



*Parish  
Newsletter  
April 2018*

# St. Demetrios

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

Rev. George Parsenios

## Great and Holy Pascha/Αγιο Πασχα April 8, 2018/8 Απριλίου, 2018

### APRIL 2018 RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

**Apr 1 Palm Sunday**  
Κυριακή των Βαΐων

Saint Paul's Letter to the  
Philippians 4:4-9  
Προς Φιλιππησίους 4:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11;  
15-17  
Ματθαῖον 21:1-11, 15-17

**Apr 8 Great and Holy Pascha**  
Αγιο Πασχα

Acts of the Apostles 1:1-8  
Πραξεις Αποστόλων 1:1-8

Gospel:  
John 1:1-17  
Ιωαννην 1:1-17

**Apr 15**  
Gospel: Luke 24:1-12  
Λουκαν 24:1-12

**Apr 22**  
Gospel: Luke 24:1-12  
Λουκαν 24:1-12

**Apr 29**  
Gospel: Luke 24:13-35  
Λουκαν 24:13-35



Mary Magdalene, and the other women who were present at the burial of our Savior on Friday evening, returned from Golgotha to the city and prepared fragrant spices and myrrh, so that they might anoint the body of Jesus. On the morrow, because of the law which forbids work on the day of the Sabbath, they rested for the whole day. But at early dawn on the Sunday that followed, almost thirty-six hours since the death of the Life-giving Redeemer, they came to the sepulcher with the spices to anoint His body. While they were considering the difficulty of rolling away the stone from the door of the sepulcher, there was a fearful earthquake; and an Angel, whose countenance shone like lightning and whose garment was white as snow, rolled away the stone and sat upon it. The guards that were there became as dead from fear and took to flight. The women, however, went into the sepulcher, but did not find the Lord's body. Instead, they saw two other Angels in the form of youths clothed in white, who told them that the Savior was risen, and they sent forth the women, who ran to proclaim to the disciples these gladsome tidings. Then Peter and John arrived, having learned from Mary Magdalene what had come to pass, and when they entered the tomb, they found only the winding sheets. Therefore, they returned again to the city with joy, as heralds now of the supernatural Resurrection of Christ, Who in truth was seen alive by the disciples on this day on five occasions.

Our Lord, then, was crucified, died, and was buried on Friday, before the setting of the sun, which was the first of His "three days" in the grave; observing the mystical Sabbath, that "seventh day" in which it is said that the Lord "rested from all His works" (Gen. 2:2-3), He passed all of Saturday in the grave; and He arose "while it was yet dark, very early in the morning" on Sunday, the third day, which, according to the Hebrew reckoning, began after sunset on Saturday.

As we celebrate today this joyous Resurrection, we greet and embrace one another in Christ, thereby demonstrating our Savior's victory over death and corruption, and the destruction of our ancient enmity with God, and His reconciliation toward us, and our inheritance of life everlasting. The feast itself is called Pascha, which is derived from the Hebrew word which means "Passover"; because Christ, Who suffered and arose, has made us to pass over from the curse of Adam and slavery to the devil and death unto our primal freedom and blessedness. In addition, this day of this particular week, which is the first of all the rest, is dedicated to the honor of the Lord; in honor and remembrance of the Resurrection, the Apostles transferred to this day the rest from labor that was formerly assigned to the Sabbath of the ancient Law.

### TEMPORARY PARKING

President Marina Corodemus has obtained permission for temporary parking on our lawn right next to the church through May on Sundays and Holy Week. Please use the entrance on State Street.



### Upcoming EVENTS

**April 8** Easter Egg Hunt

**May 6** PTO General Meeting

**May 20** Graduation and PTO Reception

**June 17** Father of the Year Reception



### *Message from Father George*

We have just come out of the Great 40-day fast and our celebration is at hand. We can understand how the fasting of Lent leads into the feasting of Pascha if we hear the words of St. Gregory the Theologian, who writes, “Yesterday I was crucified with Him; today I am glorified with Him; yesterday I was buried with Him; today I rise with Him.” Therefore, let us offer to Him – you may think that I am going to say gold or silver or costly stones, the mere passing material of earth possessed by slaves of the world – but let us offer ourselves, the possession most precious to God. “Let us give back to the Image what is made in the Image.” We were made in the Image of the immortal God. The Fall of Adam separated us from God, while the Resurrection of Christ returns us to our original splendor. Let us, therefore, offer to God, lives that reflect this splendor and lives, which are made anew in the Resurrection. Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

#### **April Liturgy:**

Monday, April 23, 2018  
Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.  
Saint George the Great Martyr



### **Lazarus Communion Breakfast – Saturday March 31, 2018**

The supernatural wonder of Jesus rising Lazarus back to life is the miracle that we celebrate on this day.

Come join Marietta Khalil and her Family who are sponsoring a Communion Breakfast after the Lazarus Divine Liturgy on Sat., March 31<sup>st</sup>. Services begin at 10:00 am and the breakfast will be served immediately afterward. Much gratitude and appreciation are extended to the Khalil Family for this kind and generous gesture.

### **NOTICE TO THE CONGREGATION REGARDING TELEPHONE NOTIFICATIONS**



Starting this month, in addition to e-blasts, an automated, BILINGUAL telephone notification will be made to all Parishioners regarding important notifications such as: service cancellations, monthly event occurrences, or updates such as street closures or additional parking opportunities.

ALL PERSONS WILL RECEIVE PHONE CALLS UNLESS YOU, AFFIRMATIVELY, ASK TO BE EXCLUDED; IN WHICH CASE, YOU WILL IMMEDIATELY BE REMOVED FROM THE CALL LIST. ONLY PAID MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING WILL RECEIVE TELEPHONE NOTIFICATIONS.



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

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christos Anesti! ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!

There is no more joyous or significant news than Christ has Risen. Death has trampled down death, and those who are in the tombs, granted life. Renewal, new beginnings and an affirmation that the faithful will one day be raised from death to eternal life through belief in Christ; all of this can be experienced by coming to services this Holy Week. We begin with the Passion of Holy Week on April 1<sup>st</sup>, Palm Sunday, by reflecting on Christ's entrance into Jerusalem.

From that day and for everyday thereafter, we can walk with Jesus each step of Holy Week. Come to Church every day as one family to pray during this most solemn of services. To mark the solemnity of this week from Holy Monday to Anastasi, NO TRAYS WILL BE PASSED IN CHURCH so you will not be disturbed from prayers. We ask that all contributions be made when you buy your candles in the Narthex or in baskets at the back of the Church upon exiting services. Additional on-site parking directly on the Church lawn will be permitted during this time. The Church will be draped with Palms on April 1<sup>st</sup>, then, as the week progresses, through the betrayal, the Last Supper, the Crucifixion when thereafter, the Church is shrouded in black and darkness, until the opening of the tomb, when it is proclaimed, "Let there be Light!"

We ask you to join us for our annual Palm Sunday luncheon catered by the Barge Restaurant downstairs on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> after Liturgy. Come hear the Hymn of Kasiani, kneel as our Lord is crucified, and walk with us in mourning around the block on Good Friday with the Epitaphios of our Lord until we all can be together for midnight, the Proclamation of the Resurrection. Join us Sunday afternoon, April 8<sup>th</sup>, for service of Agape by hearing the Good News acclaimed in multiple languages.

This month is the epicenter of our faith. We invite you, whether you come every Sunday or have not been to Church in years, Come see the Light! Experience the all of our faith in the most blessed and Holy of Weeks. Be there for the fulfillment of 40 days of LENT into the Resurrection and into Pentecost.

COME SEE THE LIGHT! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Hon. Marina Corodemus  
 President, Parish Council



## HOLY WEEK LAMBADES FOR SALE

Once again this year, we will be selling traditional Lambades with white and red cups for Good Friday and Anastasi. The price is \$5.00.

We will also have available decorated lambades for the children for Anastasi. The candles are made by the Sisters at the Agia Skepi Monastery. The price is \$10.00.



## *Annual Sights and Sounds Festival*

Our Saint Demetrios Goyans competed in the Annual Sights and Sounds Festival in Westfield which resulted in the following award winners. We are so very proud of all our Goyans for their interest and participation but, mostly, for their fine representation of our Church.



### Sounds Winners:

The English Play Cast - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: All Goyans  
Best Actress: Jady Simatos  
Best Supporting Actress: Kali Simatos  
Singing Duet - 4<sup>th</sup> place: Julia Parsenios and  
Dean Giannakopoulos

### Sights Winners:

Sewing - 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Jady Simatos  
Sculpture - 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Nick Parsenios  
Recycled Art - 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Dean Giannakopoulos  
Original Design on Ready-Made Object - 4<sup>th</sup> Place:  
Jady Simatos

Just as Sights and Sounds comes to an end, the Goyans begin preparing for the Indoor and Outdoor Olympics. Grateful appreciation is extended to all who supported us by attending the Spaghetti Luncheon. Special thanks to George Kane, our Sights Advisor, Rachel Giannakopoulos, our Singing Coach, Despina and George Markos, our Dance Coaches and Callie Vosinas, our Play Director. On behalf of the G.O.Y.A., we would like to wish all of you a prayerful Lent and a most blessed Easter.

Cynthia Giannakopoulos, G.O.Y.A. Advisor



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!***





## Greek Independence Day Celebration – March 25, 2018

On behalf of the Greek School, we would like to thank Mayor Wilda Diaz for coming to our Greek Independence Day Celebration to enjoy our program and our Greek Lenten Luncheon prepared by some of our parishioners. It was amazing to see the children recite Greek poems and perform Greek dances. We even had some former Greek school graduates participate, which was nice to see.

In addition to Greek Independence Day, we also celebrate the Annunciation of the Theotokos, the day Archangel Gabriel told Mary that she would become the Mother of Christ.

We'd like to wish everybody a Happy Easter. Σας ευχομαστε χρονια πολλα, καλη Ανασταση και καλο Πασχα.

Dean Kakadelis  
Greek School President

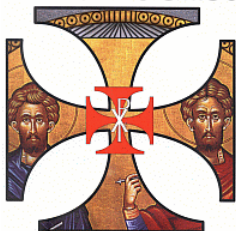
Mrs. Alexandra Velmahos  
Greek School Teacher



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## LADIES' PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY OF SAINT DEMETRIOS

PHILOPTOCHOS



We all wish the entire congregation of Saint Demetrios a spiritual Lenten Season and a blessed Easter. In His Service, President, Stella Wacker

### *Kindly join us for our Upcoming Events*

Saturday, April 21, 2018  
Sunday, April 22, 2018  
Sunday, May 13, 2018  
Sunday, June 2, 2018

Philoptochos General Meeting  
Loukoumades Sale  
Mothers' Day Celebration  
Pancake Breakfast

Heartfelt   
**THANKS**  
**TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!**

### Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

Sunday May 6, 2018 - Directly after Church, downstairs.

Honoring: Metropolis of New Jersey Honorees and  
Grand Benefactors of Project Iconography  
Adults \$12, Seniors \$10, Children 12 and under \$5



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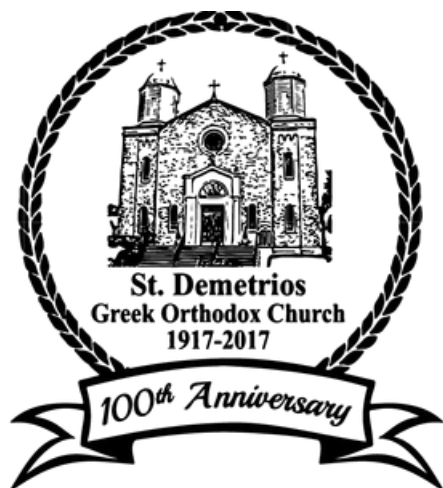
## ~ April 2018~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.  Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.	2 Pre-sanctified Liturgy 9:30 a.m.  Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.	3 Pre-sanctified Liturgy 9:30 a.m.  Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.	4 Pre-sanctified Liturgy 9:30 a.m.  Holy Unction 4:00 p.m.  Bridegroom Service 7:00 p.m.	5 Divine Liturgy 7:00 a.m.  Orthros of the Passion 7:00 p.m.	6 Royal Hours 11:00 a.m.  Apokathelosis Vespers 4:00 p.m.  Orthros of the Lamentations 7:00 p.m.	7 Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.  Vigil and Divine Liturgy of Pascha 11:00 p.m.
8 Agape Vespers 11:00 a.m.  PTO Easter Egg Hunt 12:00 p.m.	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Philoptochos General Meeting
22 Hope and Joy Activity	23 Saint George Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	24	25 Saint Mark	26	27	28 Metropolis Oratorical Festival
29	30					

## ~ Απρίλιος 2018~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Κυριακή των Βαΐων Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου 7:00 μμ	2 Μεγάλη Δευτέρα Λειτουργία 9:30 Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου 7:00 μμ	3 Μεγάλη Τρίτη Λειτουργία 9:30 Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου 7:00 μμ	4 Μεγάλη Τετάρτη Λειτουργία 9:30 Ακολουθία του Νυμφίου 7:00 μμ	5 Μεγάλη Πέμπτη Λειτουργία 7:00 Η Ακολουθία των Παθών του Κυρίου 7:00 μμ	6 Μεγάλη Παρασκευή Ακολουθία των Ωρών 11:00 πμ  Η Αποκαθελωσις 4:00 μμ Η Ακολουθία του Επιταφίου 7:00 μμ	7 Μεγάλο Σάββατο Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 πμ  Θεία Λειτουργία 11:00 μμ
8 Άγιο Πάσχα Ακολουθία της Αγάπης 12:00 μμ  Εύρεση των αυγών για τα παιδιά	9	10	11	12	13 Ζωοδόχος Πηγή	14
15 Κυριακή του Θωμά	16	17	18	19	20	21 Συνέλευση της Φίλοπτωχου
22 Των Μυροφόρων	23 Άγιου Γεωργίου Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00	24	25 Άγιου Μάρκου	26	27	28
29 Του Παραλντου	30					

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Mayor Wilda Diaz joined us for Greek Independence Day and expressed her support of our presence in Perth Amboy and our plans for the future.