



St. Demetrios *Parish Newsletter* August 2016

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



Kimisis tis Theotokos August 15

The Place of the Theotokos in the Church

The Blessed Virgin Mary, the Theotokos (Mother of God) occupies next to Christ the most important place in Orthodox Christianity. This is most obvious in the Orthodox liturgical tradition. Entering into any Orthodox church you first encounter the Theotokos. Her sacred icon is the first to meet and venerate in the Narthex. She appears in her primary identity as the Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Son of God, the Savior of the world, whom she holds in her hands. As you move further into the church, you encounter her again both in the main Nave and in the Sanctuary at the most prominent places. You are thereby reminded that you cannot church yourself and approach God in Christ without the Blessed Virgin Mother of God. She is the primary witness, the new Eve, the Mother of the second and last Adam, your Savior and Savior of the world. She is the Queen of the Church, of the Kingdom of God, of Angels and human beings and of the entire creation, whom the King of all chose as the unique vehicle of his coming into the world to save it and restore in it his eternal Kingdom of freedom, truth and love.

AUGUST 2016 RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

Aug 7th Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 15:1-7
Ῥωμαίους 15:1-7
Gospel: Matthew 9:27-35
Ματθαῖον 9:27-35

Aug 14th Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 1:10-17
Κορινθίους α' 1:10-17
Gospel: Matthew 14:14-22
Ματθαῖον 14:14-22

Aug 21st Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 3:9-17
Κορινθίους α' 3:9-17
Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34
Ματθαῖον 14:22-34

Aug 28th Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 4:9-16
Κορινθίους α' 4:9-16
Gospel: Matthew 17:14-23
Ματθαῖον 17:14-23

www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SACRAMENTS

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



When the time drew nigh that our Savior was well-pleased to take His Mother to Himself, He declared unto her through an Angel that three days hence, He would translate her from this temporal life to eternity and bliss. On hearing this, she went up with haste to the Mount of Olives, where she prayed continuously. Giving thanks to God, she returned to her house and prepared whatever was necessary for her burial. While these things were taking place, clouds caught up the Apostles from the ends of the earth, where each one happened to be preaching, and brought them at once to the house of the Mother of God, who informed them of the cause of their sudden gathering. As a mother, she consoled them in their affliction as was meet, and then raised her hands to Heaven and prayed for the peace of the world. She blessed the Apostles, and, reclining upon her bed with seemliness, gave up her all-holy spirit into the hands of her Son and God.

With reverence and many lights, and chanting burial hymns, the Apostles took up that God-receiving body and brought it to the sepulcher, while the Angels from Heaven chanted with them, and sent forth her who is higher than the Cherubim.

But on the third day after the burial they were eating together, and raised up the artos in Jesus's Name, the Theotokoa appeared in the air saying, "Rejoice". From this they learned concerning the bodily translation of the Theotokos into the Heavens.

Stewardship
For God's Glory





Message from Father George

We live in a fallen world. Even when we try to do good, we are trying to do good in a fallen world.

This is why even our good works and our desire to draw near to God can often become something selfish that actually turns us away from God. Our good works can easily turn to bad. As St. Paul writes, "I do not do the thing I wish, but I do what I hate" (Romans 7:15). For instance, when we come to Church, this is excellent and essential. But then we start to look around and realize that THIS person or THAT person is not in Church, and we feel that we're special, holier than other people. Instead of drawing closer to the God of love, we are more distant from him. Or we perform some act of charity or generosity, and then we are sure to let everyone know.

The very thing that should draw us closer to the God of charity has pushed us deeper into our own selfishness. This does not mean that we should not do good things. We must do even more good works, but we must always recognize that we are doing good in a fallen world. St. Anthony the Great was praying once and saw countless snares and temptations set around him. In despair he asked, "Who can escape these?" Then he heard a voice say, "Humility."

When you find yourself seeking praise for your good works, remember the humble road of silence. When you find yourself condemning others for not being as devoted as you are, remember the humble road of service. The very fall of humanity occurred because of a lack of humility. As we try to escape the snares of the fallen world, our only and best weapon is humility.

Father George Parsenios

Ένα μήνυμα από Το Πατέρ Γεώργιο

Ζούμε σε έναν πεσμένο κόσμο. Ακόμα και όταν προσπαθούμε να κάνουμε το καλό, προσπαθούμε να κάνουμε το καλό σε έναν πεσμένο κόσμο. Αυτός είναι ο λόγος που ακόμη και τα καλά έργα μας και την επιθυμία μας να πλησιάσουμε τον Θεό μπορεί συχνά να γίνει κάτι εγωιστικό που μας γυρίζει στην πραγματικότητα μακριά από τον Θεό. Καλά έργα μας μπορεί εύκολα να μετατραπεί σε κακό. Όπως γράφει ο Απόστολος Παύλος, «δεν κάνω το πράγμα που θέλω, αλλά να κάνω ό, τι μου αρέσει» (Ρωμαίους 7:15). Για παράδειγμα, όταν ερχόμαστε στην Εκκλησία, αυτό είναι εξαιρετική και απαραίτητη. Αλλά τότε θα αρχίσουμε να κοιτάζουμε γύρω μας και να συνειδητοποιήσουμε ότι αυτό το πρόσωπο ή το πρόσωπο αυτό δεν είναι μέσα στην Εκκλησία, και έχουμε την αίσθηση ότι είμαστε ειδική, ιερότερο από τους άλλους ανθρώπους. Αντί της προσέγγισης του Θεού της αγάπης, είμαστε πιο μακριά από αυτόν. Ή θα εκτελέσει κάποια πράξη φιλανθρωπίας ή γενναιοδωρία, και στη συνέχεια να είμαστε σίγουροι για να αφήσουμε όλοι γνωρίζουν. Το ίδιο το πράγμα που πρέπει να μας πλησιάσει στο Θεό της φιλανθρωπίας μας έχει ωθήσει βαθύτερα στο δικό μας εγωισμό. Αυτό δεν σημαίνει ότι δεν πρέπει να κάνουμε καλά πράγματα. Πρέπει να κάνουμε ακόμη περισσότερα καλά έργα, αλλά πρέπει πάντα να αναγνωρίσουμε ότι κάνουμε καλό σε έναν πεσμένο κόσμο. Άγιος Αντώνιος ο Μέγας προσευχόταν μία φορά και είδα αμέτρητες παγίδες και τους πειρασμούς που γύρω του. Σε απόγνωση ρώτησε, "Ποιος μπορεί να ξεφύγει από αυτά;" Τότε άκουσε μια φωνή να λέει, "ταπεινοφροσύνη." Όταν βρείτε τον εαυτό σας ζητούν επαίνους για τα καλά σας έργα, θυμηθείτε την ταπεινή δρόμο της σωπής. Όταν βρείτε τον εαυτό σας καταδικάζουν τους άλλους για να μην είναι τόσο αφοσιωμένοι όπως είστε, θυμηθείτε την ταπεινή δρόμο της υπηρεσίας. Η ίδια η πτώση της ανθρωπότητας συνέβη λόγω της έλλειψης ταπεινοφροσύνης. Καθώς προσπαθούμε να ξεφύγουν από τις παγίδες του πεπτωκότα κόσμο, μόνο και το καλύτερο μας όπλο είναι η ταπείνωση.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AUGUST 2016

A WALL OF HISTORY, MEMORIES AND HOPE

Last month, Fr. George blessed our meditation garden with the first wall almost complete with names. As 2016 is the 99th year of St. Demetrios' existence, we honor the past and present and pray for our future.

The names are not in any particular order, nor are they especially grouped by family members, nor living versus dead, nor are they the same size segmented larger versus smaller bricks.

The bricks are integrated together in a mostly random pattern. No one brick is more important than another because God loves ALL the children of His house present and past. It is because of the COLLECTIVE efforts of ALL the people on the wall, that this church was founded and built upon for the last 99 years.

The wall is not just for today, nor just to meditate about the past, but to remember the past, know the history of our church as a blending of everyone's efforts and pray for the future of our church for the next 100 years.

So if you have not purchased your brick, a second wall is being prepared now. Please call you order into the church office and be ready for our 100th anniversary celebration in 2017.

Marina Corodemus

President Parish Council St. Demetrios

Parish Council

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Spero Kalambakis - Vice President
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Stavros Tsapatsaris

Deadline for submissions for the
September 2016 Bulletin is
August 10, 2016.

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ΜΗΝΥΜΑ ΤΗΣ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΥ ΑΥΓΟΥΣΤΟΥ 2016

Ο ΤΟΙΧΟΣ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ , ΜΝΗΜΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΛΠΙΔΑ

Τον περασμένο μήνα , Fr. Γιώργος ευλόγησε διαλογισμό κήπο μας με την πρώτη τοίχο σχεδόν πλήρης, με ονόματα . Καθώς το 2016 είναι το 99ο έτος της ύπαρξής του Αγίου Δημητρίου , τιμούμε το παρελθόν και το παρόν και προσευχόμαστε για το μέλλον μας .

Τα ονόματα δεν είναι σε κάποια συγκεκριμένη σειρά , ούτε είναι ιδιαίτερα ομαδοποιηθεί από μέλη της οικογένειας , ούτε ζουν έναντι νεκροί , ούτε είναι το ίδιο μέγεθος κατά διαστήματα μεγαλύτερα σε σχέση με μικρότερα τούβλα .

Το τούβλο είναι ενσωματωμένα μαζί σε ένα ως επί το πλείστον τυχαίο μοτίβο . Κανείς δεν τούβλο είναι πιο σημαντικό από ό, τι άλλο επειδή ο Θεός αγαπά όλα τα παιδιά του σπιτιού το παρόν και το παρελθόν του. Είναι λόγω των συλλογικών προσπαθειών όλων των ανθρώπων στον τοίχο , ότι αυτή η εκκλησία ιδρύθηκε και χτίστηκε κατά τα τελευταία 99 χρόνια .

Το τείχος δεν είναι μόνο για το σήμερα , ούτε απλά να διαλογίζεται για το παρελθόν , αλλά να θυμόμαστε το παρελθόν , ξέρω την ιστορία της Εκκλησίας μας , ως ανάμειξη των προσπαθειών όλων μας και προσευχόμαστε για το μέλλον της Εκκλησίας μας για τα επόμενα 100 χρόνια.

Έτσι, αν δεν έχετε αγοράσει από τούβλα σας , ένα δεύτερο τείχος ετοιμάζεται τώρα . Παρακαλώ καλέστε παραγγελία σας στο γραφείο εκκλησία και να είναι έτοιμος για την 100η επέτειο μας το 2017 .

Μαρινα Κοροδεμυς

Πρόεδρος Συμβουλίου ενορία Αγίου Δημητρίου



Exciting Announcement of Vacation Church School

It is with great pride and excitement that we announce our first ***Vacation Church School*** in decades!! With the Spiritual Leadership of ***Father George Parsenios***, we have planned a five-day curriculum for our students from August 8 to 12, 2016 from 9:00 am to 12 noon. The focus will be on the Feasts of the Theotokos with lessons, arts & crafts activities, music and fun games to interest and motivate our children.

This will be a wonderful way for our students to get to know our new priest, Father George, in a more casual setting where he will interact with them on a daily basis. We are certain that they will truly enjoy meeting with him as he is so looking forward to getting to know our boys and girls to begin a long-lasting relationship with them, as well.

This is a unique opportunity for our Sunday School Students so we are very hopeful that as many of our children from grades kindergarten through high school will be participating in this program.

Kindly refer to the attached flyer for registration details or contact me at any time.

Helen Coutros Horan

Cell: 908-794-3065

Email: helehoran@yahoo.com





ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

41- 47 Wisteria St., Perth Amboy, NJ 08861 Phone: 732-826-4466

PRESENTS

VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL

ALL CHILDREN FROM KINDERGARTEN TO
HIGH SCHOOL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

MONDAY, AUGUST 8th TO FRIDAY, AUGUST 12th, 2016

9:00 AM TO 12 NOON

MUSIC

*ARTS &
CRAFTS*

*DAILY
PRAYERS
With*

*Father
George
Parsenios*



*PUPPET
THEATER*

*WORSHIP
LESSONS*

*FUN
GAMES*

*TUITION
FREE*

TRAVELING ON THE ARK OF SALVATION FEASTS OF THE THEOTOKOS

+++++

Kindly register children by Wednesday, July 20, 2016 by completing and mailing this bottom portion to St. Demetrios Church, c/o Helen Coutros Horan or contact Helen, (cell) 908-794-3065, (email) helehoran@yahoo.com.

Name of Child _____ Grade in School completed _____

Address _____ Home Phone # _____

Parent's Name _____ Cell Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

I give permission for my child to attend Vacation Church School from Aug. 8 - 12, 2016.

Parent's Signature _____

Date _____



SUNDAY SCHOOL

& G R E E K S C H O O L

REGISTRATION

JOIN US AT OUR

“PTO WELCOME BACK PICNIC”

ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

DIRECTLY AFTER CHURCH SERVICES

REGISTRATION FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL, GREEK SCHOOL

AND OUR YOUTH MINISTRIES WILL

TAKE PLACE AT THE PICNIC

LET’S GET TOGETHER AND

REUNITE AS A CHURCH

FAMILY!

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL!



BACK TO SCHOOL GIVING OPPORTUNITY

The board is collecting 22 back packs for orphan children in THE HOUSE OF HOPE ORPHANAGE in Albania. These children were so grateful for the Christmas gifts we sent last December.



We are asking for a \$30 donation, per back pack, to cover purchase and shipping to Albania. Again this is the orphanage started by Archbishop Anastasios. If you are willing and able please submit your donation to the church office and mark ALBANIA.

Please adopt a back pack for one of our Albanian Orphans and help us make a difference.

*It is more
blessed to give
than to receive.*

Together we can help these children.

Please make a one-time \$30 donation in order for us to purchase and send book bags to Albania and prepare these children for the upcoming school year.

If you should have any questions please feel free to contact Froso in the church office.





Save The Date

October 29, 2016

To celebrate our 99th year as a community.

**The Forge Inn
1002 Route 9 North
Woodbridge N.J 07095**

During the event, we will be honoring several of our outstanding community members, who have served our church faithfully and for the love of God. In addition, we will have the return of the wonderful Greek band *Nick Koutras* for a night of Greek dancing and celebration.

This year we will be mailing you a book of 5 raffle tickets asking you to purchase and /or sell all five if possible to help defray the costs of this wonderful evening. Also, that night we will have our special surprise baskets for chances and a cash 50 /50 so there are so many prizes and fun for the entire family.

So save the date, gather your entire family and make your reservations.

We are looking for 5 special people to help adopt the dinner dance as loving parents at \$500 each to help underwrite the total cost of the evening. These people will receive special acknowledgment for their help and get to request a special Greek song from the band. Please help us make this event truly special for our community. As CO Chair of the dinner dance. I assure your involvement would help highlight the importance of keeping family events such as these open to all family members old and young.

I hope that you are interested in joining our effort to show our respect, admiration, and support for our community. Simple events like this can provide just the encouragement a Christian family needs to continue to keep our community happy, healthy and loving.

Please feel free to reach out to our church office with any questions at (732) 826-4466 stdgoa@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Dance Committee



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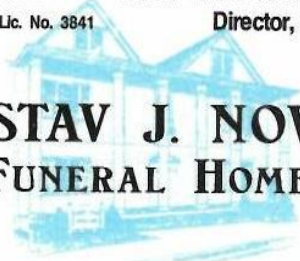
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Many thanks to
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her hard work
coordinating
sponsorship for
this newsletter

Many thanks to
our sponsors,
our patrons, for
their support of
this newsletter

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Community
&
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Sponsors**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEE USHER
LISTS**

August 2016

August 7 -Team #2
Chair- Alex Vosinas
Kateina Ganiaris
Irene Pakis
Dino Kusulas

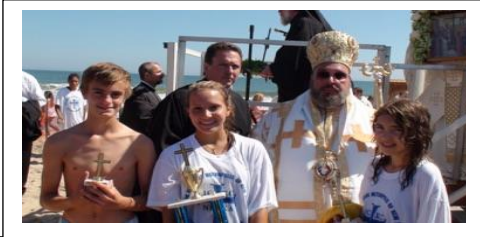
August 21- Team #3
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Maria Mantoudakis
Afroula Kanellidis
Atef Azouz

August 28- Team #4
Spero Kalambakas
Nick Giannakopoulos
Steve Corodemus

**2016 HOLY CROSS CELEBRATION THE
METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY**

SUNDAY SEPTMEBER 18, 2016
PARAMOUNT THEATER
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY
(no church in Perth Amboy that day.)
ST. DEMETRIOS PERTH AMBOY BUS TRIP
LEAVING CHURCH IN PERTH AMBOY 9:00AM

Advance paid reservation adults \$20 Under 18 \$10
NO RESERVATIONS \$25
Call and pay at office 732-826 4466



There will be no
coffee hours during
August

Coffee hours
will resume
Sunday Sept 4



Have you paid your stewardship?
It takes \$820 a day to keep
The St. Demetrios Community running?
That is $820 \times 7 = \$5747$ per week.

There is no fixed sum for Stewardship.
You are welcome to pay whatever your heart
tells you to pay.

But please, if you have not paid yet, keep in
mind we need \$150,000 to fully fund us to
the end of the year.

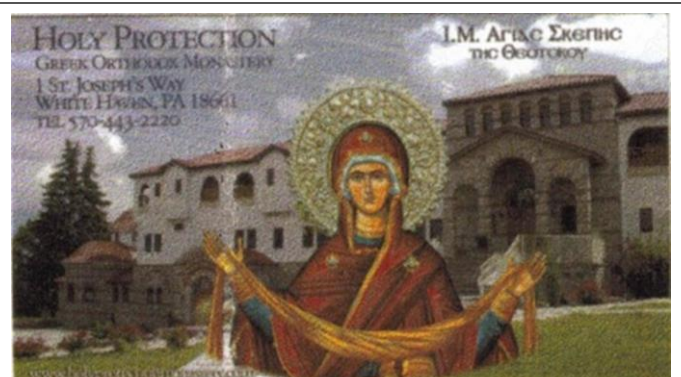
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Emanuel BALSAMIDES SR
President

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~ August 2016 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Dormition Begins Paraklysis 7pm	2	3	4	5 Paraklysis 7pm	6 Holy Transfiguration Divine Liturgy 10am
7	8 9AM-12PM Bible School Paraklysis 7pm	9 9AM-12PM Bible School	10 9AM-12PM Bible School Paraklysis 7pm	11 9AM-12PM Bible School	12 9AM-12PM Bible School Paraklysis 7pm	13
14	15 Dormition of the Theotokos Divine Liturgy 10am	16	17	18	19 Paraklysis 7pm	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

~ Αύγουστος 2016 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Κοίμηση αρχίζει Παράκλησεις 7μ.μ	2	3	4	5 Παράκλησεις 7μ.μ	6 Θείας Μεταμορφώσεως θεία Λειτουργία 10am
7	8 Σχολείο Αγία Γραφή 9 π.μ. - 12 μ.μ. Παράκλησεις 7μ.μ	9 Σχολείο Αγία Γραφή 9 π.μ. - 12 μ.μ.	10 Σχολείο Αγία Γραφή 9 π.μ. - 12 μ.μ. Παράκλησεις 7μ.μ	11 Σχολείο Αγία Γραφή 9 π.μ. - 12 μ.μ.	12 Σχολείο Αγία Γραφή 9 π.μ. - 12 μ.μ. Παράκλησεις 7μ.μ	13
14	15 Κοίμηση της Θεοτόκου θεία Λειτουργία 10am	16	17	18	19 Παράκλησεις 7μ.μ	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SAVE THE DATE

Church bus trip to Agia Skepi Monastery November 5th

Details to follow in September



Theodora was just christened in July and is all smiles about coming to St Demetrios

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.stdemetriospertbamboy.org/donations/>

St. Demetrios Greek
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Perth Amboy, N.J.
08861

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Fr. George Parsenios
Phone: (732) 826-4466
Cell: (609) 462-2949
FAX: (732) 826-4312

E-Mail:
fr.georgepar@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
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E -Mail : stdgoa@gmail.com



Our Meditation garden is complete and the first wall of bricks has been installed. On Sunday the 18th we celebrated the dedication/blessing of our beautiful garden. If you have not yet purchased a brick for a special family member or friend, call the church office or email Froso at stdgoa@gmail.com to request an order form, place an order or ask any questions.