



St. Demetrios



*Parish
Newsletter
November 2017*

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

HAPPY 100th ANNIVERSARY

NOVEMBER 2017 RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

Nov. 5

Saint Paul's letter to the
Galatians 6:11-18
Προς Γαλατας 6:11-18

Gospel John 21:14-25
Ιωαννην 21:14-25

Nov. 12

Saint Paul's second letter to
the Corinthians 9:6-11
Προς Κορινθίους Β' 9:6-11

Gospel Matthew 28:16-20
Ματθαιον 28:16-20

Nov. 19

Saint Paul's letter to the
Ephesians 2:14-22
Προς Εφεσίους 2:14-22

Gospel Mark 16:1-8
Μαρκον 16:1-8

Nov. 26

Saint Paul's letter to the
Ephesians 4:1-7
Προς Εφεσίους 4:1-7

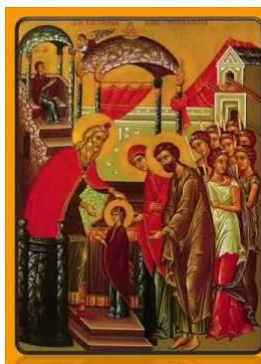
Gospel Mark 16:9-20
Μαρκον 16:9-20

Services unless otherwise stated:

Orthros 9:00 A.M.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 A.M.

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

ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE November 21



A hymn at Matins
says:
"O venerable Holy
of Holies, you do
love to dwell in the
Temple; and you
abide, O Virgin, in
converse with
angels, receiving
bread most
marvellously from
heaven, O you who
do sustain our life".

One of the twelve Great Feasts, and the first major feast of the Advent period, is that of the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple at Jerusalem. The hymn for the Feast says, the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple is the "prelude" of God's plan for Salvation: the Incarnation.

The entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple signifies her total dedication to God and her readiness for her future vocation as the Mother of the Incarnate Lord. This is a feast of anticipation. As honor is shown to Mary, the faithful are called to look forward to the Incarnation of Christ, celebrating in a little more than a month by the Feast of the Nativity on December 25.

BUILDING FIGHT CONTINUES

In September, our Church won a resounding victory with a 5-0 vote from the Perth Amboy City Council placing our building project into redevelopment. The council, rather than send our project to the Perth Amboy redevelopment Authority exercised an alternate option under state law allowing them as the governing body to control the redevelopment plan.

In addition, we were asked to hold a public meeting for the neighbors to inform them about our building plans. This requirement, though not imposed on any other redevelopment project, a chemical plant, is now before us. As we said during the public hearing at City Hall, we have nothing to hide and welcome good relations with our neighbors. We are currently planning this meeting for early November. Past that, we must again appear before the council again regarding our plan. We will need all of you to again be present to show our resolve to get our buildings done.

We must be resolute in our plans, united and as strong as we were in September. Please keep praying for Panagia and Saint Demetrios to intervene and strengthen us all for the work ahead.

In an attempt to assist our Saint Demetrios parishioners with parking while excavation in our lot is taking place, a shuttle bus is being provided. Parishioners are encouraged to park at the Wilentz School parking lot on Second Street where the bus will be awaiting to transport the parishioners back to the Church in time for Services and will transport them back to their cars when Services are completed. It is hoped that the shuttle bus will provide a sense of safety and comfort in light of our parking dilemma, especially when the weather gets colder and inclement as we move into our winter months.



Message from Father George

Dear Saint Demetrios Community,

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!

Ανακοίνωση του Πάτερ Γιώργου

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 Φιλιππησίους, «Χαίρετε ἐν Κυρίῳ πάντοτε ἄλλιν ἑρῶ, χαίρετε!» (Φιλιππησίους 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 Φιλιππησίους 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 Φιλιππησίοι 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 ἐν Κυρίῳ πάντοτε ἄλλιν ἑρῶ, χαίρετε!



The Parish Council and the community thanks Maria Kakadelis for assisting with the editing and the publishing our church newsletter while our dear friend Dino Kusulas is resting. Thank you Maria!



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 Dino Kusulas - Treasurer
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 Stavros Tsapatsaris

Deadline for submissions for the
 December 2017 Bulletin is
 November 10, 2017.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

While as Americans we are raised to believe Thanksgiving is a purely an AMERICAN HOLIDAY, once again, Yiayia was right and the Greeks had said it first. The word Thanksgiving comes from the Greek word EUHARIST- or as Christians, we use it as Communion that we celebrate during liturgy. The prayer recited by the priest goes as follows: *"We thank You, loving Master, benefactor of our souls, that on this day You have made us worthy once again of Your heavenly and immortal Mysteries. Direct our ways in the right path, establish us firmly in Your fear, guard our lives, and make our endeavors safe, through the prayers and supplications of the glorious Theotokos and ever virgin Mary and of all Your saints."* This prayer is thanking God for becoming present in our lives, specifically through Communion.

How much more grateful should we be to Saint Demetrios that we now have a beautiful church worthy of our Creator, a wonderful, intelligent, energetic priest who stirs and inspire us? We have a thriving new PTO with new faces and parents pulling together to deliver a quality of religious life for a new generation. We have a thriving GOYA which was almost non-existent only several years ago. Like all changes, we are in transition which is difficult and not always without bumps, but these are temporary inconveniences that we can overcome.

We have extended, once again, our caring to the children in Albania in the orphanage, the school for special needs children and a minority trying to hold on to a Hellenic Heritage, all under the auspices of His Beatitude Archbishop Anastasios.

I would like nothing more than the hard work, fundraising and minor disagreements to all end and blink my eyes and everything is built and done. But this is not reality. We must struggle to achieve but in doing so, we must remember we are a church first. Be prayerful, faithful and patient. Thank God for our many blessings.

Hon. Marina Corodemus

President, Parish Council



Get Well Soon, Dino!

The entire congregation wishes to express a speedy recovery to Dino Kusulas. We all miss Dino and hope to see him back in Church very soon. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Dino, as you gain strength and make good progress each and every day. God bless you!



SAINT 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."

Our Mission:

To help the needy and promote the Greek Orthodox Faith.

Officers:

Stella Wacker - President
Helen Catelanos - 1st Vice President
Helen Suravlas - 2nd Vice President
Mary Lou Rivera - Recording Secretary
Marietta Khalil - Treasurer
Irene Pakis - Assistant Treasurer
Afroula Kannelides - Corr. Secretary

Board Members:

Evelyn Mariotis
Sultana Kizides
Lynn Markus
Angie Papaikonomou
Joanne Xiadas
Sylvia Kress

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! Hope to see all at our general meetings.

We are collecting food for the Thanksgiving baskets.

Non-Perishable Food Items Needed:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Tuna fish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pasta
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rice
<input type="checkbox"/>	Soups
<input type="checkbox"/>	Turkey stuffing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Macaroni and cheese boxes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beans
<input type="checkbox"/>	Canned vegetables
<input type="checkbox"/>	Canned fruit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coffee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sugar
<input type="checkbox"/>	Canned milk
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cereal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Granola bars
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cookies
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crackers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nuts
<input type="checkbox"/>	**Frozen turkeys are also needed

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- **November 5** - Cosma and Damianos Tray Collection
- **November 11** - Children Medical Fund Luncheon
- **November 21** - **Thanksgiving Baskets** are delivered.

*** **December Bake Sale** ***
Look for flyers and info for orders coming soon!



Philoptochos Membership Interest Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Areas of interest: _____



The new Greek School year is underway, and it is my sincere hope that if you have any children that you enroll your children as soon as possible.

Continuing our Greek heritage through our children will ensure that future generations appreciate who they are and where they came from. The Greek language is not only ancient and beautiful, but also useful in everyday life, even here in the United States.

Children that commit to completing their studies have the opportunity to become certified not only by the Archdiocese, but also by taking the N.Y. Regents exam.



Our goal for the Saint Demetrios Greek School is to create a positive learning experience, and the more children we have the better.

Again, I ask that all Greek families enroll their children A.S.A.P. so they can start on the path to learning and appreciating the Greek language and Greek culture.

Thank you,
Dean Kakadelis - Greek School President



Students and teachers have been studying and discussing the life and martyrdom of our Patron Saint, St. Demetrios. Special projects are being created to be displayed in honor of Saint Demetrios during our 100th Anniversary events. Beautiful icons, crosses, booklets, essays, poetry, acronyms will all be included to venerate St. Demetrios and to partake and celebrate in our most momentous occasion of our Church's 100 years of existence in Perth Amboy, NJ.





G.O.Y.A. News

Board Members:

President:
Jadyn Simatos

Vice President:
Dean Giannakopoulos

Treasurer:
Nick Parsenios

Secretary and Disciplinarian:
Kali Simatos

Fall is upon us and our shorts have gone away and our sweaters have come out.

During the month of November we plan to attend the Bowling tournament at Ascension, Fairview. We are also looking forward to a ceramic studio session to prepare some of our projects for sights and sounds. To mark Thanksgiving, we are planning with our advisors a visit to feed the poor in a soup kitchen.

The GOYA is planning to continue the 100 year celebration throughout the year with the help of some of our parishioners. We want to embrace our culture and traditions. We are asking you to share your talents and recipes with us to pass on to our children and continue the tradition for the next hundred years.

If you know anyone who is willing to help or join GOYA, please contact Cindy Giannakopoulos at cynthiagianna@gmail.com or Jadyn Simatos at 732-354-6721.

Kali Simatos,
GOYA Secretary

HOPE & JOY

This past Sunday, October 8th, was our first gathering of our HOPE & JOY groups for the 2017 - 2018 Church Year. Some of the students who participated happily showcased their arts & crafts projects honoring St. Demetrios. Pictured below from left to right are Luca Regan, Luka Simatos, Jaceir Kanellidis and Constantine Parsenios who enjoyed themselves by working together and sharing in the bond of friendship. Kindly mark the date of Sunday, November 12, 2017 for the next HOPE & JOY session. It is hoped that all children will join in these groups where they can enjoy quality time with their Orthodox friends.

Kally Durso,
HOPE & JOY Advisor





Exterior Brick Repair

Once again, through donations, a help from our endowment fund interest, exterior brick work repairs that were both unsightly and dangerous have been repaired. The back stairs by Fr. George's office were crumbling and the space between the stairs and wall were leaking inside. This too has been completely repaired. Currently we are awaiting the final handrail.

A \$40,000 balance exists and we pray for you to be generous and contribute to the brick repairs. If you have not given before for the roof repairs or it has been a while since you have donated, please do so now. Please make your checks payable to Saint Demetrios Greek Church and designate brick repairs on your check.

Next is power washing stainless steel, pollution and water streaks, included into the brick repair price.



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
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~ November 2017~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Paraklesis 7:00p.m.	9	10	11 Veteran's Day Children Medical Fund Luncheon
12 Hope and Joy	13 St. John Chrysostom Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Presentation of the Theotokos Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27	28	29 Paraklesis 7:00p.m.	30		

~ Νοεμβριος 2017~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Παρακληση 7:00 p.m.	9	10	11 Ημερα Βετερανων Children Medical Fund Luncheon
12 Hope and Joy	13 Αγιος Ιωαννης ο Χρυσοστομος Θεια Λειτουργια 10:00 a.m.	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Παρουσιαση της Θεοτοκου Θεια Λειτουργια 10:00 a.m.	22	23 Ημερα των Ευχαριστιων	24	25
26	27	28	29 Παρακληση 7:00 p.m.	30		



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SPACE IS LIMITED AND TICKETS
ARE GOING QUICKLY.

Buy at the church office or online.

**Have you visited the St Demetrios Perth Amboy website lately?
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making your payments on line at:**

<http://www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org/donations/>

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We are on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org



Dramatic lighting appropriately illuminating our new iconography has been installed through donation money by parishioners. Nationally renowned lighting artist, Jeffrey Versakos, has taken the first steps in appropriately lighting our exquisite iconography, allowing the viewer to fully appreciate the spectacular colors and details of our iconography including the spectacular Pandokratora.

Based in Elmsford, New York, Mr. Versakos specializes and excels in the development and creation of state of the art lighting solutions for museums, architectural and landscape applications.

Mr. Versakos, who has a mother born in Mani region of Greece, fell in love with our iconography and agreed to help out our Church. Some of his past projects were The White House, The National Museum of Natural History, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Carnegie Hall and the National Archibald esq. lighting THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE. We thank Mr. Versakos for caring so much for our Church and Saint Demetrios for bringing us together for the glory of God.