



St. Demetrios *Parish Newsletter* December 2015

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

ΚΑΛΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ

MERRY CHRISTMAS



DECEMBER 2015 RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

Dec 6th Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 13:17-21
Ἐβραίουσ 13:17-21

Gospel Luke 24:13-35
Λουκᾶν 24:13-35

Dec 13th Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:4-11
Κολοσσαεῖς 3:4-11

Gospel Luke 14:16-24
Λουκᾶν 14:16-24

Dec 20th Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:9-10; 32-40
Ἐβραίουσ 11:9-10, 32-40

Gospel John 20:1-10
Ἰωάννην 20:1-10

Dec 27th Epistle Acts of the Apostles 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60
Πράξεις Ἀποστόλων 6:8-15, 7:1-5, 47-60

Gospel Matthew 2:13-23
Ματθαῖον 2:13-23

www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org

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.



Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14

ΙΔΟΥ μια παρθένα πή συλλάβει και θα γεννήσει υιόν και καλέσεις το όνομα αυτού Εμμανουήλ .



Nativity of Christ

The celebration of the feast of the Nativity of Christ in the Orthodox Church is patterned after the celebration of the feast of the Lord's Resurrection.

A fast of forty days precedes the feast, with special preparatory days announcing the approaching birth of the Saviour. On St Andrew's Day (November 30) and St Nicholas Day (December 6) songs are sung to announce the coming birthday of the Lord.

Come to the First Annual Manger and Christmas Tree Lighting.

7:30 Friday Night December 4th.

Front Lawn of St. Demetrios directly after Paraklisis

Due Directly to the generosity of so many of you, ALL the large stained glass windows in the Nave of the church and first floor of the Narthex have been adopted.

Restoration will start in the spring.



thank you



Message from Father Angelo

The Birth of Christ fulfilled all prophecies and promises of the Old Testament which pointed to a Messiah who would defeat the Devil and provide man with The Way into God's Eternal Kingdom

In a few short weeks we will once again celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. This joyous feast reveals the infinite love of God for humankind, who loved us so much that He left His Heavenly Throne for a time, so that we, those who accept and believe in Him, may be given the honor to share in His glory.

More than any other time of the year this Christmas season reminds us also of the love we should have towards each other. We are reminded that as Jesus's disciples were called to share the many blessings we have received from him with those around us even with those afar. It is especially a time to share our Christian love with those less fortunate-the homeless, the destitute, the orphans, the widows. This love can and should be expressed in more than just giving someone a meal or some money to get by. We should show our love also by sharing in their pain, in the loneliness, in their physical needs. One visit to a shut-in or a prisoner, may convey more joy to them than the most expensive gift in the world.

Yet while we are busy preparing for the Christmas season let us not forget the reason for the season; let us not forget that before we share God's love with others, We must first experience it within our hearts and lives. And how show we experience it unless He lives in us and we in Him through His Son Jesus Christ? And how can we say that Jesus Christ lives in us when we do not receive Him through the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist-"unless you eat My flesh and drink My blood, You cannot have life in you "-or when we receive Him without the proper spiritual preparation?

Let us therefore celebrate the birth of our Savior by first experiencing it in our lives and then share it with others. Is there any better way to welcome the Divine Child?

With love
Father Angelo J. Michaels

Η Ανακοίνωση του Πρωτοπρεσβυτέρου

Η γέννηση του Χριστού εκπλήρωσε όλες τις προφητείες της Παλαιάς Διαθήκης που αναφέρονταν στον Μεσσία που θα νίκησε τον Σατανά και θα δώσει στους ανθρώπους τον δρόμο εις τον Παράδεισον.

Σε λίγες εβδομάδες θα ξαναγιορτάσουμε τη γέννηση του Κυρίου μας Ιησού Χριστού. Αυτή η χαρούμενη γιορτή αποκαλύπτει την άπειρη αγάπη του Θεού για την ανθρωπότητα, που μας αγάπησε τόσο πολύ που έφυγε τον ουράνιο θρόνο Του για να μπορέσουμε να δοθούμε την τιμή να μοιραστούμε την δόξα Του.

Περισσότερο από οποιαδήποτε άλλη στιγμή του χρόνου, αυτή η εποχή των Χριστουγέννων μας θυμίζει επίσης την αγάπη θα πρέπει να έχουμε ο ένας προς τον άλλο. Ως μαθητές του Ιησού, πρέπει να μοιραστούμε τις πολλές ευλογίες που έχουμε λάβει από τον Χριστό με όλο τον κόσμο. Είναι ιδιαίτερα κατάλληλη στιγμή για να μοιραστούμε την χριστιανική αγάπη μας με τους άστεγους, τους άπορους, τα ορφανά και τις χήρες. Αυτή η αγάπη πρέπει να εκφράζεται σε περισσότερες στιγμές από εκείνες όταν δίνουμε φαγητό και χρήματα στους ανθρώπους. Πρέπει να δείξουμε την αγάπη μας σε άλλες περιπτώσεις σαν βοηθώντας με τον πόνο, την μοναξιά, τις φυσικές ανάγκες των ανθρώπων. Μια επίσκεψη σε κάποιον μπορεί να μεταφέρει περισσότερη χαρά από το πιο ακριβό δώρο του κόσμου.

Ωστόσο, ενώ είμαστε απασχολημένοι με τις προετοιμασίες των Χριστουγέννων ας μην ξεχνάμε την αιτία της εποχής. Ας μην ξεχνάμε ότι πριν να μοιραζόμαστε την αγάπη του Θεού με τους άλλους, θα πρέπει πρώτα να ζήσει μέσα στις καρδιές και τις ζωές μας. Πρέπει να έχουμε την πνευματική προετοιμασία για να ζήσουμε με την αγάπη του Θεού και να την δώσουμε σε όλο τον κόσμο καθ'όλην την διάρκεια των Χριστουγέννων.

Ας γιορτάσουμε τη γέννηση του Σωτήρα μας και να μοιραστούμε αυτή την χαρά σε όλο την οικουμένη. Υπάρχει κάποιος καλύτερος τρόπος για να χαιρετίσουμε το Θείο Βρέφος;

Με αγάπη,

Πάτερ Άγγελος Μιχαλιός
Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE DECEMBER 2015

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 January 2016 Bulletin is
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My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Christmas Season is upon us. Let us rejoice and give thanks. So great is our God, so much are we loved, that as the scriptures foretold and were fulfilled:

"For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him." The true meaning of Christmas is the celebration of this incredible act of love.

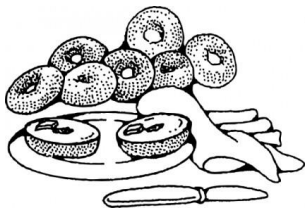
What greater Christmas present could we have than The Creator of the universe giving us His son, in the form of a mortal, to save us. This is the ultimate act of love, the best and greatest gift and the chance at every moment to become His.

I know it is difficult in this world of terror and fear to lose our way, but hold fast the KING of Kings And LORD of Lords. Jesus was born for us. Focus on the enormity of that gift. An entity who tramples down death, the gates of hell and is here for our salvation? Do not let the problems of this world blind you to this Light. The People that were born in darkness have seen a Great Light.

We have seen in our own little church a rebirth. The restoration of our church back to its roots as our founders envisioned it is proof that God is with us. The beauty that shines through our restored windows should mirror the light of Christ filling not just our church physically, but our souls spiritually.

Keep Christ in Christmas. Pray the Paraklysis. Love one another as our God loves us.

Marina Corodemus
 President Parish Council St. Demetrios



COFFEE HOUR SPONSORSHIPS

Fellowship is an important part of the Christian congregational experience. The simple act of coffee hour allows us to come together as one family, after worship to interact with one another with love, friendship and caring.

It is the custom of our church to have each church organizations to "host" i.e., set up, clean-up it is a fair process allowing the responsibility to be shared equally amongst our church family.

Staples such as coffee, napkins, cups will be purchased semiannually and the cost split amongst each group respectively.

WE NOW OFFER THE OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH COFFEE HOUR TO BE SPONSORED AT A COST OF \$50 PER SUNDAY TO PAY FOR PERRISHABLES, FRUIT, JUICE COFFEE, BAGELS, and MILK ETC.

YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED WEEKLY IN THE CHURCH BULLETIN AND THANKED IN THE SUBSEQUENT NEWSLETTER.

PLEASE CONTACT FROSO AT THE CHURCH OFFICE AND SIGN UP FOR YOU WEEKLY SPONSORSHIP HOUR. IF EACH OF US INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY PITCHES IN WE CAN SUSTAIN COFFEE HOUR AND DO SO WITHOUT TAXING THE CHURCH TREASURY.

I WILL START OFF SPONSORING DECEMBER COFFEE HOURS.
MERRY CHRISTMAS.

JUDGE Marina Corodemus (Ret.)
President Parish Council



RESTORATION UPDATE:

As of Thanksgiving 2015, ALL the large stained glass windows in the Narthex have been adopted by our parishioners for restoration.

THANK YOU.

We hope to have these restorations completed in the Spring of 2016.

Please notice the large oval window in the choir loft and the transom above the front door with Greek lettering have been restored.

STILL AVAILABLE FOR ADPOTION, are smaller windows, for lesser cost, located in the choir loft and behind the iconostasis. Anyone wishing to adopt these remaining windows are asked to please contact Froso.



G.O.Y.A News

The 2015 GOYA year is off to a thrilling start! The Perth Amboy GOYA attended the Harvest Dance at Saint George's Greek Orthodox Church in Clifton and had a blast getting to see their friends.

The next upcoming dance the GOYA is looking forward to attending is the Christmas Dance this month. Next, the Perth Amboy's volleyball team is having a very exciting and fun season! If anyone is interested in attending any of the upcoming volleyball games they are on Sunday's after church. The schedule for our GOYA volleyball games is posted in this month's newsletter for those who wish to attend.

GOYA is involved in 2 outreach programs. In December we will be preparing food and serving the homeless right here in New Jersey. In addition, we will be sending letters and gifts to orphans in Albania.

As we are getting closer and closer to the Sights and Sounds season, our GOYANS are working very hard on their sights submissions. They also are hard at work preparing for the dance competition and the other sound categories. Our GOYA would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Our GOYA would also like to add that if anyone is interested in or has any questions about joining GOYA you could contact our Advisor's at demi58@juno.com or Cynthiagianna@gmail.com.

ATHLETIC SCHEDULE 2015-2016						
Game	Month	Date	Team 1	Team 2	Location of Game	Church Hosting Food
1	October	18	Piscataway	Westfield	Piscataway	Piscataway
2	October	18	Holmdel	Asbury Park	Holmdel	
3	October	18	Trenton	Flemington	Trenton	
4	October	18	Perth Amboy	Toms River	Perth Amboy	NO JUNIOR BASKETBALL VOLLEYBALL ONLY
5	October	25	Asbury Park	Trenton	Asbury Park	Asbury Park
6	October	25	Flemington	Westfield	Flemington	
7	October	25	Toms River	Holmdel	Toms River	
8	November	1	Piscataway	Asbury Park	Piscataway	
9	November	1	Holmdel	Trenton	Holmdel	
10	November	1	Toms River	Westfield	Toms River	NO JUNIOR BASKETBALL
11	November	15	Flemington	Holmdel	Flemington	
12	November	15	Piscataway	Toms River	Piscataway	Flemington
13	November	15	Perth Amboy	Asbury Park	Perth Amboy	
14	November	15	Perth Amboy	Trenton	Perth Amboy	VOLLEYBALL ONLY VOLLEYBALL ONLY
15	November	22	Holmdel	Piscataway	Holmdel	
16	November	22	Trenton	Westfield	Westfield	NO JUNIOR BASKETBALL
17	November	22	Asbury Park	Flemington	Asbury Park	
18	December	6	Flemington	Piscataway	Flemington	
19	December	6	Asbury Park	Toms River	Asbury Park	
20	December	6	Perth Amboy	Westfield	Perth Amboy	VOLLEYBALL ONLY
21	December	13	Piscataway	Trenton	Trenton	
22	December	13	Holmdel	Perth Amboy	Holmdel	NO JUNIOR BASKETBALL VOLLEYBALL ONLY
23	December	13	Toms River	Flemington	Toms River	
24	December	20	Piscataway	Perth Amboy	Perth Amboy	
25	December	20	Holmdel	Westfield	Westfield	VOLLEYBALL ONLY
26	December	20	Trenton	Toms River	Trenton	
27	January	3	Westfield	Asbury Park	Westfield	
28	January	3	Perth Amboy	Flemington	Flemington	VOLLEYBALL ONLY NO JUNIOR BASKETBALL
PLAY OFF GAMES						
January	9		SENIOR	PLAYOFFS	TOMS RIVER	FOOD WILL BE SOLD
January	10		SENIOR	PLAYOFFS	ASBURY PARK	FOOD WILL BE SOLD
January	30		JUNIOR	PLAYOFFS	WESTFIELD	FOOD WILL BE SOLD

December 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Toms River Vespers	4 St. Barbara Paraklysis 7PM Manger lighting Ceremony 8PM	5 St. Savas
6 Agios Nikolaos Trip to NYC to see Metropolitan Greek Chorale Volleyball Practice	7	8 Goya Dance Practice 7- 9p	9 Greek School	10 Greek School Seniors 11AM Church Hall	11	12 St. Spyridon Divine Liturgy 10AM
13 Christmas Pageant Volleyball Practice	14	15 Goya Dance Practice 7- 9p	16 Greek School	17 Greek School	18 Paraklysis	19 Bridges Outreach
20 Volleyball Practice Goya Meeting	21	22 Goya Dance Practice 7-9p	23 Greek School	24 Christmas Eve Divine Liturgy 7PM	25 Christmas Day	26
27 St. Stefanos Volleyball Practice	28 NNJYC Christmas Dance	29 Goya Dance Practice 7- 9p	30 Greek School	31		

December 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Εσπερινός στην Αγία Βαρβάρα	4 Αγία Βαρβάρα Παράκληση 7μ.μ. Ανάβουμε τα χριστουγεννιάτικ α φώτα 8 μ.μ.	5 Άγιος Σάββας
6 Άγιος Νικόλαος Συναυλία της Μητροπολιτικής Χορωδίας Προπόνηση βόλεϊ	7	8 Πρόβα χορού της ΝΑΔ 7-9 μ.μ.	9 Ελληνικό σχολείο	10 Ελληνικό σχολείο Seniors 11AM Church Hall	11	12 Άγιος Σπυρίδωνας Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ.
13 Χριστουγεννιάτικη Παράσταση Προπόνηση βόλεϊ	14	15 Πρόβα χορού της ΝΑΔ 7-9 μ.μ.	16 Ελληνικό σχολείο	17 Ελληνικό σχολείο	18 Παράκληση	19
20 Προπόνηση βόλεϊ Σύσκεψη της νεολαίας	21	22 Πρόβα χορού της ΝΑΔ 7-9 μ.μ.	23 Ελληνικό σχολείο	24 Παραμονή Χριστουγέννων Θεία Λειτουργία 7 μ.μ.	25 Χριστούγεννα	26
27 Άγιος Στέφανος Προπόνηση βόλεϊ	28 Χριστουγεννιάτικος Χορός της ΝΑΔ.	29 Πρόβα χορού της ΝΑΔ 7-9 μ.μ.	30 Ελληνικό σχολείο	31		



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

PTO Family Christmas Field Trip

Saturday, December 26, 2015

7:00 pm

State Theater, New Brunswick



This is a musical play about a boy named Joseph who was given a coat of many colors by his father which made his brothers very jealous. They did terrible things to Joseph and he was separated from his family for a long time. The story shows how love and forgiveness can resolve problems.

All registered Sunday School, GOYA, Greek School, HOPE & JOY students with good attendance MAY receive a free ticket, when one parent/adult pays for his/her ticket in the amount of \$7.00.

Reservations will be confirmed on the date that the \$7.00 adult payment is received either through the mail or hand-delivered to PTO President, Liz DaCunha or to the Church Office.

Children must be accompanied and transported to the theater by a parent/ adult. Tickets are limited so availability will be dependent on the date that the adult payment is received.

We are looking forward to a wonderful event that we will enjoy together as a Church Family. We have terrific seats all within the first 8 rows of the theater. Kindly complete and return the form below and return with the adult payment as quickly as possible to ensure your seats. Please contact Liz DaCunha with any questions or concerns. Phone: 646-621-0210 Thank you so much.

St. Demetrios PTO Family Christmas Field Trip

Parent _____ Payment of \$7.00 CASH or CHECK No.
Telephone/Cell # _____

Child or Children attending with the adult named above: Total Number of tickets requested _____.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

Children must be accompanied and transported to the theater by the adult named above. Reservations will be confirmed on the date the adult payment is received. Thank you.



Metropolitan Greek Choral Concert

***Please join us on Sunday, December 6 for a bus trip to
Evangelismos Church in New York City.***

***We will be visiting their church so that we can enjoy The
Metropolitan Greek Choral for their annual Christmas concert.***

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Choral works: carols in English and Greek.

***Let's begin the holiday season singing Christmas hymns as
one united family.***

***The bus departs St. Demetrios church at 2:30 PM
tickets cost is \$25 per ticket.***

***For reservation, questions or additional information
please call Froso in the church office***



The Ladies Philoptochos of
St. Demetrios Church Presents
Our Annual

Philoptochos
Bake Sale
December 13th
Church Hall

Vasilopeta Luncheon



Following

**Epiphany Services and the
Blessing of the Waters**

Proceeds to benefit
St. Basil's Academy

It is our wish to see all members of our St. Demetrios community participates as one loving family, in the traditional cutting of the Vasilopeta. All churches are also invited to participate in diving for the cross, and Luncheon. What a wonderful way to begin the New Year — sharing the blessings and the celebration of this special day together.

*Helen Suravlas 732 257-3237
Afroula Kanellides 732 423-7256
Eleni Mantsis
Peggy Kantor*

Donation
Adults: \$15.00
Children: \$6.00
(Under 12)



It is with a heavy heart that we note the passing of Zannis Raissis. He served as cantor for our community for many years and will be greatly missed. Our prayers and condolences go out to his family. May his memory be eternal.



It is with great sadness that we report the passing of John G. Georgas. He will be greatly missed and our prayers and condolences go out to his family & friends.

May his memory be eternal.



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Many thanks to Sylvia Kress for her hard work coordinating sponsorship for this newsletter

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E-Mail:
frangelom@aol.com



2015 HONOREES

Stan Suravlas, Callie Vosinas, Helen Catelanos, Irene Pakis, Peter Christopoulos and Chris Corodemus were honored during the 2015 St Demetrios Dance for their dedication and many years of selfless service to the St Demetrios Community. The dance was held November 14th at the Pines Manor in Edison with a strong turn out from the St Demetrios family.

New Mosaic Unveiled

November 8th was the unveiling of a beautiful new mosaic in the side brick work of the front stairs of St. Demetrios.

The new mosaic is an icon which depicts the Archangel Michael. The mosaic is another wonderful addition to the façade of our church.



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org

E-Mail : stdgoa@gmail.com