

**FEAST OF SAINT BASIL THE GREAT JANUARY 1**  
**Εορτή του Αγίου Πατέρα μας Βασίλειος ο Μέγας**



**JANUARY 2017**  
**RELIGIOUS CALENDAR**

Jan 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the  
Colossians 2:8-12  
Κολοσσαεϊς 2:8-12

Gospel Luke 2:20-21, 40-52  
Λουκᾶν 2:20-21, 40-52

Jan 8<sup>th</sup> Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the  
Ephesians 4:7-13  
Ἐφεσίους 4:7-13

Gospel Matthew 4:12-17  
Ματθαῖον 4:12-17

Jan 15<sup>th</sup> Epistle St. Paul's Letter to the  
Colossians 3:4-11  
Κολοσσαεϊς 3:4-11

Gospel Matthew 5:14-19  
Ματθαῖον 5:14-19

Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> Epistle St. Paul's First Letter to  
Timothy 4:9-15  
Τιμόθεον α' 4:9-15

Gospel Luke 19:1-10  
Λουκᾶν 19:1-10

Jan 29<sup>th</sup> Epistle St. Paul's Second Letter  
to the Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1  
Κορινθίους Β' 6:16-18, 7:1

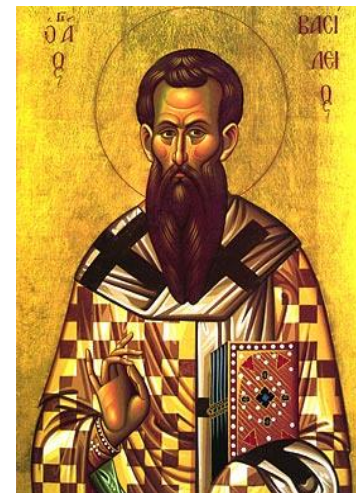
Gospel Matthew 15:21-28  
Ματθαῖον 15:21-28

[www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org](http://www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org)

**VASILOPITA &  
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM  
JAN 8TH**

ORTROS 9AM

DIVINE LITURGY 10 AM



The feast and commemoration of Saint Basil is celebrated with the Divine Liturgy attributed to him, the Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil. This is one of ten times during the year when the Liturgy of Saint Basil is celebrated.

The Liturgy is conducted on the morning of the feast and preceded by a Matins (Orthros) service. A Great Vespers is conducted on the evening before the day of the Feast. Also on this day, the Church commemorates the Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Eight days after his birth, Jesus was circumcised (Luke 2:21) in accordance with the command given by God to Abraham when He promised to make an everlasting covenant with him and all his descendants (Genesis 17:10-12).

**PRAY  
UNCEASINGLY**

## PARAKLYSIS

### MAKE YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION FOR 2017 PARAKLYSIS.

A Paraklesis, Παράκλησις, is a service of supplication for the welfare of the living. It is addressed to a specific Saint or to the Most Holy Theotokos whose intercessions are sought through the chanting of the supplicatory canon together with psalms, hymns, and ekteniae (litanies).

COME TWO TIMES A MONTH  
SEEKING THE INTERCESSION OF  
OUR MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS AND  
OUR PATRON SAINT DEMETRIOS.

Make God the center of your life. Make His Church the center of your focus. Make prayer the answer to all your questions. Join us for this most wonderful of experiences. Start the year off to the right start by resolving to a regular prayer schedule together as one community, as one family as one church for the glory of God.

January Paraklysis will be Saturday morning 10am on January 14 and 28. All services will be in English and Greek reading materials allowing you to follow along are available.



## *Message from Father George*

“This is my Beloved Son; with Him I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17). On January 6, we celebrate the great feast of Epiphany, where we remember the baptism of Christ. Understanding why we call this event an epiphany is very important.

We use the word epiphany today in English to mean that something suddenly occurred to us. We might say, “I had an epiphany that I needed to get a new job,” or, “I had an epiphany about how to solve this difficult problem.” But the baptism of Christ is not that kind of epiphany. In Ancient Greek, an epiphany is a divine revelation, a message from God.

The baptism of Christ is called an epiphany because the entire Trinity is revealed for the first time in this event. For the first time, we see working together the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The voice of the Father comes from heaven and announces the words, “This is my Beloved Son; with Him I am well pleased.” This same voice also reveals the identity of Christ. He is the Son of God.

Finally, the Spirit descends in the form of a dove (Matthew 3:16). The event of Christ’s baptism is thus a manifestation of the entire Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is an epiphany.

May the love of the Holy Trinity guide you and protect you and appear in the form of an epiphany in your life as you begin this New Year.

**WATCH FATHER GEORGE’S OCTOBER 15TH LECTURE ON YOUTUBE  
TYPE <https://youtu.be/m94tNagIRIO> INTO YOUR BROWSER  
“The Apostle Paul in the Greek Cities of the Roman Empire”**

### Ένα μήνυμα από Το Πατέρ Γεώργιο

“Αυτό είναι ο Αγαπημένος Υιός μου? μαζί Του, είμαι πολύ ευχαριστημένος »(Κατά Ματθαίον 3:17). Στις 6 Ιανουαρίου, γιορτάζουμε τη μεγάλη γιορτή των Θεοφανείων, όπου θυμόμαστε την βάπτισή του Χριστού. Κατανοώντας γιατί αποκαλούμε αυτό το γεγονός μια αποκάλυψη είναι πολύ σημαντική. Χρησιμοποιούμε τη λέξη Θεοφάνεια σήμερα στην αγγλική γλώσσα να σημαίνει ότι κάτι ξαφνικά συνέβη σε εμάς. Θα μπορούσαμε να πούμε, «είχα μια αποκάλυψη που χρειαζόμουν για να πάρω μια νέα θέση εργασίας,» ή, “είχα μια αποκάλυψη για το πώς να λύσει αυτό το δύσκολο πρόβλημα.” Αλλά το βάπτισμα του Χριστού δεν είναι αυτό το είδος των Θεοφανείων. Στην Αρχαία Ελληνικά, μία Θεοφάνεια είναι μια θεία αποκάλυψη, ένα μήνυμα από τον Θεό. Η βάπτισή του Χριστού ονομάζεται Θεοφάνεια επειδή ολόκληρη η Αγία Τριάδα αποκαλύπτεται για πρώτη φορά σε αυτή την εκδήλωση. Για πρώτη φορά, βλέπουμε εργάζονται από κοινού τον Πατέρα, τον Υιό και το Άγιο Πνεύμα. Η φωνή του Πατέρα έρχεται από τον ουρανό και να ανακοινώνει τις λέξεις, “Αυτό είναι ο Υιός μου? μαζί Του, είμαι πολύ ευχαριστημένος. “Η ίδια η φωνή αποκαλύπτει την ταυτότητα του Χριστού. Αυτός είναι ο Υιός του Θεού. Τέλος, το Πνεύμα κατεβαίνει με τη μορφή περιστεριού (Κατά Ματθαίον 3:16). Η εκδήλωση του βαπτίσματος του Χριστού είναι έτσι μια εκδήλωση ολόκληρης της Αγίας Τριάδας: Πατήρ, Υιός και Άγιο Πνεύμα. Είναι μια αποκάλυψη. Είθε η αγάπη της Αγίας Τριάδας σας καθοδηγήσει και να σας προστατεύει και να εμφανίζονται με τη μορφή ενός Θεοφανείων στη ζωή σας όπως εσείς ξεκινήσει αυτό το νέο έτος.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JANUARY 2017

### *Parish Council*

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Helen Horan

#### Choir Director

Helen Vassallo Kernizan

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Stavros Tsapatsaris

Deadline for submissions for the  
 February 2017 Bulletin is  
 January 10, 2017.

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#### NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL BOARD

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My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy New Year. Not only is this a new year, but it is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our St. Demetrios church which was founded in Perth Amboy, NJ. 100 years ago. We have so much to be grateful for with our newly restored church, new spiritual leader in Fr. George Parsenios and new construction going up with the new community center next door.

A 100 year anniversary deserves special recognition and celebration. This year we will do both. The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee has been planning, with the Parish Council and the Metropolis, to provide our Parishioners with a worthy celebration to grow in our spirituality and take pleasure in the joy of our existence. Both in the newsletter and on our web page we will provide advanced monthly news of activities planned to celebrate our past, all leading up to an exciting celebration in October.

Throughout the year, we will be hosting numerous guest visitors to help us commemorate our past and gather together looking forward to our bright future. Remember to thank and welcome these visitors one and all who are coming to our church. Each of you are representatives of our love and existence. All are welcomed to God's house where we have the privilege to praise Him. Share our joy this year by inviting friends and family to our special events. Ask those who may occasionally come to church to come or come back and join in the happiness that will come from this enjoyable time. We will have concerts, lectures, dances, reunions and of course prayers offered by many for us and those who come before us to make this church a living temple to our God.

In January, we begin fundraising for the new iconography unanimously approved at the last General Assembly meeting. The iconographers will be coming from Greece this spring to start. Now is the time for you to become the permanent future of our church by giving to PROJECT ICONOGRAPHY. Remember the first \$100,000 raised will be match dollar by dollar to pay for the iconography.

So let's make 2017 a banner year for attendance **every Sunday**, generosity in contributing to Stewardship and PROJECT ICONOGRAPHY and Prayer both on Sunday, twice a month at Paraklysis and daily with your prayer ropes Koumboskini with the Jesus prayer.

HAPPY NEW YEAR> May our Lord Bless and Keep you and your families from this time and forever more.

Hon. Marina Corodemus, Board President



## **2017 ST. DEMETRIOS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**

Please mark your calendars and reserve Memorial Day weekend for this year's Greek Festival 2017. The Festival dates have been applied for at City Hall to accommodate the demolition schedule of the community center early in June 2017. This means during June, next door to the church, we will have heavy machinery, fencing and debris gathered on the property next door while Elizabethtown Gas brings the community center down to begin the restoration on the property.

By changing the Festival dates, we also will be able to share the Waterfront activities of the Perth Amboy Arts Festival on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> of May and Memorial Day parade which stop directly across from our church in observances of Memorial Day May 30<sup>th</sup> heroes and service persons. After the ceremonies have concluded, we will open the festival for lunch and dinner.

With our new kitchen downstairs, now ready, we can cook, bake and prepare all foods and pastries on premises and have them hot for service outside under the tents overlooking the water. This year the TAVERNA will be located outside as well as live music every night and weekend raffles for daily cash 50/50 and a weekend raffles including the Grand Prize of a trip for 2 to Greece.

We need the extra day of revenue to pay the balance of the new roof \$50,000 before we can collect an annual revenue from the Festival. We need all members of the church and their families to volunteer this one weekend TO HELP OUR CHURCH with this main fund raising effort. So whether you bake, cook, serve, run a cash register, sell raffles no job is too important for anyone not to help.

This year's Committee is chaired by: Nick Giannakopoulos, Spero Kalambakas, Afroula Kanellidis and Stan Suravlas.

Don't wait to be asked, speak up and volunteer now to one of these co-chairs now and save the dates. If we all work together, we can make this weekend a HUGH success.



## 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

### Officers:

**Stella Wacker**

- President

**Helen Catelanos**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Helen Suravlas**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**Mary Lou Rivera**

- Recording Secretary

**Marietta Khalil**

- Treasurer

**Irene Pakis**

- Assistant Treasurer

**Afroula Kannelides**

- Corresponding Secretary

### Board Members:

**Evelyn Mariolis**

**Sultana Kizides**

**Lynn Markus**

**Angie Papaikononmou**

**Joanne Xiadas**

**Sylvia Kress**

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the Philoptochos we are wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

### Upcoming events:

- Vasilopita luncheon is January 8<sup>th</sup> . All proceeds to benefit St. Basils Academy.
- Apokriatico Glendi in February. A portion of the proceeds will go to the beautification of our church.
- Feeding the homeless in 2017 monthly event.
- The annual visit to St. Michaels Home of the Aged is scheduled for Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> .
  - If you cannot attend, we are gratefully accept donations.
  - Make checks to St. Michaels Home of the Aged. You will be recognized as a donor, during the presentation of the gifts.

New members for the Philoptochos society are always welcome. Please join us as we prepare for the New Year, and helping those in need.

Thank you to all the ladies baked for us during our December Bake sale.

In Christ,

Stella Wacker

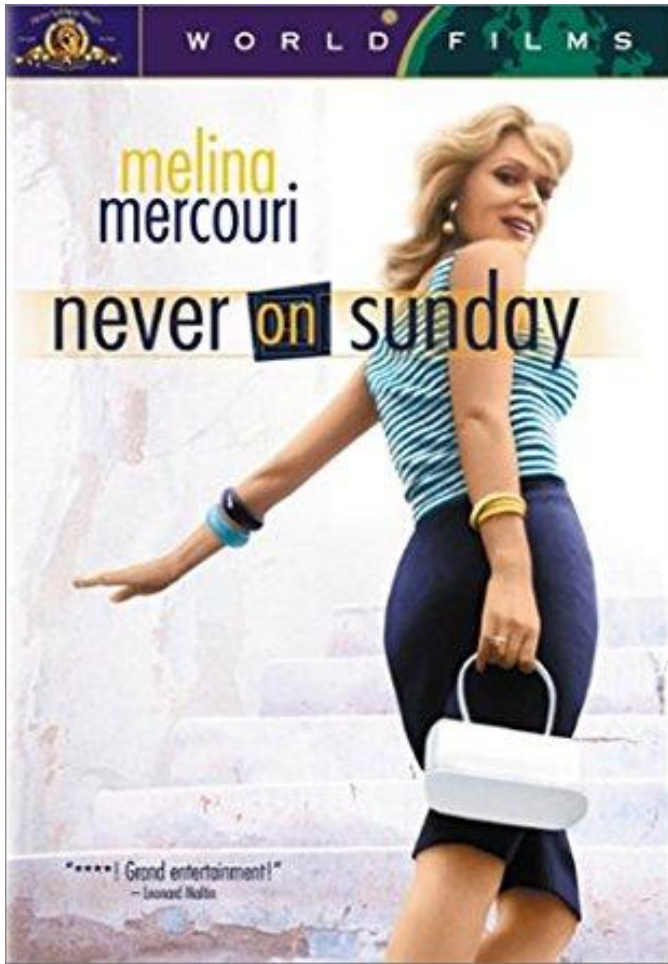
## G.O.Y.A. NEWS

Since the beginning of the school year St. Demetrius GOYA has been very busy. We had participated in the diving for the cross at Ashbury Parks, and hosted coffee hour.

We recently took a trip to Toms River and danced the night away at the annual GOYA Christmas Dance.

Refer to upcoming newsletters for regular upcoming events.

We wish the entire St Demetrius family a Happy New Year!



# ST. Demetrios Movie Night

Now Have Family Fun  
Here at Your Church

FRIDAY NIGHT  
JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup> 7:30  
Comfortable Dress

LIGHT SNACKS  
PROVIDED DONATIONS  
BAKED GOODS AND  
BOTTLED WATER  
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# ST. DEMETRIOS MOVIE NIGHT “NEVER ON SUNDAY”

Come relive this classic movie starring Melina Mercouri.

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FRIDAY NIGHT JANUARY 13

7:30 START TIME

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM.



## **PROJECT ICONOGRAPHY FUND RAISING STARTING**

***Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.*** P. Picasso.

Project Iconography is the birth of a new identity of St. Demetrios. It is our statement of devotion to our God, our religious Greek Orthodox Heritage and a visual salvation for our souls in a tumultuous world. It will be the constant to preserve and protect our faith for generations to appreciate, be inspired and claim as their birth right as members of this church. Our iconography will be synonymous with St. Demetrios Perth Amboy. It will be a definition of who we are and what we believe.

**DONATION  
COLLECTIONS  
TO BEGIN  
JANUARY 2017**

**EVERY DOLLAR DONATED UP TO \$100,000 WILL BE MATCHED BY AN ANONYMOUS DONOR. So every dollar counts.**

**Make your check payable to St. Demetrios and mark it PROJECT ICONOGRAPHY.**



The Ladies Philoptochos of  
St. Demetrios Church Presents  
Our Annual

# Vasilopeta Luncheon

**Sunday  
January 8  
2017**

**BLESSING OF THE WATERS JAN 22ND**

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  
Litsa Kaidas  
Peggy Kantor  
Eleni Mantsis*

**Donation**  
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GREEK FESTIVAL**

**CAN YOU MAKE A PREFECT FUSION  
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**TRY THIS AT HOME!!**

**GREEK QUESADILLAS**

**YIELD: 4 SERVINGS PREP TIME: 20  
MINUTES COOK TIME: 10 MINUTES  
TOTAL TIME: 30 MINUTES**

**All the best Greek favors come  
together in this EPIC cheesy  
quesadilla, topped with an easy  
homemade Greek yogurt tzatziki  
sauce!**

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 8 (8-inch) flour tortillas
- 1 (10-ounce) packages frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained
- 1/2 cup julienned sun dried tomatoes in olive oil, drained
- 1/2 cup chopped pitted kalamata olives
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1 tablespoon fresh dill

**FOR THE TZATZIKI SAUCE**

- 1 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 1 English cucumber, finely diced
- 2 cloves garlic, pressed
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh dill
- 1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh mint, optional
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 2 tablespoons olive oil

**DIRECTIONS:**

To make the tzatziki sauce, combine Greek yogurt, cucumber, garlic, dill, lemon juice, lemon zest and mint in a small bowl; season with salt and pepper, to taste. Drizzle with olive oil. Refrigerate for at least 10 minutes, allowing the flavors to meld; set aside. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Top tortilla with spinach, sun dried tomatoes, olives and cheeses, and then top with another tortilla. Repeat with remaining tortillas to make 4 quesadillas. Place quesadillas onto the prepared baking sheet. Place into oven and bake until the cheese has melted, about 8-10 minutes. Serve immediately with tzatziki sauce, garnished with dill, if desired.

Will you try and make these? Can you experiment on how we can mass produce these as individual?

**GREEK QUESADILLAS Plain (Vegetarian) With chicken? With Pork?  
Please report your findings to the Greek Festival Committee.**



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If you can find it in your hearts, please give a little extra to the church to help pay for our new roof.

ANY amount of contribution will be accepted.

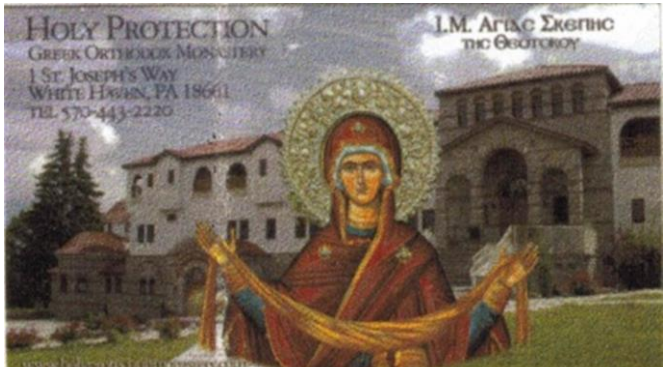
Please submit your contributions to the church and mark your check **NEW ROOF**.



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*President*

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~ January 2017~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day Agios Vasilios	2	3	4	5	6 Baptism of our Lord Blessing of the Water Divine Liturgy 10am	7 Saint John the Baptist Divine Liturgy 10am
8 Christmas Pageant Vasilopita Lunch	9	10	11	12 Seniors Meeting 11 AM - Church	13	14 Paraklesis 10 AM
15	16	17 St. Anthony Divine Liturgy 10am	18	19	20	21
22 Blessing of the Waters	23	24	25	26	27	28 Paraklesis 10 AM
29	30 The Three Hierarchs Divine Liturgy 10am	31				

~ Ιανουάριος 2017~						
ΚΥΡ	ΔΕΥ	ΤΡΙ	ΤΕΤ	ΠΕΜ	ΠΑΡ	ΣΑΒ
1 Άγιος Βασίλης Πρωτοχρονιά	2	3	4	5	6 Η θεοφάνια Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ.	7 Άγιος Ιωάννης ο Βαπτιστής Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ.
8 Χριστουγεννιάτικη Παράσταση Βασιλόπιτα	9	10	11	12 Seniors Meeting 11 AM - Church	13	14 Παράκλησις 10 π.μ.
15	16	17 Άγιος Αντώνιος Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ.	18	19	20	21
22 Η κατάδυση του Τιμίου Σταυρού	23	24	25	26	27	28 Παράκλησις 10 π.μ.
29	30 Τρεις Ιεράρχες Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ.	31				

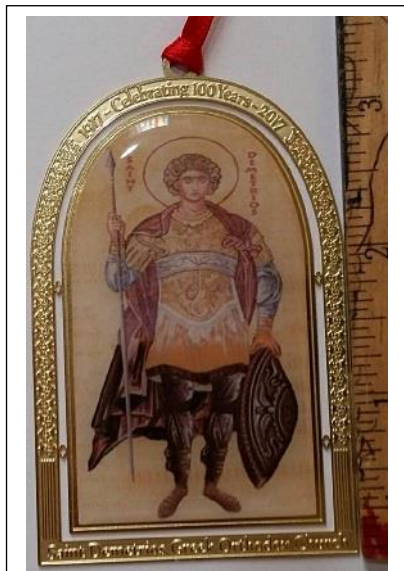
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Please stop by the church  
office to buy your medal for  
Family and Friends

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:

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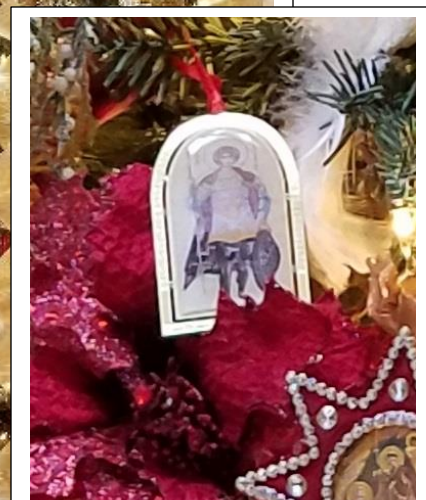
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Our Medal on the Metropolis Tree

Metropolitan Evangelos adds our St Demetrios Medal to the Metropolis Tree