουν ολους. Οταν βρισκεσε στην Αγια Σκέπη, αισθάνεσε το παράδειγμα της καθαρής πίστεος.

Ο Θεός έχει βάλει ένα όραμα στις καρδιές του Διοικητικού Συμβουλίου. Ένα όραμα που αντανακλά μια εκκλησία Αγίου Δημητρίου που ξεχειλίζει με πιστούς, που ξεχειλίζει από παιδιά, που ξεχειλίζει από φιλοξενία, που ξεχειλίζει από αγάπη, και ξεχειλίζει με όλα τα αγαθά. Αδελφοί και αδελφές εν Χριστώ, ο Θεός είναι μαζί μας, η Παναγία εινε μαζί μας, και ο Άγιος Δημήτριος εινε μαζί μας. Το επόμενο βήμα μας είναι να κοιτάξουμε μέσα μας. Ας ρωτισουμε τον εαυτό μας .. Ποιος είναι ο σκοπός μας, ποιο εινε το ταλεντο μας, ποιο εινε το χαρησμα μας που εχουμε για να δωσουμε στον κοσμο; Πώς μπορούμε να φέρουμε στο Χριστό τον πραγματικό εαυτό μας; Ο πραγματικός εαυτός εινε γεματος με αγάπη. Ο πραγματικός εαυτός μας αισθάνετε κέ ζή την αγάπη του Θεού, την αφθονία του Θεού, τη χαρά του Θεού. Μεσα στον πραγματικον μας εαυτό δεν υπάρχει παροχή. Οσο και αν προσπαθουμε να δώσουμε, οτι κε να κανουμε, ερχεται πίσω στην ζωη μας εκατό φορές, και ό, τι κάνουμε μας φέρνει ευτυχία και χαρα απο την πράξη μας. Τι είναι το χαρισμα σας; τι ειναι αυτο που οταν το κανετε, σας φέρνει χαρά και ευτυχία; Σας προσκαλουμε να εκφράσετε την αγάπη και την πίστη σας. Σας προσκαλούμε να γινουμε μαζί μια Κοινότητα, που ξερη οτι όσο κε να προσπαθησουμε να δωσουμε, ο Θεος παντα επιστρεφη χαρά, αγάπη, ευτυχία.

Πώς μπορεί το Διοικητικό Συμβούλιο να βοηθήσει; Αν θέλατε να γίνετε μέλος της Εκκλησίας μας, αλλά δεν ήσασταν σε θέση να γινετε μελος εν λόγω των χρημάτων της διαχείρισης, σας προσκαλούμε να γίνετε μέλος της Εκκλησίας του Αγίου Δημητρίου φερνοντας μονον την πίστη σας. Σας προσκαλούμε να δώσετε ό, τι μπορείτε να δώσετε με χαρα, και τίποτα περισσότερο. Αν αυτό θα πη ότι μονο μπορειτε να δωσετε το χρόνο σας, το ταλέντο σας, το χάρισμα σας, σας καλούμε να δώσετε ότι μπορειτε και ανίξε την πορτα της αγαπης, χαρας, και ευλογια του Θεού που θα έρθη πίσω στην ζωη σας. Εάν επιθυμείτε να είχατε πολλά χρήματα να δώσετε, όχι μόνο στην Εκκλησία, αλλά και σε άλλες σπουδές αιπίες, εάν θέλετε να μάθετε ενα σύστημα διαχείρισης των χρημάτων, θα σας φερούμε αφτη την προσφορά. Θα προσφέρουμε στις επόμενες εβδομάδες ενα συστημα διαχείρισης των χρημάτων από ένα διάσυμο βιβλίο και σεμινάριο. Πρέπει να θυμάστε ότι τα χρήματα είναι ενα αποτελέσμα. Είναι το αποτέλεσμα της καθαρής πίστης, το αποτέλεσμα οταν γυριζουμε το βλεμα μας στον Ιησού, και οταν τον καλούμε να μηη στην βάρκα της ζωής μας. Μπορεί να σκεπτόσαστε ... τι θα κάνουμε με τις τόσες ανάγκες που έχει η Εκκλησία μας; Καθώς ξέρετε, η εκκλησία μας έχει πάρα πολλές ανάγκες. Θα μπορούσα να συνεχίσω με τις ανάγκες, με όλα τα πράγματα που χρειαζόμαστε, καθώς και όλα τα προβλήματα που έχουμε. Είναι καιρός ομως όλοι να στρεψουμε το βλεμμα μας και να ξέρουμε ότι η Παναγία, και ο Άγιος Δημήτριος είναι μαζί μας, και οτι ο Θεός θα μας τα παρέχει όλα. Ελάτε λυτών, πλησιάστε μας, σας περιμένουμε με αγάπη, και όλοι μαζί ήμαστε σίγουροι θα συνεργαστούμε για το καλό και την πρόοδο τις Κοινοτητας μας και των παιδιών μας, τα μελοντικά μέλη του Αγίου Δημητρίου.



ST. DEMETRIOS SPRING SATURDAY CLEANING SESSIONS:

Lent is a time in the Church year when we are asked to take stock, to step back and look at our lives as we prepare to celebrate the mystery of Easter. In the spring, many people also engage in a yearly tradition of giving the house a deep cleaning. So we have decided to combine the two this year in a room-by-room spring of our church and auditorium cleaning that also doubles as a family examination of conscience. The following schedule is being set forth:

MARCH 7, 2015 CO-CHAIRS: Afroula & Spero
The upper room left church-old psalti's space

MARCH 14, 2015 CO-CHAIRS: Kateina & George
The upper room right church-old choir area.

MARCH 21, 2015 CO-CHAIRS: HELEN /LIZ /JOE
Downstairs church, stage, bar, side stage room

MARCH 28, 2015 CO-CHAIRS Marina/Steve /Mark/ Stella
Auditorium (exception bake area for festival)

ANY TIME IN MARCH HELEN CATELANOS/PETE WAGNER/DEMOS SIMATOS DIMITRI'S ROOM.

If any organization has items stored and unused, please remove. If you have items you need to be stored, please contact the respective chair and arrange for storage in conjunction with that Saturday's clean up.

Any Association having supplies or materials in any of these areas must contact the co-chairs and arrange for removal/restored. Any items not claimed and stored properly will be disposed into the dumpster.

**HELP US BUILD AN UP-TO-DATE PARISHIONER MAILING LIST AND DATABASE
PLEASE COMPLETE THE BELOW FORM AND SUBMIT IT TO THE CHURCH OFFICE
AN UPDATED PARISHIONER DATABASE WILL GO A LONG WAY TO HELPING THE
PARISH COUNCIL BETTER SERVE EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY**

Parishioner Information Form

First Name _____ **Last Name** _____

Address

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Alternate Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Contact Information

Home Phone _____ Mobile _____ Email _____

Personal Information

Gender _____ Marital Status _____ Date of Birth _____

Membership Date _____ Anniversary Date _____ School Year / Grade _____

Care Information

Allergies and Special Instructions

Emergency Contact / Relationship



VETERANS COMMEMORATION

This upcoming May, the Saint Demetrios AHEPA Chapter 288 plans to honor all members of the St Demetrios Community, past and present, who have served in the any of the Armed Forces of the United States.

If you or any family member are serving or have served in any capacity (active duty, National Guard or Reserves) please provide George Petrakakis the following:

Name: _____

Branch: _____

Years of Service: _____

Rank: _____

Unit: _____



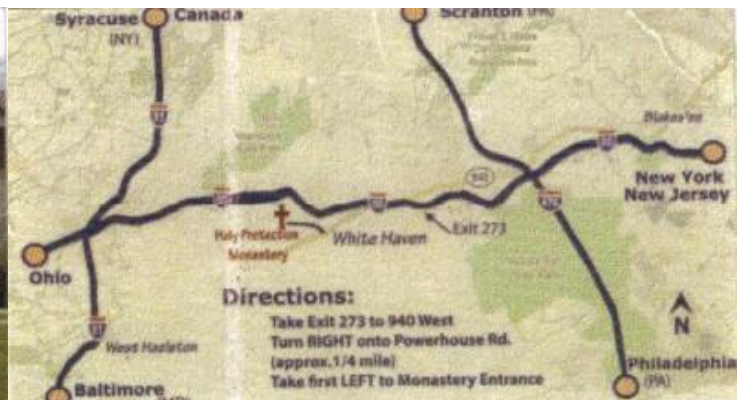
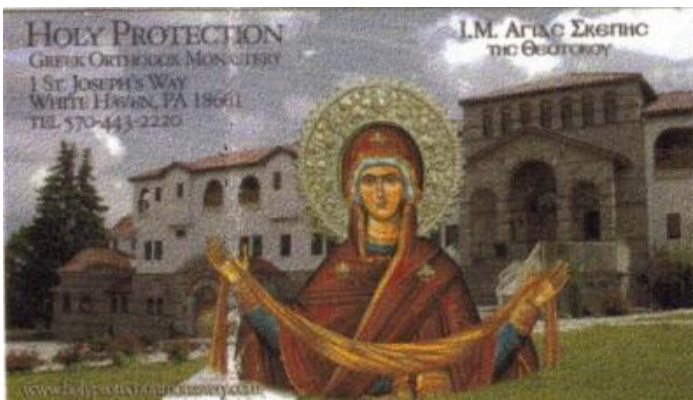
It is with heavy heart and deep sadness we inform you that Helene Arianas Pappas fell asleep in the Lord on February 13, 2015. We send our love and prayers to the entire family for God's comfort and peace upon them.

May her memory be eternal.



It is with heavy heart and deep sadness we inform you that James S. Corodemus fell asleep in the Lord on February 21, 2015. We send our love and prayers to the entire family for God's comfort and peace upon them.

May his memory be eternal.



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Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Demetrios,

On Friday, February 6th we **started the first of two Paraklysis prayer and Compline Services**. This week we dedicated to our most Blessed Theotokos and on the 20th we will be dedicated to our Patron St. Demetrios. In addition to Fr. Angelo Michaels, we were blessed to have with Friday night two additional priests, Fr. Dionysios Marketos of Evangelismos Church of Jersey City and Father Michael Chendoran of St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church (the Carpathian Russian church) here in Perth Amboy.

Members of the congregation read the various psalms in Greek and English. The Philoptochos provided a light dinner for everyone. Everyone who attended was fulfilled.

This was the first of many Paraklysis we will do (except during let when we offer Salutations to the Theotokos). Come join with the community in the sacred and moving request for intercession. Please bring with you the names of the living for good health. Paraklysis copies of the St. Demetrios service is free- a light dinner will be served after the services.

The Paraklysis, or Supplicatory Service, is sung beseeching God to grant spiritual and physical health and wellbeing to the living. The Paraklysis, is sung in times of danger, tragedy, sickness, temptation, or discouragement.

The various hymns and prayers ask the Lord for salvation, deliverance, protection, guidance, and healing. Although these are addressed and directed toward the Virgin Mary and the saints, they ask for their assistance and prayers to the Lord. All good things come from God, and Orthodox Christians always pray to God alone.

Nonetheless, just as we ask one another to pray to God for us, or to join us in prayer to God for a particular purpose, so also we ask the saints in heaven, and especially the Virgin Mary, to pray for us. This is called "intercessory prayer," when we ask others, either on earth or in heaven above, to pray to God for us.

We must each dedicate our fervent prayers to the Theotokos and St. Demetrios for unity, strength and guidance.

Booklets for both services are available at The Narthex.

We ask as many of you as you can come out after Easter on the first and third Friday of the month. Watch for notices to attend Paraklysis with your family and pray to St. Demetrios.

In HIS Service,

Judge Marina Corodemus, (Ret.)

**February 6th Paraklysis
Family-Style Dinner**





Festival 2014 Committee Sign Up Chart Chairpersons

Council Rep Chairperson	Council Rep Chairperson	Council Rep Chairperson	Council Rep Chairperson	Council Rep Chairperson
Admissions	Indoor Bakery	Boutique	Greek Store	Indoor Dining & Bar
Gyro/Souvlaki Tent	Advertisement	Games, Outdoors	Inside Coffee & Pastries	Raffles (50/50, Merchandise)
Set Up and Clean Up	Inventory Control	Vendors	General Overall Management	Outdoor Bar

Contact George Petrakakis or Helen Horan to be listed for a particular festival assignment or to ask any questions about any particular festival function.

Sign up for a spot on Team Demetrios!!!



~ March 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Sunday of Orthodoxy Epi:	2	3	4	5	6 Second Salutation of the Theotokos 7PM	7 Sights & Sounds
8 St. Gregory of Palamas Sights & Sounds	9	10	11	12 Seniors Meeting 11AM (weather permitting)	13 Third Salutations of Theotokos 7PM	14
15 Sunday of the Holy Cross	16 Philoptochos Board Meeting 7:30PM	17 District meeting/NNJYC Meeting/PVP	18	19	20 Fourth Salutations of Theotokos 7PM	21 Philoptochos General Meeting 12PM Board Meeting
22 St. John Climacus Philoptochos Pancake Breakfast Greek Independence Day Parade, PA	23	24 Vespers 7PM @ Jersey City	25 Divine Liturgy 10AM Annunciation Name Day celebration of His Eminence Jersey City	26	27 Akathist Hymn 6PM	28 Flag Raising Ceremony Perth Amboy
29 Mary of Egypt Greek Independence Day Celebration, NYC	30	31				



Have you visited the St Demetrios Perth Amboy website lately?
You can now make donations, and honor your stewardship commitment by
making your payments on line at:

<http://www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org/donations/>

SEE PAGE 7 FOR DETAILS

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

St Demetrios organizations or individuals with materials or supplies stored throughout the church or community center must claim or arrange for storage removal. Items not claimed or properly stored will be disposed of.

St. Demetrios Greek
Orthodox Church
41-47 Wisteria St.
Perth Amboy, N.J. 08861

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

E-Mail:
frangelom@aol.com

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org

E-Mail : stdgoa@gmail.com



Despite snowy weather there was a very strong turnout February 21st at the St Demetrios Glendi. Good food, good company and a good time was had by all.