

St. Demetrios

Parish Newsletter

September 2017

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

(732) 826-4466

Fr. George Parsenios

Proposed New Community Center and Retirement Community



CITY COUNCIL TO VOTE SEPT. 13 ON OUR RIGHT TO REDEVELOP

We need ALL Parishioners, neighbors and friends of the St. Demetrios Community to come to City Hall with us on Wednesday September 13th when a vote by the Perth Amboy City Council will be taken to determine our rights to develop our property. Replacement of a community center is our number one priority, but before we can even plan any such options such as an Orthodox Housing with a chapel, an office for Fr. George and an Orthodox kitchen with meal plan options for residents, the City Council must adopt the recommendation of the planning board that this property be found to be **IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT**.

This is our opportunity to insure the future of our church and we must be positive and prayerful. Your presence will be important to show everyone how much we care.

A presentation by the Parish Council President Marina Corodemus will be held immediately after church on Sept 10 to explain the upcoming City vote. Please be there with family and friends.

CHURCH MUST RALLY TO PROTECT OUR RIGHTS- Wed. Sept, 13TH, 7 pm. City hall

We ask you to come onto our church rally bus at 6:30 in front of the church to come as one family to City Hall for democracy to tell our City government why we should have the freedom to develop our property for the benefit of the church and the City.

In this our 100th Anniversary, we have a proven record of good citizenship and positive contributions. Our property was bought and paid for by generations of hard working members of our community. Now that we are finally have the pollution clean-up from the property next door-which was not our fault, nor being paid to clean up by us, we are entitled to redevelop our property for the good of the community, for the next generation and beyond. None of this will happen without this important vote on Wednesday September 13 by the City council. Without a yes vote our future growth plans will help make all possible. We need to show that we care and we want the Council to vote:

YES VOTE WILL INSURE OUR FUTURE GROWTH

PLEASE COME PRAY THE PARAKLYSIS 2 X'S A MONTH

(SUPPLICATIONS FOR INTERVENTION FROM)

OUR BLESSED LADY THE THEOTOKOS AND ST. DEMETRIOS.

Check the church calendar for dates and times.

September 2017 RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

Sept. 3 Epistle St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 16:13-24
Κορινθίους α' 16:13-24
Gospel Matthew 21:33-42
Ματθαῖον 21:33-42

Sept 10. Epistle Galatians 6:11-18
Γαλάτας 6:11-18
Gospel John 3:13-17
Ἰωάννην 3:13-17

Sept 17 Espistle Galatians 2:16-20
Γαλάτας 2:16-20
Gospel Mark 8:34-38; 9:1
Μάρκον 8:34-38, 9:1

Sept 24 Epistle St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 3:10-15
Τιμόθεον Β' 3:10-15
Gospel Luke 5:1-11
Λουκᾶν 5:1-11

WATCH FATHER GEORGE'S LECTURES ON YOUTUBE TYPE

<https://youtu.be/m94tNaalRl0>

INTO YOUR BROWSER

"The Apostle Paul in the Greek Cities of the Roman Empire"

Services unless otherwise stated
ORTROS 9AM

DIVINE LITURGY 10 AM

No Baptisms will be for any of the Great Feast Days of the Lord



Message from Father George

Happy New Year! I know it's not January 1, but I am stilling wishing you "Happy New Year!" The Church's calendar does not begin in January but in September, just like many other ancient calendars. Our Jewish neighbors, for instance, celebrate Rosh Hashanah ("The Head of the Year") on September 20, following the same ancient customs. These ancient calendars are connected to the bringing in of the harvest.

Because the Church follows the same ancient customs, I am writing to wish you all a Happy New Year! All of our liturgical books and lists of Church services begin their new cycle, not in January, but in September. We are, therefore, starting a new Church year. And it is important that the Church's calendar differs from the calendar in the world around us. This difference shows that the Church's time is different from the time of the world, which reminds us that we are meant to be different as well.

Every day we go out into the world and we live our lives and we do our jobs just like everybody else in the world. But we are not just like everyone else. Our home is not in this world, but in the heavenly realms with God. Even in little ways like our calendar, we are out of step with the world around us.

The start of the Church year in September is a tiny reminder of the words of our Lord, who tells us that we "are in the world, but not of the world" (John 17:16). God bless you all, and Happy New Year!

Ένα μήνυμα από Το Πατέρ Γεώργιο

Ευτυχισμένο το νέο έτος! Ξέρω ότι δεν είναι η 1η Ιανουαρίου, αλλά χαίρομαι που σας εύχομαι "Ευτυχισμένο το Νέο Έτος!" Το ημερολόγιο της Εκκλησίας δεν ξεκινάει τον Ιανουάριο, αλλά τον Σεπτέμβριο, όπως και πολλά άλλα αρχαία ημερολόγια. Οι Εβραίοι γείτονές μας, για παράδειγμα, γιορτάζουν τη Ροζ Χασάνα ("Ο Αρχηγός της Χρονιάς") στις 20 Σεπτεμβρίου, ακολουθώντας τα ίδια αρχαία έθιμα. Αυτά τα αρχαία ημερολόγια συνδέονται με την εισαγωγή της συγκομιδής. Επειδή η Εκκλησία ακολουθεί τα ίδια αρχαία έθιμα, σας γράφω να σας εύχομαι ευτυχισμένο το νέο έτος! Όλα τα λειτουργικά μας βιβλία και οι κατάλογοι των εκκλησιαστικών υπηρεσιών ξεκινούν τον νέο κύκλο τους, όχι τον Ιανουάριο, αλλά τον Σεπτέμβριο. Συνεπώς, ξεκινάμε μια νέα Εκκλησιαστική χρονιά. Και είναι σημαντικό το ημερολόγιο της Εκκλησίας να διαφέρει από το ημερολόγιο στον κόσμο γύρω μας. Αυτή η διαφορά δείχνει ότι ο χρόνος της Εκκλησίας είναι διαφορετικός από την εποχή του κόσμου, πράγμα που μας θυμίζει ότι πρέπει να είμαστε διαφορετικοί. Κάθε μέρα βγαίνουμε στον κόσμο και ζούμε τη ζωή μας και κάνουμε τις δουλειές μας όπως όλοι όλοι στον κόσμο. Αλλά δεν είμαστε όλοι όλοι. Το σπίτι μας δεν είναι σε αυτόν τον κόσμο, αλλά στα ουράνια σφαίρα με τον Θεό. Ακόμη και με λίγους τρόπους, όπως το ημερολόγιό μας, δεν έχουμε βήματα με τον κόσμο γύρω μας. Η αρχή της εκκλησιαστικής περιόδου το Σεπτέμβριο είναι μια μικρή υπενθύμιση των λόγων του Κυρίου μας, που μας λέει ότι «είμαστε στον κόσμο, αλλά όχι στον κόσμο» (Ιωάννης 17:16). Ο Θεός να σας ευλογεί όλους, και ευτυχισμένο το νέο έτος!



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Deadline for submissions for the
 October 2017 Bulletin is
 September 10, 2017.

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NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL BOARD

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE September 2017

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I do everything for God, and in this way I lose nothing, and I'm always well repaid for the trouble I go to for other people. -St. Therese of Lisieux

As we begin our new ecclesiastical year, let us remember above all things to be Thankful for the enormous blessings our community has received. So many of you have commented, with tears in your eyes, thanking the Parish Council members for the resplendent beauty of our church. Know that all these restorations were done for the true purpose of glorifying our God in His house. "I have loved, O Lord, the beauty of your house and the place where your glory dwells (Ps 25:8).

We tried to be ever mindful of all the donations made over the years, by so many, while still updating the necessary changes that had to be made. We tried as volunteers, with limited time, to present the best surroundings we could to the congregation, so that you worship here would be focused on prayer and not distracted by worldly considerations.

The real work now begins to raise our prayerfulness and soulfulness to our God and work every day to that end. As St. Porphyrios reminds us "The most important thing of all is for people to love Christ and all problems will be resolved." When you enter the church now you are surrounded figuratively and literally with a host of Saints watching over us. In the next several months, we hope to start launching a series of education information projects, to help each one of us learn more about these many saints that have filled out Church, their history, prayers, and hymns and how we can be closer to God through their intervention and aid.

As this year unfolds, let us commit ourselves to more prayerfulness. Let us pray as a family together at Asbury Park September 10th, on the bus ride down, during the liturgy and together as a family when our young people dive for the cross. Let us come together for the church picnic

Welcoming everyone back on September 17th lets fill the ranks of our youth programs, Sunday and Greek Schools, Hope/Joy and Goya. Let us eat together as a family under the tent overlooking the beautiful vista we enjoy of the Raritan Bay as we return to our normal worship time of 9:00a, Orthros/10:00am Divine Liturgy.

I urge you from now to buy your St. Demetrios concert tickets for October 27th with the Arcadian Choral singing here in our church before we are sold out. Tickets \$10. Pay for your Gala luncheon reservations which will go quickly as tables are already being filled \$55 adults table of 10 for \$500 before October 1. Do not be alone join your church family this year and in recognition of our 100th Anniversary next month.



Αγαπητοι ενοριτες,

Κάνω τα πάντα για τον Θεό και με αυτό τον τρόπο δεν χάνω τίποτα και πάντα μου ανταποδίδεται ότι τραβάω για τους άλλους ανθρώπους. – Αγία Τερέζα του Λισιέ

Καθώς ξεκινάμε το καινούργιο μας εκκλησιαστικό έτος, ας θυμηθούμε πάνω από όλα να είμαστε ευγνώμων για τις τεράστιες ευλογίες που η κοινότητα μας έχει εισπράξει. Πολλοί από σας έχετε σχολιάσει, με δάκρυα στα μάτια σας, ευχαριστώντας τα μέλη του συμβουλίου της ενορίας για την λαμπρή ομορφιά της εκκλησίας μας. Να ξέρετε ότι όλες οι αποκαταστάσεις έγιναν για τον αληθινό σκοπό του να εξυμνήσουμε τον Θεό μας στον οίκο Του. *“Έχω αγαπήσει, ω Θεέ μου, την ομορφιά του σπιτιού σου και του μέρους όπου η μεγαλειότητα σου κατοικεί”*

Προσπαθήσαμε να λάβουμε υπόψη όλες τις δωρεές που έχουν γίνει όλα αυτά τα χρόνια, από πάρα πολλούς, καθώς ακόμη αναβαθμίζουμε τις απαραίτητες αλλαγές που έπρεπε να είχαν γίνει. Προσπαθήσαμε ως εθελοντές, με περιορισμένο χρόνο, να παρουσιάσουμε τους καλύτερους περιβάλλον χώρους που μπορούσαμε στο εκκλησιασμά, έτσι ώστε το προσκύνημα σας εδώ να είναι εστιασμένο στην προσευχή και να μην αποσπάται από εγκόσμιες σκέψεις.

Η αληθινή δουλειά τώρα ξεκινάει να αυξάνει την αφοσίωση και την καλοψυχία μας στο Θεό και δουλεύουμε κάθε μέρα για εκείνο το σκοπό. Όπως μας θυμίζει ο Άγιος Πορφύριος “Το πιο σημαντικό πράγμα από όλα είναι όλοι οι άνθρωποι να αγαπάνε το Χριστό και όλα τα προβλήματα θα λυθούν”. Όταν μπεις στην εκκλησία τώρα, είσαι περικυκλωμένος μεταφορικά και κυριολεκτικά με ένα σωρό αγίους που μας προσέχουν. Στους επόμενους μερικούς μήνες, ελπίζουμε να ξεκινήσουμε να παρουσιάζουμε μια σειρά από εκπαιδευτικές και πληροφοριακές εργασίες, για να βοηθήσουμε κάθε έναν από μας να μάθει περισσότερα σχετικά με αυτούς τους αγίους που έχουν γεμίσει την εκκλησία μας, την ιστορία τους, προσευχές και ύμνους και πως μπορούμε να είμαστε πιο κοντά στο Θεό μέσα από την παρέμβαση και την βοήθειά τους.

Καθώς αυτός ο χρόνος εξελίσσεται, ας δεσμευτούμε σε περισσότερη αφοσίωση. Ας προσευχηθούμε ως οικογένεια μαζί στο πάρκο Asbury στις 10 του Σεπτεμβρίου, πηγαίνοντας με λεωφορείο, κατά τη διάρκεια της λειτουργίας και μαζί ως οικογένεια όταν οι νέοι θα βουτήξουν για το σταυρό. Ας έρθουμε όλοι μαζί για το εκκλησιαστικό πικνίκ.

Καλωσορίζοντας όλους πίσω στις 17 του Σεπτεμβρίου, ας συμπληρώσουμε τις θέσεις των νεανικών προγραμμάτων μας, Κυριακάτικα και Ελληνικά σχολεία, Ελπίδα/Χαρά και Γκόγια. Ας φάμε όλοι μαζί ως οικογένεια κάτω από την σκηνή παραβλέποντας την όμορφη θέα του Ravitan ποταμού που απολαμβάνουμε και ας επιστρέψουμε στην κανονική μας ώρα λατρείας 9:00πμ, Όρθρος/10:00πμ η θεία λειτουργία.

Σας παροτρύνω από τώρα να αγοράσετε τα εισιτήρια σας για την συναυλία του Αγ.Δημητρίου τον Οκτώβριο στις 27 με τους Arcadian Chorale που θα τραγουδήσουν εδώ στην εκκλησία μας προτού εξαντληθούν. Εισιτήρια \$10. Πληρώστε για κρατήσεις επίσημου γεύματος οι οποίες θα φύγουν γρήγορα καθώς τα τραπέζια ήδη γεμίζουν \$55 τραπέζι ενηλίκων των 10 για \$500 πριν τις 1 του Οκτώβριου. Μην είσαι μόνος γίνε μέλος της εκκλησίας σου αυτό το χρόνο και προς αναγνώριση της 100^{ης} επετείου μας τον επόμενο μήνα.



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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I hope you all had a wonderful summer with family and friends, you rejuvenated, and you are ready to start another year.

It is an excited time to be in our community with our 100-year celebration 1 ½ month away! The preparation has started and I am look forward to the celebration

I hope together we can participate in the various activities planned for our chapter, community and the Metropolis.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS :

- **Sept 23rd** - **General meeting noon Church Hall Election of the new Board** will be done please make sure you make every effort to attend.
 - 100 year preparation for St Demetrio's Vespers
- **October 16th** - Board meeting 7:30 pm Church Hall
 - **October 25th** - St. Demetrio's Vespers

Wishing all a happy and relaxing rest of the summer. See you in September!

Stella Wacker
President of Philoptochos

Philoptochos Membership Interest Form



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Areas of Interest



Goya News Summer 2017

We hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable summer! The GOYANS have had a great summer. We had our first travel camp the week of July 10-15. We went to the beach, Ellis Island and a Mets game. Everyone enjoyed going to the movies, a pool party and knockerball. We ended the week with a trip to Agia Skepi. It was great fun and fellowship.

In the fall we are planning on doing a community service projects by tending the graves of some of our parishioners. We are also looking forward to diving for the cross in Asbury Park in September. All parishioners are invited to join us that day as the church had reserved a bus.

We are planning a special project to celebrate our church's 100th anniversary. We are excited about the upcoming year in our goya.

If any parishioner knows of any youth that may want to join us, please contact the office and they will put you in touch with our advisors.





HOPE & JOY MINISTRIES

Encouraging our children to celebrate our Orthodox Faith and Greek Heritage!!

ATTENTION PARENTS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL & GREEK SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM KINDERGARTEN TO 6TH GRADE:

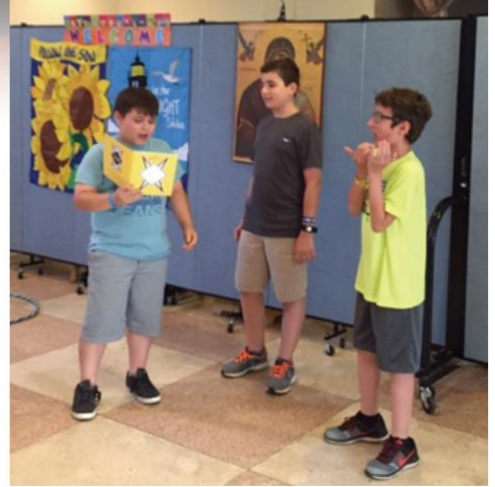
I hope you are all enjoying your summer! I just want to inform you that the Hope & Joy Ministries Events will be starting again this school year in early October, date to be announced via email/phone call.

Like last year, Our Hope Ministry will consist of those students who are in grades K-2nd while our Joy Ministry will consist of those students who are in the grades 3rd to 6th. During our activities, the Hope Ministry students will engage in an Arts and Crafts activity for ½ hour and then they will be learning how to dance Greek for the remaining ½ hour. In turn, the Joy ministry students will have Greek dance instruction for ½ and then they will engage in the Arts and Crafts activity for the remaining ½ hour.

During our Welcome Back picnic on Sunday, September 10, there will be Hope & Joy activities for the children to engage in so you can get a preview of what our Hope & Joy Ministries events are like.

I hope to see you all at the picnic! Enjoy the rest of your summer!





VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL

Our happy participants were Alena & Layna Albino, Christopher Amabile, Evangelia & Christina Kurczeski, Priscilla Medina, Niko Morales, Constantine Parsenios, Luca Regan, Evangelos & Christos Sistasis and Claire Veiga



VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL WAS HELD ON JUNE 26TH TO JUNE 30TH WITH MUCH MOTIVATION AND EXCITEMENT FROM OUR PRECIOUS CHILDREN WHO PARTICIPATED. THE CURRICULUM INCLUDED FOUR FEASTS OF THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF JESUS; THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD, PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE, THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD AND THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD. THE WORSHIP LESSONS WERE CORRELATED WITH ARTS & CRAFTS, MUSIC AND DRAMA WHICH ARE PORTRAYED IN THESE PHOTOS. MUCH APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED TO OUR DEVOTED TEACHERS, KALLY DURSO, MARIA MANTOUDAKIS, HELEN HORAN., AND PRESBYTERA MAUREEN PARSENIOS.



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

YOUTH MINISTRIES REGISTRATION FORM 2017 - 2018

Child's Name _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____
Address _____ Home Phone _____
Parents' Names: _____ Child's grade in School _____
Mother _____ Cell Phone # _____
Email Address _____
Father _____ Cell Phone # _____
Email Address _____
Emergency Contact: Name _____ Phone# _____ Relationship _____
Optional: Please advise us of any medical or physical issues that we should know for the safety and well-being of your child. _____

Kindly mark an X in the box/boxes that apply to the child named above.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, Youth of Ages 4 to 18, Grades PreK to 12

Children will gain knowledge of our Greek Orthodox faith through interesting lessons with caring teachers, creative projects and activities. HS students will have the opportunity to compete in the Oratorical Festival. Four year olds must be toilet trained and able to sit, listen and attend to the lesson being taught.

- ☐ **Enroll my child in SUNDAY SCHOOL** which will begin on Sun., September 10, 2017 @ 11:15 am.
☐ My child will participate in the Sunday School Christmas Pageant to be held on Sun., Dec. 10, 2017
☐ My child will attend the Christmas Pageant Rehearsal on Sun., Dec. 2nd and Sat., Dec. 9th, times tbd.

Comments: _____

GREEK SCHOOL, Youth of Ages 5 to 18, Grades K to 12

Children enrolled in our Greek School program will be taught our Greek language in accordance with their ability levels with a certified Teacher of Greek. **Please indicate your preference day of week & time** _____

- ☐ **Enroll my child in GREEK SCHOOL. Tuition is \$100 per child.** _____

Comments: _____

HOPE (Holy Orthodox Primary Education), Youth in Grades K to 2

Children participating in our **HOPE Ministry** may take part in Greek Dance, Recreational activities and Community Service projects appropriate for their age level. Greek Dance lessons will take place after Church Services on Sundays for approximately one hour. **Please check here if you are interested in Greek Dance** ☐

- ☐ **Enroll my child in the HOPE Ministry. Meetings/gatherings will be held monthly.**

Comments: _____

JOY (Junior Orthodox Youth), Youth in Grades 3 to 6

Children participating in our **JOY Ministry** may take part in Greek Dance, Recreational activities and Community Service projects appropriate for their age level. Greek Dance lessons will take place after Church Services on Sundays for approximately one hour. **Please check here if you are interested in Greek Dance lessons** ☐

- ☐ **Enroll my child in the JOY Ministry. Meetings/gatherings will be held monthly.**

Comments: _____

GOYA (Greek Orthodox Youth of America), Youth in Grades 7 to 12

Children participating in our **GOYA Ministry** may take part in Greek Dance, Recreational activities and Community Service projects appropriate for their age level which will include Sights and Sounds, Indoor Olympics, Outdoor Olympics and Dance Performances at various events. GOYA meetings will be held monthly. Dates will be determined at a later time. **Please check here if you are interested in Greek Dance lessons** ☐

- ☐ **Enroll my child in the GOYA Ministry. Meetings will be held monthly.**

Comments: _____

I give permission for my child, named above, to participate in the Ministry/Ministries indicated on this form.

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____



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~ September 2017 Σεπτέμβριος 2017 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Ecclesiastical Year	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6 Paraklesis 7pm	7	8 Nativity of the Theotokos Divine Liturgy 10am	9
10 PTO Picnic Sunday School/Greek School Registration	11	12	13	14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross Divine Liturgy 10am 11AM Seniors Meeting	15 St. Ephemias the Great Martyr	16
17 Asbury Park Holy Cross Celebration	18	19	20 Paraklesis 7pm	21	22	23
24	25	26 The Falling Asleep of St. John the Evangelist Divine Liturgy 10am	27	28	29	30
					1 Νέο Εκκλησιαστικό Έτος	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6 Paraklesis 7pm	7	8 Γέννηση της Θεοτόκου Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ	9
10 ΠΟΠ Κυριακή Σχολή Πικνίκ / Εγγραφή Ελληνικού Σχολείου	11	12	13	14 Εξύψωση του Τιμίου Σταυρού Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ 11AM Seniors Meeting.	15 Αγ. Ευφημία του Μεγάλου Μάρτυρα	16
17 Γιορτή του Αγίου Σταυρού του Asbury Park	18	19	20 Paraklesis 7pm	21	22	23
24	25	26 Ο πτωτικός ύπνος του Αγίου Ιωάννου του Ευαγγελιστή Θεία Λειτουργία 10 π.μ	27	28	29	30

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Correction from Summer
2017 Edition:

Rachel's photo and
graduation
announcement was
inadvertently omitted
from the St Demetrios
Graduation
Announcements

Rachel
Giannakopoulos
graduated high
school this past
June and is
planning to
attend
Montclair
University with
a major in
Education