



St. Demetrios *Parish Newsletter* January 2016

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



JANUARY 2016 RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

- Jan 3rd Epistle St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 4:5-8
Τιμόθεον Β' 4:5-8
- Gospel John 20:19-31
'Ιωάννην 20:19-31
- Jan 10th Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 4:7-13
'Εφεσίους 4:7-13
- Gospel John 21:1-14
'Ιωάννην 21:1-14
- Jan 17th Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 13:17-21
'Εβραϊούς 13:17-21
- Gospel Luke 17:12-19
Λουκᾶν 17:12-19
- Jan 24th Epistle St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy 1:15-17
Τιμόθεον Α' 1:15-17
- Gospel Luke 18:35-43
Λουκᾶν 18:35-43
- Jan 31st Epistle St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy 4:9-15
- Gospel Luke 19:1-10
Λουκᾶν 19:1-10

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.

Excerpted from the Encyclical of Archbishop Demetrios for the Feast of Saint Basil and the New Year

On this first day of the new year and the blessed Feast of our Father among the Saints, Basil the Great, we anticipate the abundant blessings and great works of God, and we continue to give Him honor and glory through our worship and faithful service to Him.

As we dedicate the year and our lives to the holy will of God, it also is fitting at the beginning of this year 2016 that we commemorate the 25th anniversary of the ministry of His All-Holiness our beloved Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. This is truly a significant event for our Holy Archdiocese and for Orthodox Christianity, as this time has included tremendous changes and challenges in our world. In the apostolic spirit of Saint Basil and many other Saints and Hierarchs, His All Holiness has provided spiritual guidance from a foundation of deep faith in God and a commitment to His will. He has offered compassionate pastoral leadership from his experience and understanding of the power of the grace of God. He has adeptly addressed critical issues using the great theological and liturgical heritage of our Orthodox Christian faith. Our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has led and continues to lead faithful around the world in offering a true witness of the blessed life we have in Christ and of an enduring hope that rests on the promises of God.

We give glory and thanksgiving to God for the apostolic ministry of our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. We also give thanks for all the offerings of our Hierarchs, Clergy, and Laity in addressing the needs and supporting the work of His All Holiness and the Ecumenical Patriarchate. This has been a great contribution in sharing the Gospel, advocating for religious freedom, offering spiritual guidance on environmental issues, and helping those who need urgent assistance.

The ministry and leadership of His All-Holiness reflects the compassion and faith that were exemplified by Saint Basil. This is also the witness of our beloved Saint Basil Academy. Led by our National Ladies Philoptochos Society and local chapters, it is our annual tradition on this day and during the month of January to offer prayers and support for this ministry. Each and every day of the year, the benefactors, directors, and staff of Saint Basil's are serving the needs of children and youth who need love, guidance, and the healing power of faith. This vital ministry has been supported for over sixty years by the Ladies Philoptochos Society through the annual cutting of the Vasilopita, and I ask that you give generously together with your prayers for Saint Basil Academy.

In the cutting and sharing of the Vasilopita at the inception of this New Year, may we also offer our prayers and support for His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and wish him many more years of faithful and dedicated service to Christ and His Church. And may the blessings of our Lord be upon each of you and your families for peace, health, and opportunities to share His love and the power of faith throughout the year.

With paternal love in Christ,

†DEMETRIOS

Archbishop of America



Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

About the beginning of our Lord's thirtieth year, John the Forerunner received a command from God and had come to Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance unto the remission of sins.

Jesus traveled Galilee to Jordan, sought and received baptism though He was the Master and John was but a servant.

The Heavens were opened, the Spirit descended in the form of a dove upon Him that was being baptized and the voice was heard from the Heavens bearing witness that this was the beloved Son of God, now baptized as a man (Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:1-22).

From these events the Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ and the great mystery of the Trinity were demonstrated. It is also from this that the present feast is called "Theophany," that is, the divine manifestation, God's appearance among men.

On this day the sacred mystery of Christian baptism was inaugurated.



Message from Father Angelo

Dear parishioners and friends of St. Demetrios Church,

Happy and Healthy New Year! Another year has quickly approached us. We should now take the time to give Praise to the Lord for our health, happiness and what we accomplished in the previous year and to ask for His help for the upcoming year. Let us also take a moment to think about how important it is for all of us to begin making a commitment to our Lord and our church. Let us take the time to reflect on the wonderful improvements of our Church and the hopes we have for a bright future with Saint Demetrios. With all of our prayers to our Patron Saint Demetrios thru our Paraklysis and Sunday Divine Liturgy, we now see that anything is possible. Our entire Parish Council and the Parish Council President have made it possible for our church to be bright and vibrant again.

We must continue to join together as Christians in peace, harmony and unity and incorporate more of God in our lives. I pray to the Almighty to bless and protect each and every one of you and your entire families.

Very few of us realize that the beginning of the Church calendar does not start on January 1st. Actually, our church calendar begins on September 1st. In our daily living, however, with our friend and neighbors and our society, our year begins on January 1st. This is a very important date in our Church since it marks the Feast Day of one of our greatest Saints, St. Basil the Great. St. Basil was born in the year 330A.D. in the city of Caesaria, Asia Minor. He was one of six children who all became Saints in our Church. He was indeed one of the greatest pillars of the Church. He loved children and he always assisted the sick and the homeless. He was the first Bishop to establish orphanages and hospitals and old age homes. He first directed the attention of the Church to these unfortunate victims of society. St. Basil was given the name "Great" only a few people in the world history were given the magnificent titles "Great" Alexander the Great was so-called because he conquered the world. But St. Basil was called "Great" because he conquered the hearts and soul of men for Jesus Christ.

Spiritual love in the Lord Jesus Christ

Father Angelo J. Michaels, Protopresbyter

Ένα μήνυμα από τον Πατέρα Angelo Michaels

Αγαπητοί ενορίτες και φίλοι της Εκκλησίας του Αγίου Δημητρίου,

Ευτυχισμένη και υγιής το Νέο Έτος! Άλλη μια χρονιά μας έχει προσεγγίσει γρήγορα. Θα πρέπει τώρα το χρόνο να δώσει τον έπαινο στον Κύριο για την υγεία μας, την ευτυχία και αυτό που καταφέραμε με το προηγούμενο έτος και να ζητήσει τη βοήθειά του για τον επόμενο χρόνο. Ας ρίξουμε μια στιγμή για να σκεφτούμε πόσο σημαντικό είναι για όλους μας για να αρχίσετε να κάνετε μια δέσμευση για τον Κύριό μας και την εκκλησία μας. Ας πάρουμε το χρόνο να προβληματιστούν σχετικά με τις υπέροχες βελτιώσεις της Εκκλησίας μας και τις ελπίδες που έχουμε για ένα λαμπρό μέλλον με τον άγιο Δημήτριο. Με όλες τις προσευχές μας για να μας Πολιούχο Άγιο Δημήτριο μέσω Paraklysis μας και την Κυριακή Θεία Λειτουργία, τώρα βλέπουμε ότι όλα είναι δυνατά. Ολόκληρη η Ενορία μας Συμβούλιο και το Ενοριακό Συμβούλιο Ο Πρόεδρος κατέστησε δυνατό για την εκκλησία μας να είναι φωτεινά και ζωηρά και πάλι.

Πρέπει να συνεχίσουμε να ενώσουν τις δυνάμεις τους ως χριστιανοί στην ειρήνη, την αρμονία και την ενότητα και να ενσωματώσει περισσότερο του Θεού στη ζωή μας. Προσεύχομαι στον Παντοδύναμο να ευλογεί και να προστατεύει την κάθε έναν από εσάς και τις οικογένειές σας ολόκληρο.

Πολύ λίγοι από εμάς συνειδητοποιούν ότι η έναρξη του ημερολογιακού Εκκλησία δεν ξεκινήσει την 1η Ιανουαρίου. Στην πραγματικότητα, εορτολογίου μας αρχίζει την 1η Σεπτεμβρίου. Στην καθημερινή μας ζωή, ωστόσο, με το φίλο και τους γείτονές μας και την κοινωνία μας, το χρόνο μας αρχίζει την 1η Ιανουαρίου. Αυτή είναι μια πολύ σημαντική ημερομηνία στην Εκκλησία μας, δεδομένου ότι σηματοδοτεί την Εορτή του ενός από τους μεγαλύτερους αγίους μας, ο Μέγας Βασίλειος. Άγιος Βασίλειος γεννήθηκε το έτος 330A.D. στην πόλη της Καισαρείας της Μικράς Ασίας. Ήταν ένα από τα έξι παιδιά που όλα έγιναν άγιοι στην Εκκλησία μας. Ήταν πράγματι ένας από τους μεγαλύτερους πυλώνες της Εκκλησίας. Αγαπούσε τα παιδιά, και πάντα βοήθησε τους αρρώστους και τους άστεγους. Ήταν το πρώτο επίσκοπο για να καθιερώσει ορφανοτροφεία και νοσοκομεία και γηροκομεία. Σκηνοθέτησε την πρώτη την προσοχή της Εκκλησίας σε αυτά τα ατυχή θύματα της κοινωνίας. Αγίου Βασιλείου δόθηκε το όνομα "Μεγάλη" μόνο λίγοι άνθρωποι στην παγκόσμια ιστορία δόθηκαν τα υπέροχα τίτλους "Great" ο Μέγας Αλέξανδρος που ονομάζεται έτσι επειδή κατέκτησε τον κόσμο. Αλλά ο Άγιος Βασίλειος ονομάστηκε "Μεγάλη", επειδή κατέκτησε τις καρδιές και την ψυχή των ανθρώπων για τον Ιησού Χριστό.

Η πνευματική αγάπη του Κυρίου Ιησού Χριστού

Ο πατέρας Angelo J. Michaels, Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JANUARY 2016

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Deadline for submissions for the
February 2016 Bulletin is
January 10, 2016.

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My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

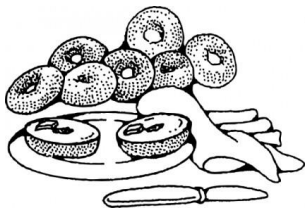
In Ravenna Italy there is a mosaic of the Theophany dating back to 547 A.D. When Orthodox artists came from Constantinople, they crafted mosaics of important images of Christianity. This particular holiday representation Theophany is located at the baptistery of the Ostrogoth emperors from 547 AD.

Great art carries great distances. But faith is universal and timeless. The importance of the Theophany, the baptism of Christ in the Jordan by St. John the forerunner, is significant and worthy of creation and preservation because it memorializes the presence of the Trinity, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit together at one time proclaiming during the act of Christ's baptism the earthly appearance of the Trinity; God the Father ,God the son and God the Holy Spirit at the start of Jesus's ministry, as man upon the earth.

On January 6 we celebrate this miraculous occurrence linking heaven and earth. As memorialized today in this 1st century UNESCO protected art.

The question is, will you be in church to honor the glory of God for such an occurrence?

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.

In His Service,

JUDGE Marina Corodemus (Ret.)
President Parish Council



Purchase memorial bricks to honor the memory of family members

Please contact the church office for pricing and information about the upcoming memorial-brick fund-raiser to help install the second Arch Angel (Gabriel) mosaic.



G.O.Y.A News

The St. Demetrios G.O.Y.A. hopes everybody had a great Christmas and a happy New Year!

To recap the previous month the G.O.Y.A. participated in Bridges, a charity group that gives food to the poor. The G.O.Y.A. also went to a Christmas dance and had a great time seeing their friends from other churches. During the Christmas season the G.O.Y.A. wrote many orphans in need of Christmas letters to make their day a little bit brighter.

The G.O.Y.A. volleyball team is having a great time playing and is preparing for the playoffs. In the following months Sights and Sounds will be coming up. The G.O.Y.A. is in the process of creating many beautiful Sights.

They are also practicing their dance routines, dramatic pairs, monologues, musical solos, and many more activities that are sure to please.

To conclude, the G.O.Y.A. is hard at work and is looking forward to a great 2016!

Our G.O.Y.A. would also like to add that if anyone is interested in or has any questions about joining G.O.Y.A. you could contact our Advisor's at [demi58@juno.com](mailto: demi58@juno.com) or [Cynthiagianna@gmail.com](mailto: 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



~ January 2016~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Day Agios Vasilios Divine Liturgy 10am	2
3 Sunday before Theophania	4	5 Blessing of the Water 10am Dance Practice 7PM	6 Baptism of our Lord/ Blessing of the water Divine Liturgy 10am	7 St. John the Baptist Divine Liturgy 10am Volley Ball Practice 7pm	8 Paraklysis 6pm	9
10 Philoptochos Vasilopita Lunch	11	12 Dance Practice 7PM	13	14 Seniors Meeting 11AM Church Hall Volley Ball Practice 7pm	15	16
17 Agios Antonis	18 Agios Athanasios Divine Liturgy 10am	19 Dance Practice 7PM	20	21 Volley Ball Practice 7pm	22 Paraklysis 6pm	23 Philoptochos General Meeting
24	25	26 Dance Practice 7PM	27	28 Volley Ball Practice 7pm	29	30
31						

~ Ιανουάριος 2016~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Πρωτοχρονιά Μέγας Βασίλειος Θεία Λειτουργία: 10 π.μ.	2
3	4	5 Αγιασμός των υδάτων 10 π.μ.	6 Αγιασμός των υδάτων Θεία Λειτουργία: 10 π.μ.	7 Ο Ιωάννης ο Βαπτιστής Θεία Λειτουργία: 10 π.μ.	8 Παράκληση 6 μ.μ.	9
10 Ετήσια Κοπή Βασιλόπιτας	11	12	13	14 Seniors Meeting 11AM Church Hall	15	16
17 Ο Άγιος Αντώνιος ο Μέγας	18 Ο Άγιος Αθανάσιος Θεία Λειτουργία: 10 π.μ.	19	20	21	22 Παράκληση 6 μ.μ.	23 Σύσκεψη της Φιλοπτώχου Αδελφότητας
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

Rev. Fr. Angelo J. Michaels
Protopresbyter

St Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

41-47 Wisteria Street
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

Tel. (732)826-4466
Fax (732)-826-4312

Dear Parishioners:

With the New Year quickly approaching we sometimes set goals for ourselves and hope for new beginnings. We sometimes change our ways or promise to devote more time to our faith. The beginning of the New Year is always a good time for a fresh start. If you wish to have your home or business blessed for the New Year please complete and return the below for to request the date and time that is convenient for you so that we may add you to the schedule.

Please complete the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone# _____

Date you would like Father Angelo to come: _____

Time: _____

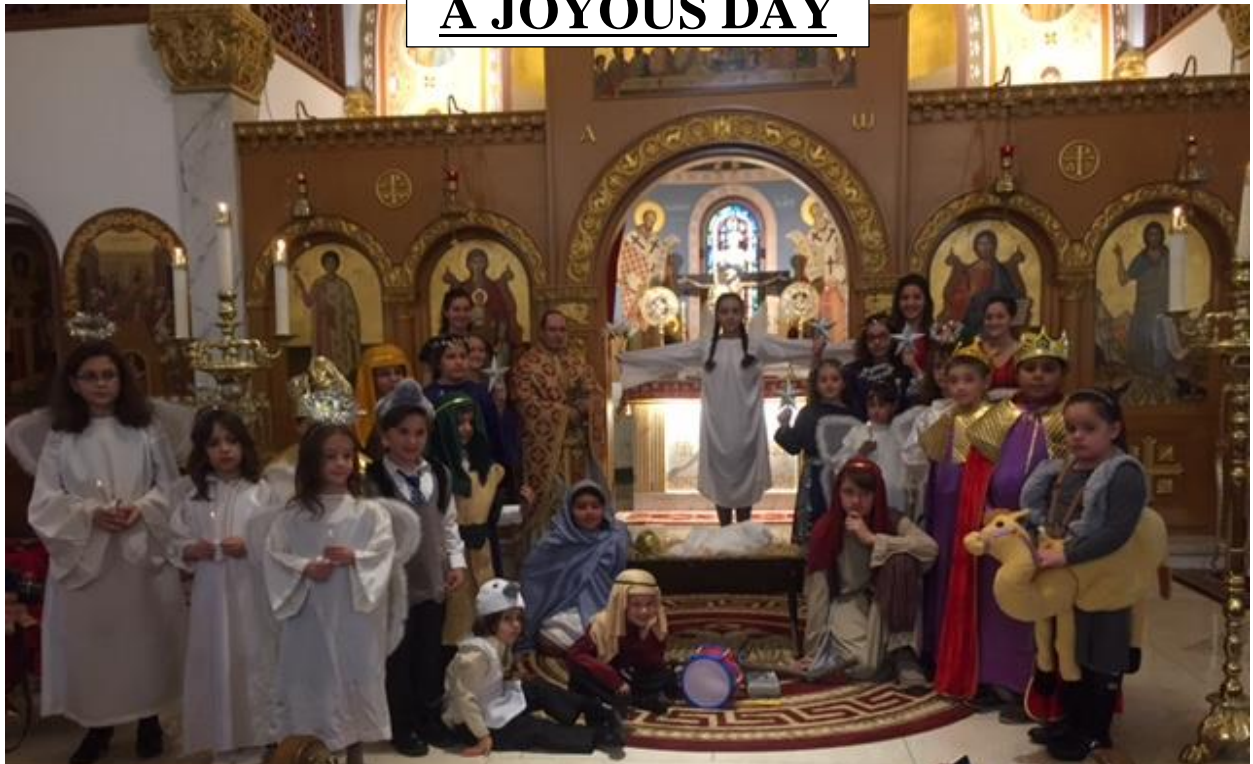
As you all know Father has a very busy schedule and emergencies occur. Father will do the best he can to keep your appointment but according to emergencies he may have to reschedule.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Protopresbyter Father Angelo Michaels



A JOYOUS DAY



It was a joyous day on Sunday, December 13, 2015 as our Sunday School and Greek School children joined together to create a beautiful Nativity Scene to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Our precious boys and girls who portrayed the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, through role-play, music, poetry and special readings directed by Helen Catelanos, brought the Christmas Nativity Scene to life.

Angels rejoicing and welcoming all, shining stars leading the way, Mary and Joseph with a darling donkey, shepherds with their flock of sheep, The Three Kings with a camel and even “The Little Drummer Boy” who beat the drum synchronized with the music.

They delighted our parishioners through this wonderful event and everyone gathered as a Church family afterwards to enjoy the Annual Christmas Party hosted by our PTO. It was a joyous day for all!



ST. DEMETRIOS LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

"Let us not get tired of doing good. As often as we have the chance, we should do good to everyone, and especially to those who belong to our family in the faith." Galatians 6:9-10

Our Mission:

To help the needy,
promote the Greek
Orthodox Faith

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Vice President
Helen Suravlas – 2nd
Vice President
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Irene Pakis – Assistant
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Afroula Kannelides
– Corresponding
Secretary

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Sultana Kizides
Lynn Markus
Angie Papaikonou
Joanne Xiadas
Sylvia Kress

Please Join us for a Philoptochos General Meeting

Saturday, January 23, 2016

1:00 PM

CHURCH HALL DOWN STAIRS

Everyone is Welcome

We would love to have all of you join in our pursuit to help those in Need. If you are not a member yet it's not too late! Our drive for new members is on! Please join our chapter.

On behalf of the Ladies Philoptochos I wish you a Happy and Healthy 2016.

Vasilopita luncheon is on January 10th. All proceeds to benefit St. Basils Academy.

We would like to thank all those who donated to the Thanksgiving Basket we were able to donate 15 baskets to the needy and 3 boxed of food to the Salvation Army food pantry. THANK YOU!!!

Φιλοπτώχου Γενική συνέλευση των μελών

Σάββατο, 23 Ιανουαρίου 2016

1:00

ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ HALL

Chapter President
Stella Wacker



It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Anastasia Voutsas. She will be greatly missed and our prayers and condolences go out to her family & friends.

May her memory be eternal.



It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Evgenia Gevas. She will be greatly missed and our prayers and condolences go out to her family & friends.

May her memory be eternal.



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

May his memory be eternal.



The Ladies Philoptochos of
St. Demetrios Church Presents
Our Annual

Vasilopeta Luncheon

Sunday
January 10
2016

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

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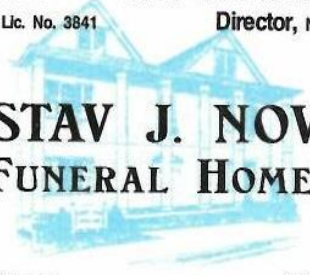
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Many thanks to Sylvia Kress for her hard work coordinating sponsorship for this newsletter

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Mosaic of the Theophany: Ravenna Italy, signifying the presence of the Trinity during Christ's baptism.