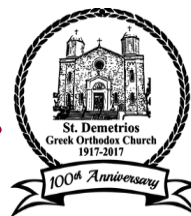




St. Demetrios



*Parish
Newsletter
March 2018*

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

Ευαγγελισμος της Θεοτοκου – Annunciation of Theotokos 25 Μαρτιου, 2018 – March 25, 2018

MARCH 2018 RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

Mar. 4

Saint Paul's letter to the
Hebrews 1:10-14; 2:1-3

Προς Εβραιους 1:10-14; 2:1-3

Gospel Mark 2:1-12
Μαρκον 2:1-12

Mar. 11

Saint Paul's letter to the
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:1-6

Προς Εβραιους 4:14-16; 5:1-6

Gospel Mark 8:34-38; 9:1
Μαρκον 8:34-38; 9:1

Mar. 18

Saint Paul's letter to the
Hebrews 6:13-20

Προς Εβραιους 6:13-20

Gospel Mark 9:17-31
Μαρκον 9:17-31

Mar. 25

Saint Paul's letter to the
Hebrews 2:11-18

Προς Εβραιους 2:11-18

Gospel Luke 1:24-38
Λουκαν 1:24-38



Six months after John the Forerunner's conception, the Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to Nazareth, a town of Galilee, unto Mary the Virgin, who had come forth from the Temple a mature maiden (see Nov. 21). According to the tradition handed down by the Fathers, she had been betrothed to Joseph four months. On coming to Joseph's house, the Archangel declared: "Rejoice, thou Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." After some consideration, and turmoil of soul, and fear because of this greeting, the Virgin, when she had finally obtained full assurance concerning God's unsearchable condescension and the ineffable dispensation that was to take place through her, and believing that all things are possible to the Most High, answered in humility: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." And at this, the Holy Spirit

came upon her, and the power of the Most High overshadowed her all-blameless womb, and the Son and Word of God, Who existed before the ages, was conceived past speech and understanding, and became flesh in her immaculate body (Luke 1:26-38).

Bearing in her womb the Uncontainable One, the blessed Virgin went with haste from Nazareth to the hill country of Judea, where Zacharias had his dwelling; for she desired to find Elizabeth her kinswoman and rejoice together with her, because, as she had learned from the Archangel, Elizabeth had conceived in her old age. Furthermore, she wished to tell her of the great things that the Mighty One had been well-pleased to bring to pass in her, and she greeted Elizabeth and drew nigh to her. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, she felt her six-month-old babe, Saint John the Baptist, prophesied of the dawning of the spiritual Sun. Immediately, the aged Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and recognized her as the Mother of her Lord, and with a great voice blessed her and the Fruit that she held within herself. The Virgin also, moved by a supernatural rejoicing in the spirit, glorified her God and Savior, saying: "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour," and the rest, as the divine Luke hath recorded (1:39-55).



Save the date:

March 25, 2018

Greek Independence Day
celebration.



Message from Father George

We find ourselves in the middle of Great Lent. If you observe the fast at all, even in small ways, then you have stepped back from your normal life. Your regular life is dormant. Because winter still hangs in the air outside, the plants and trees also lie dormant. But those plants are busy beneath the surface preparing to blossom into new life in the Spring. When Winter came, the trees lost their leaves and the flowers lost their petals. But very soon, they will show forth with new blossoms and bright new leaves. In the same way, our Lenten fast is a period in which we toil beneath the surface to prepare ourselves to blossom into new life in the Resurrection. If we labor now, if we are careful now, then we will not leave the fast as the same people who entered it. Our souls entered the fast like trees in Winter, with dry and brittle leaves. But they can leave the fast blossoming with the fruit of the Holy Spirit - love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Gal 3:22-23). If we have begun the fast in a way that will cultivate these fruits, let us continue to tend to the garden of our souls. And if we have done nothing to observe the fast, we still have weeks before Pascha! Enter the garden of your soul and begin to care for it. As the Lord says, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few!" (Luke 10:2). Be one of the few. Labor for a rich harvest in the Resurrection.



"Penitent Characters and the Character of Repentance in the Hymns of Lent and Holy Week"

A Lecture by Rev. George Parsenios

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church Parish Retreat
Saturday, March 17, 2018
11:00 a.m.

The hymns of Lent and Holy Week are like the script in a drama depicting the Passion of Christ. These hymns place characters from the Bible on stage before our eyes as we watch them play their roles in the divine drama of salvation. But, we are not just observers and spectators. We are pulled into the drama of Christian living by these hymns. This lecture will show, in simple and direct ways, how ancient Greek rhetorical forms and dramatic devices are used in the hymns of the Church to bring characters from the Bible to life so that we can imitate their example and be formed ourselves in the character of repentance.



Parish Council

Marina Corodemus - President
 Spero Kalambakis - Vice President
 Dino Kusulas - Treasurer
 Helen Horan - Secretary
 Atef Anthony Azouz
 Steve Corodemus
 Elizabeth DaCunha
 Kally Durso
 Nick Giannakopoulos
 Dean Kakadelis
 Afroula Kanellidis
 Michael Koudis
 Maria Mantoudakis
 Demos Simatos
 Alex Vosinas

Philoptochos President
 Stella Wacker

G.O.Y.A. President
 Jady Simatos

G.O.Y.A. Advisors
 Nick and Cindy Giannakopoulos

P.T.O. President
 Diana Regan

Greek School Teacher
 Alexandra Velmahos

Greek School President
 Dean Kakadelis

Sunday School Superintendent
 Helen Horan

Choir Director
 Irene Pakis

Chantor
 Stavros Tsapatsaris

Deadline for submissions for the
 April 2018 Bulletin is
 March 10, 2018.

Support the monthly newsletter.
 Submit your photo-ready business
 card today. For more details about
 ad rates please contact
d.kusulas@optonline.net.

NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL BOARD

Fr. George Parsenios
 Marina Corodemus
 Helen Horan
 Maria Kakadelis
 Dino Kusulas
 Mary Lou Rivera



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

March is a significant month for Greek Orthodox Christians and Saint Demetrios congregants. We have three significant events this month:

1. March 25th is the Annunciation of the Theotokos or Evangelismos. The pronouncement of the selection of the Theotokos, we celebrate the blessed and holy Feast of the Annunciation, we hear the words of the Archangel announcing the good news of the coming of the Son of God for our salvation. We hear the response of the Virgin Mary in praising God and committing herself to His divine will. We hear a witness of her faith in God as she proclaims, My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden... For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and Holy is His name. Please come to services; check the Church calendar.

2. The Great and Holy Lent-We are well entrenched into the great and holy period of LENT. We have been fasting, praying and giving to charitable causes anticipating the most holy of weeks followed by the joyous resurrection. Are you prepared?

3. As Greeks and Greek Americans, we acknowledge Greek Independence Day on March 25th. Our Church will hold a program featuring our Greek School, live feed from the NY Greek Parade and a Special guest, our Perth Amboy Mayor, the Honorable Wilda Diaz. Please join us after Church, support our commitment to preserving our rich Greek language and history as one family united and in fellowship. ZHTO H ELLAS!

Hon. Marina Corodemus
 President, Parish Council



NOTICE

Starting On or About Feb. 15, 2018 A Portion of Sadowski Parkway Will Be Temporarily Closed to Traffic

On or about Feb. 15, a portion of Sadowski Parkway will be closed for approximately two months from Wisteria Street to Linden Street.

The closure is associated with ongoing remediation work being conducted by Elizabethtown Gas at a former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) site between Linden and Wisteria streets on Sadowski Parkway. The road will be repaved when the work is completed.

Elizabethtown Gas began environmental remediation activities at the MGP site in June. The entire project is expected to be completed in Spring 2018.

In consultation with the Perth Amboy police department, Elizabethtown Gas will post warning signs on: High Street at Lewis Street, Lewis Street at Madison Avenue, and Sadowski Parkway at Brighton Avenue.



**For More Information
Call our Community Information Line
at 888-978-4998**

SPECIAL PARKING ARRANGEMENTS:

We have obtained an emergency leave to park on the Church lawn for 3 months on Sundays and during Holy Week from the State Street entrance only - WEATHER PERMITTING.

***** Caution: The ground is not level; do not wear heels or walk with walking devices, canes or walkers. *****



G.O.Y.A. Spaghetti Luncheon

Sunday, March 4, 2018

\$10.00 Donation



Come enjoy and celebrate our youth's accomplishments in Sights and Sounds. All of the Sights will be on display and we'll be entertained by their dance performance and play.

Last chance to buy a brick

**The new 100th anniversary wall is now up. Place your orders now.
Don't wait until space is limited.**

Small Bricks \$150

Large Bricks \$350

Expansion to the front and side of the church means replacing new bricks at a premium expense. Space is now very limited. Place your brick orders now before the walls are filled and you miss this last chance to have your family name, for yourself, your family, and your friends, in honor of a beloved family member, as tribute to a mentor or in memory of a relative that has passed- the bricks are precision engraved to last a lifetime.

Since 1917, when Saint Demetrios opened its doors, it has been a place of worship for central New Jersey Orthodox Religion. The meditation garden overlooks the water of the Raritan Bay surrounded by the history of our present and past loved ones. Their memories shall truly be eternal in this most special area. Adorning the garden will be the mosaic of St. Gabriel, one of Seven Archangels. The name Gabriel means God is Strong, God is powerful God is mighty.

Payment Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

☐ Check enclosed (payable to Saint Demetrios Church)

Name: _____

Account Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Return this form along with your payment to:

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

41-47 Wisteria Street Perth Amboy, New Jersey 08861

The Saint Demetrios Endowment fund is a 501(c) (3) organization.

Brick orders are tax-deductible.

Questions? Please contact Froso Morales at 732-826-4466



GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, March 25, 2018 Κυριακη, 25 Μαρτιου, 2018

Please join us, after the Divine Liturgy, at Saint Demetrios Church for a reception celebration. Enjoy our Greek School Program, Greek hospitality, Greek pastries and refreshments. Greek Independence Day Parade – live stream.

**Ζητω
η
Ελλαδα!**

Το Ελληνικο Σχολειο θα παρουσιασει την γιορτη της 25^η Μαρτιου, μετα την Θεια Λειτουργια. Ελατε να δειτε στην τηλεοραση την παρελαση της 5η Λεωφορος της Νεας Υορκης.

For more information call/Για περισσοτερες πληροφοριες τηλεφωνηστε: 732-826-4466

HOPE AND JOY MINISTRIES

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



On Sunday, January 28, 2018, we had another Hope and Joy Ministries event for this school year. Our event took place right after church. We had eleven students in attendance – Constantine Parsenios, Luca Regan, Niko Morales, Claire Veiga, Anastasia Haring, Gerilena Pinto-Antonastos, Kai and Dan Pinto, Milo, Lucas, and Zoe Kanellidis.

The students first learned about the proper way to worship in the Greek Orthodox Church. It is important that our children learn from a young age what to do as a Greek Orthodox Christian. They learned about how to enter church, lighting holy candles, making the sign of the cross, and venerating (kissing) the Icons.

They, also, learned about praying in church, listening to the liturgy and what the priest has to say, singing holy songs along with the choir, the importance of the incense burning during the service, and receiving communion. After the lesson, the students engaged in an arts and crafts lesson where they created a “The Way We Worship” plaque, based on the lesson, to hang in their homes. A fun time was had by all!

Parents, our next Hope and Joy event will take place on March 11, 2018 right after church. Please encourage your children to attend. I hope to see all our K-6th grade Sunday and Greek school students there!

Kally Durso
Parish Council Member
Hope and Joy Ministries Facilitator



Valentine Surprise



Sunday School students offered each of our Senior Citizens a delicious, decorated Valentine cupcake as a surprise gesture of their affection and caring.



JOIN US!
Sunday, April 1, 2018

Let's celebrate together as one family!

**Palm
SUNDAY**

Buffet Menu
Greek Salad
Broiled & Fried Fish
Baked Ziti
Greek Potatoes
Vegetables
Delicious Desserts

Luncheon

Adults: \$25, Children \$10

**LIMITED SEATING
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

Please make checks payable to and submit to
St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
41 Wisteria St. & Sadowski Parkway, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
by March 18, 2018 Church Telephone: 732-826-4466



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." Galatians 6:9-10

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:

Argiro Ahladianakis
Tana Kizides
Evelyn Mariolis
Angie Papaikonomou

Honorary:

Lynn Markus
Sylvia Kress+
+Deceased

Philoptochos General Meeting:

Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.
(in the church hall)

Everyone is Welcome! Congratulations to the new Board for the year 2017-2019 that was ratified on January 8, 2018. Vasilopita luncheon – I'd like to thank all of you who baked for the luncheon, all the members for their support, The Barge for the great food, and our chairs, Mary Lou and Marietta. GREAT JOB! Ke tou Xronou

Upcoming events: On Saturday, March 10, 2018, the Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos Board, Chapter Presidents, Chapter Stewards and all beloved Stewards of the Orthodox Churches within the Metropolis of New Jersey are invited to celebrate the Divine Liturgy in the Chapel at Saint Michael's Home for the Aged. A small reception will be held afterwards.

We will have a Palm Sunday bake sale on April 1, 2018.

Stella Wacker
President



Philoptochos Membership Interest Form

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



PTO NEWS

Congratulations

Announcing our newly - elected PTO Executive Council

President:	Diana Regan
Vice President:	Presbyteria Maureen Parsenios
Treasurer:	Froso Morales
Recording Secretary:	Larayne Panayi
Corresponding Secretary:	Jennifer Kanellidis

We are so very proud and grateful for your commitment to our Church and our children.

2018
GREEK FESTIVAL
BY THE BAY

We will be joining the City of Perth Amboy's Waterfront Festival this year with an "Express Greek Festival" on Saturday, May 26, 2018. Our menu will be much simpler than usual with Gyros, Souvlakia, Calamari, Salad, French Fries, Loukoumades & soft drinks. Although this will be a festival of much smaller proportions than previous years, we will continue to need a team of volunteers to make it as profitable and successful as possible. Kindly mark the date of Saturday, May 26, 2018 on your calendars so we can place you on our list of the wonderful workers that we have come to rely upon over the years. Please give your names to Froso Morales or Helen Coutros Horan.

We really do need you! We are hoping we can count on you!

Upcoming
EVENTS

April 8, 2018 Easter Egg Hunt with Easter Bunny

May 20, 2018 Graduation Day Reception

June 17, 2018 Father of the Year Reception



Support our community and our sponsors

**Counseling
Lectures**

**732-248-9369
Edison, N.J.**

**Nicholas Jouvanis, B.S.
Yoga Breath Therapist**



**www.thespiritualkey.com
nicholasj@thespiritualkey.com**



**Emanuel BALSAMIDES SR
President**

PROTAMEEN CHEMICALS INC.

375 Minnisink Road Totowa NJ 07511 USA
Tel: 973.256.4374 Fax: 973.256.6764 Cell: 732.991.2111
PROTAMEE@AOL.COM WWW.PROTAMEEN.COM

Robert J. Durso GRI

Realtor Associate

MOBILE: 732-887-4787
FAX: 732-634-8437
EMAIL: bobdurso@jelekrealty.com



732-634-9100 EXT. 21

117 Main Street Woodbridge, NJ 07095



**MONTESSORI
PRESCHOOL ACADEMY**

"We Prepare your children for life."

AT CRANBURY

609-409-9300



Flynn and son
FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

319 Amboy Avenue, Metuchen
Brendan J. Flynn Jr, Mgr.- NJ Lic.No. 4105

23 Ford Ave. Edison-Fords
Brendan J. Flynn, Mgr.- NJ Lic.No. 2953

420-424 East Ave. Perth Amboy
James J. Flynn IV, Mgr.- NJ Lic.No. 4152

1-800-649-0358
www.flynnfuneral.com

ACE

ADVISORY CPAs

BUSINESS PROFITABILITY / TAX EXPERTS

97 Main Street, Woodbridge NJ 07095
tel: 732.750.0500 www.aceadvisorycpas.com

RE/MAX

Diamond, REALTORS®

Angela Sinnis
Sales Associate

1199 Amboy Ave
Edison, NJ 08837
Office: (732) 549-9500 ext.357
Cell: (848) 248-9422
Fax: (732) 549-9510
Email: asinnis@hotmail.com

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

JOSEPH P. DIAZ **GARY EARL RUMPF, C.F.S.P.**
Manager, N.J. Lic. No. 3947 Director, N.J. Lic. No. 3353

**GUSTAV J. NOVAK
FUNERAL HOME**

419 Barclay Street
Perth Amboy, N.J. 08861

(732) 826-4525
(888) 214-8068

HOLY PROTECTION
GREEK ORTHODOX MONASTERY
1 ST. JOSEPH'S WAY
WHITE HAVEN, PA 18661
TEL: 570-443-2220

I.M. ARIAS **ΕΡΕΤΙΚ**
THE GEOMORPH





~ March 2018~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Salutations to the Theotokos 7:00 p.m.	3 GOYA Sights and Sounds Parish Council Meeting
4 Saint Gregory GOYA Spaghetti Luncheon	5	6	7 Presanctified Liturgy 5:30 p.m.	8	9 Salutations to the Theotokos 7:00 p.m.	10
11 Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross	12	13	14 Presanctified Liturgy 5:30 p.m.	15	16 Salutations to the Theotokos 7:00 p.m.	17 Lenten Retreat 11:00 a.m.
18 Saint John Climacus General Assembly Meeting	19	20	21 Presanctified Liturgy 5:30 p.m.	22	23 The Akathist Hymn 7:00 p.m.	24 Philoptochos Meeting 12:00 p.m.
25 Annunciation of the Theotokos Greek Independence Day Celebration	26	27	28 Presanctified Liturgy 5:30 p.m.	29	30	31 Saturday of Lazarus Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Folding of Palms

~ Μαρτιος 2018~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Χαιρετισμοι της Υπεραγιας Θεοτοκου 7:00 μμ	3 GOYA Sights and Sounds
4 Ο Άγιος Γρηγόριος ο Παλαμιας	5	6	7 Προηγιασμενη Θεια Λειτουργια 5:30μμ	8	9 Χαιρετισμοι της Υπεραγιας Θεοτοκου 7:00 μμ	10
11 Κυριακη της Σταυροπροσκυνησεως	12	13	14 Προηγιασμενη Θεια Λειτουργια 5:30μμ	15	16 Χαιρετισμοι της Υπεραγιας Θεοτοκου 7:00 μμ	17 Κηρυγμα της νηστειας 11:00 μμ
18 Άγιος Ιωαννης της Κλιμακος Γενικη Συνελευση	19	20	21 Προηγιασμενη Θεια Λειτουργια 5:30μμ	22	23 Ακαθιστος Υμνος 7:00 μμ	24 Συνελευση της Φιλοπρωχου 12:00 μμ
25 Ευαγγελισμος της Θεοτοκου Εθνικη Εορτη	26	27	28 Προηγιασμενη Θεια Λειτουργια 5:30μμ	29	30	31 Σαββατο του Λαζαρου Θεια Λειτουργια 10:00 πμ



Buy a brick with your
family name for our
new wall today.

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.stdemetriosperthamboy.org/donations/>

Saint Demetrios Greek
Orthodox Church
41-47 Wisteria Street
Perth Amboy, N.J. 08861

E-Mail:
stdgoa@gmail.com

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

E-Mail:
fr.georgepar@gmail.com

Visit us at:
www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org



A group of our Sunday School students display their Pascha Passports which will be used as we take our journey through Lent and Holy Week. When each student participates in Lenten services, events and activities, he/she will receive a special Icon stamp to be placed in the Pascha Passport. This project is designed to teach the students of the importance of prayer, fasting, almsgiving and the Bible as we travel to the final destination of Lent; Pascha - Christ's Resurrection.