



St. Demetrios *Parish Newsletter* November 2016

41-47 Wisteria St., Perth Amboy, N.J.

(732) 826-4466

Fr. George Parsenios



NOVEMBER 2016 RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

Nov 6th Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 1:11-19
Γαλάτας 1:11-19

Gospel Luke 8:41-56
Λουκᾶν 8:41-56

Nov 13th Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 7:26-28; 8:1-2
Ἑβραίους 7:26-28, 8:1-2

Gospel Luke 10:25-37
Λουκᾶν 10:25-37

Nov 20th Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18
Γαλάτας 6:11-18

Gospel Luke 12:16-21
Λουκᾶν 12:16-21

Nov 27th Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:4-10
Ἐφεσίους 2:4-10

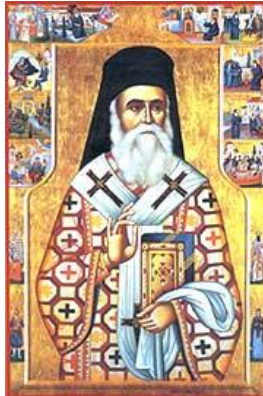
Gospel Luke 18:18-27
Λουκᾶν 18:18-27

www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SACRAMENTS

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

Νεκτάριος ὁ Θαυματουργός Νοεμβρίου 9



Σηλυβρίας τον γόνον και Αιγίνης τον έφορον, τον εσχάτοις χρόνοις φανέντα, αρετής φίλον γνήσιον, Νεκτάριον τιμήσωμεν πιστοί, ως ένθεον θεράποντα Χριστού, αναβλύξεις γαρ ιάσεις παντοδαπάς, τοίς ευλαβώς κραυγάζουσι, δόξα τώ σε δοξάσαντι Χριστώ, δόξα τώ σε θαυμαστώσαντι, δόξα τώ ενεργούντι διά σου, πάσιν ιάματα.

Saint Nectarios, Metropolitan of Pentapolis, attained the same enviable level of sainthood as the great luminaries and Saints of our Church. What we can say is that his whole life was nothing else than a continuous doxology to God, and a tireless effort and assiduous concern to benefit suffering society morally and religiously. He lived in the world, but was not, as the Saviour says, of the world. He trod on the earth yet conducted himself like a citizen of heaven. St Nectarios surrendered his spirit to the Lord on November 9, 1920 at the age of seventy-four.

COMMUNITY APPROVES FUTURE COMMUNITY CENTER

On Sunday October 23 the St. Demetrios community, during special general assembly, voted unanimously for the building committee to proceed with the construction of a new community center once the present property has been restored by Elizabethtown Gas.

The committee, now incorporated as the Philtoimo Building Corporation, will report back to the community in the spring about any and/or new proposals for condominiums or apartments on the same location.

The committee is composed of Greek Orthodox Christians, with diverse professionals' backgrounds, representing five central New Jersey area Greek churches.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY & NOMINATIONS FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL

**NOVEMBER 13, 2016
AFTER CHURCH**



Message from Father George

November in America is the month of Thanksgiving. We as Orthodox Christians are ready to thank God for all of the blessings that we receive, not only in November, but throughout the year.

St. Paul tells us in his letter to the Philippians, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again, Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4). But why are we thankful? Are we thankful for material possessions or for anything material or physical? These are good things, but they are unstable. Health can turn to sickness and the rich can become poor. But one thing is constant: the love of God.

When St. Paul tells the Philippians to rejoice, he writes to them in the midst of great suffering, both for himself and for them. He is in jail, and they are being persecuted for their faith. Why would they rejoice? Paul urges them to rejoice in the surpassing glory of knowing Jesus Christ. If we seek Him and His Kingdom, we will have enough physical and material comfort. But we will also have a security and a comfort beyond anything this world can offer.

We must first seek him and we must rejoice in knowing Him. And then we will be thankful for a true gift, not a passing gift that is unstable and unsure, but the love of God which is more precious than any earthly treasure, more glorious than any earthly fame and more beautiful than any earthly beauty.

Rejoice in the Lord. Again I say, Rejoice!

Ένα μήνυμα από
Το Πατέρ Γεώργιο

Ο Νοέμβριος στην Αμερική είναι ένας μήνας της ευχαριστίας. Εμείς ως Ορθόδοξοι Χριστιανοί είμαστε έτοιμοι να ευχαριστήσουμε τον Θεό για όλες τις ευλογίες που λαμβάνουμε, όχι μόνο σε αυτόν τον μήνα, αλλά σε όλο το χρόνο. Ο Απόστολος Παύλος μας λέει στην επιστολή του προς τους Φιλιπησίους, «Χαίρετε εν Κυρίω πάντοτε πάλιν ἐρῶ, χαίρετε!» (Φιλιπησίους 4: 4). Αλλά, γιατί να είμαστε ευγνώμονες; Είμαστε ευγνώμονες για τα αγαθά ή για κάτι σωματικό; Αυτά είναι καλά πράγματα, αλλά είναι ασταθή. Η υγεία μπορεί να γίνει την ασθένεια και ο πλούσιος μπορεί να γίνει τον φτωχό. Αλλά ένα πράγμα είναι σταθερό: η αγάπη του Θεού. Όταν ο Απόστολος Παύλος λέει στους Φιλιπησίους να χαίρονται, τους γράφει εν μέσω της μεγάλης ταλαιπωρίας, τόσο για τον εαυτό του και γι 'αυτούς. Ο Απόστολος Παύλος είναι στη φυλακή, και οι Φιλιπησίοι διώκονται για την πίστη τους. Γιατί να χαίρονται; Ο Παύλος τους προτρέπει να χαίρονται με την δόξα της γνώσης του Ιησού Χριστού. Αν επιδιώκουμε τον Χριστό και τη Βασιλεία Του, θα έχουμε αρκετή σωματική και υλική άνεση. Αλλά θα έχουμε επίσης την ασφάλεια και την άνεση πέρα από οτιδήποτε μπορεί να μας προσφέρει αυτός ο κόσμος. Πρέπει να Τον αναζητούμε πρώτα και πρέπει να χαιρόμαστε για τη παρουσία Του. Και τότε θα είμαστε ευγνώμονες για ένα αληθινό δώρο, όχι για ένα περαστικό δώρο που είναι ασταθές και αβέβαιο, αλλά για την αγάπη του Θεού, που είναι πολυτιμότερη από οποιοδήποτε θησαυρό, πιο λαμπρή από οποιαδήποτε φήμη και πιο όμορφη από οποιαδήποτε επίγεια ομορφιά. Χαίρετε εν Κυρίω πάντοτε πάλιν ἐρῶ, χαίρετε!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE NOVEMBER 2016

FEAR VS. FAITH KNOW THE DIFFERENCE-DISMISS THE ONE AND CLING TO THE OTHER

Faith and fear cannot exist together. Faith is described in Hebrews 11:1 as being "certain of what we do not see." It is an absolute belief that God is constantly working behind the scenes in every area of our lives, even when there is no tangible evidence to support that fact. On the other hand, fear, simply stated, is unbelief or weak belief. As unbelief gains the upper hand in our thoughts, fear takes hold of our emotions. Our deliverance from fear and worry is based on faith, which is the very opposite of unbelief. We need to understand that faith is not something that we can produce in ourselves. Faith is a gift (Ephesians 2:8-9) and is described as a fruit (or characteristic) which is produced in our lives by the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22). The more we learn about God, the more we can see Him working in our lives and the stronger our faith grows. It is was we learn and obtain from PARAKLYSIS.

Here, at St. Demetrios, over the last 23 months, we have learned to strengthen our faith and dismissed fear. Fear that gripped us from progressing was replaced by faith to create an economically stable community, a restoration of our beautiful church, led us to find to new and vibrant priest, after Fr. Angelo's retirement, have our youth restored, enhance our choir, allowed expansion of our Sunday school programs and brought a feeling of blessedness back into our worship. All these advancements were made possible by faith and not fear. It is the fearful and weak person who is afraid to try something new and take chances. It is the fearful and weak person who is stuck in the past can only speak in the negative and is never happy for any progress. It is the faithful person who prays for guidance, gives up the worries and allows God to provide in the way HE sees fit. It is the faithful person who thanks God for the many blessing bestowed upon us recognizing that ALL GOOD THINGS ARE FROM ABOVE.

I urge you to be faithful, be prayerful be fearless and allow our lord to guide us into a positive future. We have come so far. Let us not slip back into paralyzing fear and unbelief. Let us build upon a foundation of progress. Let the Holy Spirit fill you with the love of God and humanity. Somebody who is Christ's must love Christ, and then he loves Christ he is delivered from the Devil, from hell and from death. Saint Porphyrios (Bairaktaris) the Kapsokalyvite (7 February 1906 - 2 December 1991).

Marina Corodemus
President Parish Council St. Demetrios

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Dino Kusulas - Treasurer
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Elizabeth DaCunha
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**Deadline for submissions for the
December 2016 Bulletin is
November 10, 2016.**

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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

Another year has started and I am looking forward to a year full of activities and sharing our talents. I hope together we can participate in the various activities planned for our chapter and the Metropolis. Let's keep our tradition going!

We are collecting food for the Thanksgiving baskets

<u>Non-Perishable Food Items Needed:</u>
• Tuna fish
• Pasta
• Rice
• Soups
• Turkey stuffing
• Macaroni and cheese boxes
• Beans
• Canned vegetables
• Canned fruit
• Coffee
• Sugar
• Canned milk
• Cereal
• Granola bars
• Cookies
• Crackers
• Nuts
<u>**Frozen turkeys are also needed</u>

Events:

Philoptochos recognizes October as Breast Cancer Awareness month – Support local events

Cosma and Damianos Tray Collection – Nov 6thSt

Thanksgiving Baskets – Tuesday before Thanksgiving

Hope to see all at our general meetings, church events, and our local philoptochos chapters.

Stella Wacker



G.O.Y.A. NEWS

During the months of September and October, the Saint Demetrios GOYA has been very busy.

On 9/18/16, we celebrated a Liturgy at Asbury Park for the blessing of the waters where the diving of the cross took place. One of our very own GOYA members dove in the cold water for a chance of catching the cross!

Later that month, we paid a visit to Saint Basil's Academy, an orphanage in New York. There, a walk-a-thon was held to raise money, and there were many fun activities and a lunch.

This fall, we are trying to plan various activities, starting on Nov. 5. There will be a bowling tournament and dance for all the GOYA in the Metropolis to attend.



Meet the Altar Boys

Front Row:
Jaceir Kannelidis
Constantine Parsenios
Luca Regan

Second Row
Andrew Dimitratos
Dean Giannakopoulos
Zachery Giannakopoulos
Nicholas Parsenios



STEWARDS CURRENT AS OF OCTOBER 2016

Mr. Gary Ahladianakis	Mrs. Maria Kalamaras	Mr. George Prototentis
Mrs. Argiro Ahladianakis	Mr. Spero Kalambakas	Mrs. Emma Raissis
Mrs. Demetra Alferis	Mr. & Mrs. George Kanellidis	Mr. John Rassias
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Alexopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. John Kanellidis	Mrs. Mary Lou Rivera
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Mr. Eric Andreadis	Mr. George Karagias	Mrs. Patricia Roros
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Mr. & Mrs. Lambros Antonatos	Ms. Sultana Kizides	Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Schricks
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Mr. Atef A Azouz	Mrs. Evgenia Kontopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. George Seitis
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Bales	Mr. & Mrs. A. Kostopoulos	Mr. Mark Shah
Mr. Emanuel Balsamides	Mr. Dimitrios Koudis	Mr. Demostenis Simatos
Miss. Georgia Barbayiannis	Mr. & Mrs. George Kouloheras	Mr. & Mrs. Lambros Simatos
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Mrs. Tina Carnegis	Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Krousos	Mr. & Mrs. John Steinert
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Mr. & Mrs. Dean Kakadelis	Mrs. Anita Protonentis	



Below is a letter of thanks along with a few photos from our Greek Festival Grand Prize Raffle winner Brian Garcia. Thank you for keeping in touch and for the lovely photos Brian.

From: Brian Garcia
Date: 9/30/2015
To: Dino Kusulas

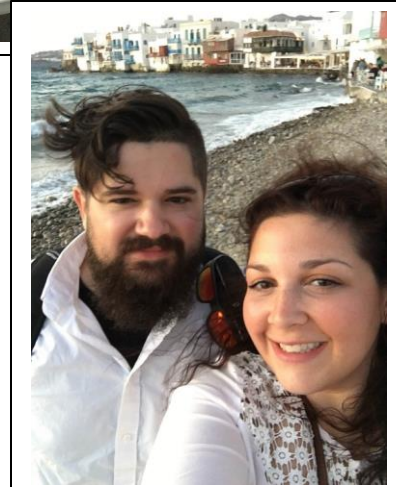
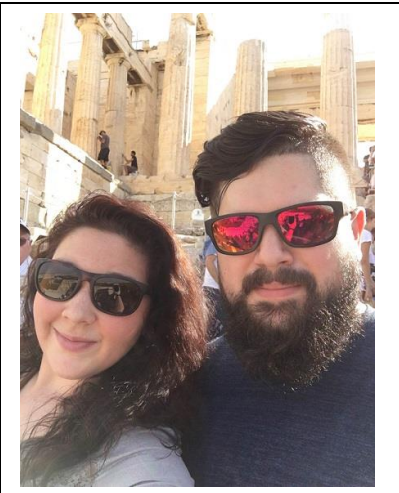
Hello,

Sorry for the delay, I must have missed this! We have just arrived back from our trip to Greece. Thank you St Demetrius again for this opportunity.

Athens and Mykonos were lovely. We also went to Santorini which was also wonderful. Cloud tours were very accommodating.

I've attached some photos.

Thanks,
Brian





St. Demetrios Saves Thessaloniki from the Avars

Even after St. Demetrios' death, he was known to be a great defender and protector of his hometown of Thessaloniki.

Once, there were warriors called Avars who wanted to invade Thessaloniki and they shot arrows and large stones over the wall. Inside the city, the people prayed to St. Demetrios for his protection.

Suddenly, a warrior in shining armor appeared high on the city walls; it was the Holy Martyr, St. Demetrios.

He threw down a huge stone that crashed down so loud that the Avars were deafened. Then hundreds and thousands of stones fell down from the walls of Thessaloniki and filled the Avars with such fear that they left but they soon returned to try again. St. Demetrios and his army of warriors threatened them with arrows and stones and the Avars left immediately and never returned. St. Demetrios saved his hometown of Thessaloniki. This was a miracle.

It is said that on each of these stones was written his name, St. Demetrios.



Our Sunday School students showcase their St. Demetrios projects to honor our patron saint. They each made their very own St. Demetrios stones to represent the stones that miraculously fell onto the Avar barbarians deafening them and chasing them from Thessaloniki forever.





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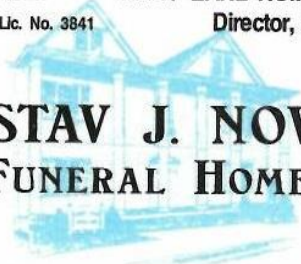
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~ November 2016~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 St. Cosmas & Damianos Divine Liturgy 10am	2 Bible Study 7pm	3	4	5
6 Oxi Day Greek School Program	7	8 Synaxis of the Archangels Divine Liturgy 10am	9 Bible Study 7pm	10 Seniors Meeting 11 AM Church Hall	11 Veterans Day	12 Paraklysis 10:00am
13	14	15	16 Bible Study 7pm	17	18	19 Paraklysis 10:00am
20	21 Presentation of the Theotokos Divine Liturgy 10am	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26
27	28	29	30 St. Andrew Divine Liturgy 10am			

~ Νοέμβριος 2016~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Άγιοι Κοσμάς και Δαμιανός Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ.	2 Μελέτη Αγίας Γραφής 7μ.μ	3	4	5
6 Πρόγραμμα του ελληνικού σχολείου για τη 28 Οκτωβρίου	7	8 Σύναξις των Αρχαγγέλων και Αγγέλων Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ.	9 Μελέτη Αγίας Γραφής 7μ.μ	10 Seniors Meeting 11 AM Church Hall	11 Veterans Day	12 Παράκληση 10:00 π.μ.
13	14	15	16 Μελέτη Αγίας Γραφής 7μ.μ	17	18	19 Παράκληση 10:00 π.μ.
20	21 Τα Εισόδια της Θεοτόκου Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ.	22	23	24 Ημέρα των ευχαριστιών	25	26
27	28	29	30 Άγιος Ανδρέας Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ.			

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Beautification Awards 2016**

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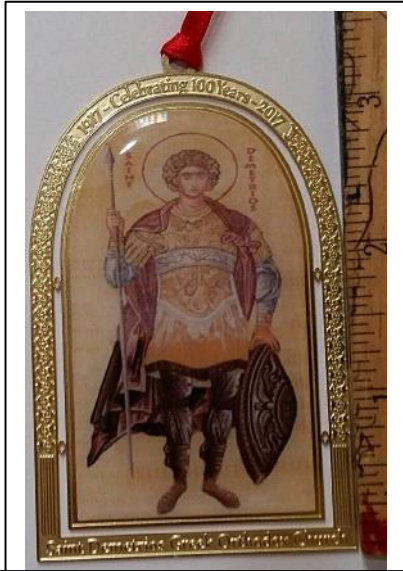
St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT


 PRESIDENT



Our recent landscaping
improvements have not
gone unrecognized.
Another reason to be
proud of our community.



Stop by the church office to see one of the St Demetrios 100th Anniversary Ornaments

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E - Mail : stdgoa@gmail.com



New Altar Pieces have arrived. Also planned are new doors, improvements to our sound system as well as the bishop's chair. Look for our video uploads to youtube of our Vesper services as well.