Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church Ελληνικη Ορθοδοξος Εκκλησια Αγιου Δημητριου

Parish Newsletter January 2021 - Δελτιο Ενοριας Ιανουαριου 2021 Editors: Helen Coutros Horan and Maria Kakadelis



Orthros: 9:00 a.m. - Ορθρος 9:00 π.μ.

Divine Liturgy: 10:00 a.m. – Θεια Λειτουργια 10:00 π .μ.

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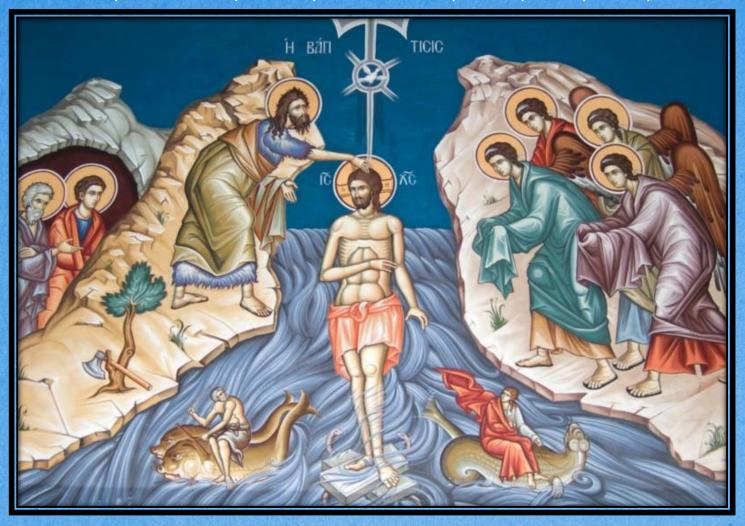
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6 Ιανουαριου - Τα Αγια Θεοφανεια του Κυριου Ημων Ιησου Χριστου



Μετά από θεία εντολή ο Ιωάννης ο Πρόδρομος εγκατέλειψε την ερημική ζωή και ήλθε στον Ιορδάνη ποταμό όπου κήρυττε και βάπτιζε. Εκεί παρουσιάσθηκε κάποια ημέρα ο Ιησούς και ζήτησε να βαπτισθεί. Ο Ιωάννης, αν και το Άγιο Πνεύμα τον είχε πληροφορήσει ποιος ήταν εκείνος που του ζητούσε να βαπτισθεί, στην αρχή αρνείται να τον βαπτίσει ισχυριζόμενος ότι ο ίδιος έχει ανάγκη να βαπτισθεί από Εκείνον. Ο Ιησούς όμως του εξήγησε ότι αυτό ήταν το θέλημα του Θεού και τον έπεισε να τον βαπτίσει. Και τότε μπροστά στα έκπληκτα μάτια των θεατών διαδραματίσθηκε μία μοναδική και μεγαλειώδης σκηνή, όταν με την μορφή ενός περιστεριού κατήλθε το Άγιο Πνεύμα και κάθισε επάνω στο βαπτιζόμενο Ιησού, ενώ συγχρόνως ακούσθηκε από τον ουρανό η φωνή του Θεού η οποία έλεγε: «Ούτος εστίν ο Υιός μου ο αγαπητός, εν ω ευδόκησα» («Αυτός είναι ο αγαπημένος μου Υιός, αυτός είναι ο εκλεκτός μου»).

Ο Κύριος με το να βαπτιστεί αγίασε το νερό, το έκανε νερό αγιασμού και συμφιλίωσης με το Θεό. Έτσι η Βάπτιση του Κυρίου άνοιξε τη θύρα του Μυστηρίου του Βαπτίσματος.

Έν Ἰορδάνη βαπτιζομένου σου Κύριε, ή τῆς Τριάδος ἐφανερώθη προσκύνησις, τοῦ γὰρ Γεννήτορος ή φωνὴ προσεμαρτύρει σοί, ἀγαπητὸν σὲ Υἰὸν ὀνομάζουσα, καὶ τὸ Πνεῦμα ἐν εἴδει περιστεράς, ἐβεβαίου τοῦ λόγου τὸ ἀσφαλές. Ὁ ἐπιφανεῖς Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, καὶ τὸν κόσμον φωτίσας δόξα σοί.

January 6 - The Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

About the beginning of our Lord's thirtieth year, John the Forerunner, who was some six months older than Our Saviour according to the flesh, and had lived in the wilderness since his childhood, received a command from God and came into the parts of the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance unto the remission of sins. Then our Saviour also came from Galilee to the Jordan, and sought and received baptism though He was the Master and John was but a servant. Whereupon, there came to pass those marvelous deeds, great and beyond nature: the Heavens were opened, the Spirit descended in the form of a dove upon Him that was being baptized and the voice was heard from the Heavens hearing witness that this was the beloved Son of God, now baptized as a man (Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:1-22). From these events the Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ and the great mystery of the Trinity were demonstrated. It is also from this that the present feast is called "Theophany," that is, the divine manifestation, God's appearance among men. On this venerable day the sacred mystery of Christian baptism was inaugurated; henceforth also began the saving preaching of the Kingdom of the Heavens.

Apolytikion of Holy Epiphany

First Tone

Lord, when You were baptized in the Jordan, the veneration of the Trinity was revealed. For the voice of the Father gave witness to You, calling You Beloved, and the Spirit, in the guise of a dove, confirmed the certainty of His words. Glory to You, Christ our God, who appeared and enlightened the world.

Kontakion of Holy Epiphany

Fourth Tone

You appeared to the world today, and Your light, O Lord, has left its mark upon us. With fuller understanding we sing to You: "You came, You were made manifest, the unapproachable light."

Message from Father George







Dear Parishioners of Saint Demetrios.

"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 in your life as you begin this New Year.

With love in Christ,

Father George

January - Ιανουαριου 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	·	<u> </u>	•		1	2
				Happy New Year 2021	Saint Basil Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	Virtual Greek School Lessons 5:30 p.m.		Feast of the Epiphany Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Virtual Sunday School Lessons 6:30 p.m.			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	Virtual Greek School Lessons 5:30 p.m.		Virtual Sunday School Lessons 6:30 p.m.			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	Virtual Greek School Lessons 5:30 p.m.		Virtual Sunday School Lessons 6:30 p.m.			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	Virtual Greek School Lessons 5:30 p.m.		Virtual Sunday School Lessons 6:30 p.m.			
31						
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						

Οι Κυριακες του Τριωδιου

Το Τριωδιο οναμαζεται το Λειτουργικο Βιβλιο της Εκκλησίας μας στο οποιο περιλαμβανει τους Υμνους των Κυριακων. Η περιοδος του Τριωδιου ξεκινα απο την Κυριακη του Τελωνου και Φαρισαιου μεχρι το Μεγαλο Σαββατο. Το Τριωδιο οναμαζεται ετσι διοτι οι περισσοτεροι Κανονες του Ορθρου περιεχουν τρεις Ωδες ενω συνηθως περιεχουν εννεα Ωδες.

Οι Κυριακες του Τριωδιου ειναι: 1. Τελωνου και Φαρισαιου; 2. Ασωτου; 3. Αποκρεω και 4. Τυροφαγου



Η πρωτη Κυριακη του Τριωδιου ειναι αφιερωμενη στην διδακτικη παραβολη του Τελωνου και του Φαρισαιου, την οποια ο Κυριος διηγηθηκε, προκειμενου να διδαξει την αρετη της ταπεινωσεως. Την εποχη του Χριστου, ο Τελωνης ηταν αυτος που αγοραζε τους φορους απο την ρωμαϊκη αρχη και τους εισεπραττε απο τους πολιτες, τους οποιους συχνα εκμεταλλευσταν η εκβιαζε. Οι Φαρισαιοι εκπροσωπουσαν μια μεριδα της Ιουδαϊκης θεοκρατιας με μεγαλη επιρροη στον Ιουδαϊκο λαο. Ηταν ζηλωτες του Μωσαϊκου Νομου και φανατικοι εθνικιστες. Ο Ιησους τους ελεγχε με σφοδροτητα γιατι εκπροσωπουσαν την υποκριτικη θεοσεβεια («τα παντα ποιουντες προς το θεαθηναι τοις ανθρωποις»).



Η Κυριακή του Ασωτου διδασκει την αξια της μετανοιας και της συγχωρεσεως. Η δευτερή Κυριακή του Τριωδίου είναι αφιερωμένη στην πολυ διδακτική παραβολή του Ασωτου υίου (Λουκ.15,13-32). Η παραβολή ομίλει για ένα πλουσίο νέο ο οποίος ασωτα κατασπαταλήσε την περιουσία του σε χωρά μακρινή και στο τέλος καταντήσε να βοσκει χοιρούς. Τότε μετανόησε και επέστρεψε στον πατέρα του, που τον δέχθηκε με απείρη αγαπή και στοργή.



Η Κυριακή της Αποκρεω οναμάζεται ετσι επείδη είναι η τελευταία ημέρα που οι Χριστιανοί μπορούν να φάνε κρέας πριν από το Πασχά.

Κοντακιον: Οταν ελθης ο Θεος, επι γης μετα δοξης, και τρεμωσι τα συμπαντα, ποταμος δε του πυρος προ του Βηματος ελκη, και βιβλοι ανοιγωνται, και τα κρυπτα δημοσιευωνται, τοτε ρυσαι με, εκ του πυρος του ασβεστου, και αξιωσον, εκ δεξιων σου με στηναι, Κριτα δικαιοτατε.



Η Κυριακη, πριν απο την εναρξη της Μεγαλης Τεσσαρακοστης ειναι γνωστη και ως Κυριακη της Τυροφαγου η Τυρινης, μια ημερα πλουσια σε λαογραφικα δρωμενα. Το Ευαγγελιο της ημερας παροτρυνει τους πιστους να νιστευουν και να συγχωρουν οσους τους εχουν βλαψει. Ετρωγαν γαλακτοκομικα προϊοντα. Απο τη Δευτερα, μια εβδομαδα πριν την Καθαρη Δευτερα, αρχιζε η αποχη απο το κρεας και επιβαλλοταν η χρηση τυριου και γαλακτερων σαν ενδιαμεση ασκηση μεταξυ κρεοφαγιας και νηστειας.

President's Message



Dearest Parishioners,

By the time you are reading this, we will have reached the end of 2020 and will have arrived in the new, highly anticipated year of "hope", 2021! Let us pray that this New Year will be filled with God's blessings of love, hope, happiness and good health to all our St. Demetrios families. Plus, may it provide high efficacy of vaccines to control the COVID-19 pandemic with a return to normalcy or a new normalcy that will allow us to worship, work and live our lives in a healthy world.

The New Year, also, presents a new beginning with new perspectives, possibilities and promises. May this new year bring the promise of our new building plans to fruition, the love of our Church to reach higher levels strengthened through the stability and security of our faithful and the possible and hopeful support of new stewards and families to join us, and new perspectives of ways and means for additional revenues to support hopes and endeavors for our future.

Through the power of our prayers, may God hear our impassioned hopes for our Church to thrive well in this New Year! As preserved in this Bible verse from Romans 15:13, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

Happy New Year one and all!
In HIS Service,
Helen Coutros Horan
Parish Council President

PTO Christmas Tree Lighting - December 6, 2020

With prayers and blessings from Father George, our Christmas tree lights and surrounding decorations lit up the Christmas season very joyfully and happily. Everyone enjoyed the refreshments of hot chocolate, warm apple cider and delicious sweets provided by our Saint Demetrios PTO. It was a cold, brisk day but the sun was shining brightly upon our festivities and we welcomed in the season with our Christmas spirit, smiles, fellowship and fun



PTO Christmas Tree Lighting - December 6, 2020























A special day of celebration was held on Sunday, December 20th to honor Mrs. Alexandra Velmahos who served our Church and our children as our Greek School Teacher for the past 51 years. Father George greeted Alexandra with warm words of appreciation and recognition for her decades of service. On behalf of the parish council and our church community, Helen Coutros Horan presented Alexandra with a gift with heartfelt love and respect. Dimitrios Tsivelis, our Greek School Director, spoke, admirably of Alexandra's dedication to the families of our church and introduced his mother-in-law, Kateina Ganiaris, his wife, Angelique, and his son, Angelo, who represented three generations of Alexandra's students. A letter of respect and gratitude from the Kakadelis family was read to Alexandra in Greek and English. Our Philoptochos was represented by Helen Catelanos who offered her a gift as a gesture of congratulations upon her retirement. Alexandra was overwhelmed with emotion and excitement and expressed words of sincerest gratitude to everyone for recognizing her life's work that she loved so dearly.



Καλη Συνταξιοδοτηση

















Greek School

Αγαπητοί ενορίτες!

Το 2020 ήταν σίγουρα ορόσημο στην ιστορία με πρωτοφανείς αλλαγές για την ανθρωπότητα. Ας ευχηθούμε λοιπόν το 2021 να μας φέρει υγεία και ευτυχία σε όλον τον κόσμο!!

Στις 12/20/2020 τιμήσαμε την δασκάλα του Ελληνικού Σχολείου την κυρία Αλεξάνδρα Βελμαχου, για τα τελευταία 51 χρόνια. Ευχαριστούμε για το μεγάλο έργο της να διδάξει την μητρική μας γλώσσα στους ενορίτες του Αγίου Δημητρίου για 3 γενιές!!!

Δυστυχως λόγω της πανδημίας είχαμε περιορισμένο αριθμό προσκεκλημένων. Στην κυρία Αλεξάνδρα δόθηκε τιμητική πλακέτα εκ μέρους του Ελληνικού σχολείου, αναμνηστικό δώρο εκ μέρους του εκκλησιαστικού συμβουλίου και αναμνηστικό δώρο από την Φιλόπτωχο για την προσφορά της!

Μιλήσανε ο ιερέας της κοινότητος π. Γεώργιος Παρσένιος, η πρόεδρος του εκκλησιαστικού συμβουλίου κυρία Ελένη Χοράν, ο πρόεδρος του Ελληνικού Σχολείου κύριος Δημήτριος Τσιβέλης όπως επίσης και η οικογένεια του που είχαν διδαχθεί από την κυρία Αλεξάνδρα για τρεις γενιές!!!

Πρόκριτε για την κυρία Αικατερίνη Γανιάρη που ήταν από τις πρώτες μαθήτριες της κυρίας Αλεξάνδρας αρχές της δεκαετίας του 70, η κόρη της κυρία Αγγελική Τσιβέλη που διδάχτηκε από την κυρία Αλεξάνδρα την δεκαετία του 90 και ο μικρός Άγγελος Τσιβέλης που ήταν μαθητής της μέχρι το 2020.



Επίσης αναγνώστηκε επιστολή από την οικογένεια Κακαδέλη όπου μόνο καλά λόγια είχαν να πουν για την κυρία Αλεξάνδρα. Ο γιός τους ο Δημήτριος Κακαδέλης ήταν ο πρώτος μαθητής του Ελληνικού Σχολείου του Αγίου Δημητρίου που πέρασε την Εξετάση της Νεοελληνικής Γλώσσας. Οι κόρες τους αποφοίτησαν επίσης με άριστα!!

Η κυρία Ελένη Κατελάνος αντπροσώπευσε την Φιλόπτωχο και έδωσε αναμνηστικό δώρο στην κυρία Αλεξάνδρα!

Κλείσαμε την εκδήλωση με αγάπη και τιμή για το έργο της δασκάλας μας και την ευχαριστούμε πολύ!!!

Δημήτριος Τσιβέλης Πρ<mark>όε</mark>δρος Ελληνικού Σχολείου

Sweet and Simple Nativity Pageant

Although we faced many challenges in regard to gatherings, meetings and classes this year, our Sunday School was still able to portray a "Sweet and Simple Nativity Pageant" to celebrate the birth of our Lord, Josus Christ.

Under the direction of Helen Catelanos, a small group of students worked together to make this happen. Emalee Rizitis sparkled as the Guardian Angel, Claire Veiga was our sweet Virgin Mary and Niko Morales was our strong and caring, Joseph. Together, they became our "Sweet and Simple Nativity Pageant".

Although it was simple, the children were able to bring the Christmas spirit and spread the joy of the season to our Church Community who were delighted with their portrayal. Additionally, Julia Parsenios sang a few Christmas carols with her melodious voice to bring the joyful sound of the season into our Church and carols—were playing softly as parishioners exited the Church wishing each other Merry Christmas and Καλα Χριστουγεννα!















Although our Sunday school lessons are now virtual, online sessions, we do have a consistent group of students each week on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. We are able to enrich our lessons with videos and online resources to complement our textbook readers which the students have responded to with interest and motivation. They have learned how to utilize technology in an efficient way to communicate with teachers when answering questions, making comments and having discussions about the lessons. Each lesson is conducted for approximately 30 to 40 minutes and students are given interesting at-home activities to review the lessons with their parents.

We are thankful that this venue is available to us during the pandemic restrictions so that we are able to keep in communication with our students and their families. Until the restrictions are lifted, we intend to continue with our internet lessons.

If there are students who have not joined us yet and are hoping to participate in January, please contact Helen at helehoran@yahoo.com and you and your family will be added to our student list.

We hope to see you on-line! Happy, Healthy New Year, Everyone!

Virtual Sunday School Teachers:

Ms. Helen Coutros Horan

Ms. Diana Potaris Regan

Ms. Nicolette Dulin

Mr. Agapios Kyritsis

Parish Council



Best Wishes for a Blessed, Healthy, Happy New Year!

This New Year, we are thankful and hopeful!

We are so very pleased and thankful to all parishioners who have continued attending and participating in our Divine Liturgy services especially with the COVID-19 restrictions. Also, thank you to those of you who watch our services being live-streamed on the internet. We are registering hundreds of viewers which is very exciting.

We have hopeful plans for 2021 which include creating new and innovative ways to recruit new stewards, new ways to increase revenue through rental of our commercial kitchen, rental of our hall, Greek Grills and possible raffles. There is an urgent need to bolster our current treasury and your input with other fundraising ideas will be most welcome. Kindly bring your thoughts to us.

A new year provokes us to look back upon the previous year with thankfulness and to look ahead to the New Year with hopefulness.

We are confident that, together, our hopefulness will translate into progress and productivity. We cannot, possibly, be successful in realizing these hopes without your loving and caring support and assistance on many levels. Our Church needs us all!

Норе & Јоу

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

Hello Hope & Joy students and parents!!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas!! As we enter 2021, I want to wish you all a year filled with blessings. We have been through a lot during this year, but we are strong in our Greek Orthodox faith and God will see us through!! I am looking forward to the days when we can partake in our Hope & Joy festivities, once again!

Until then, may God bless you and your families and keep you safe. Hope to see you all, again, very soon!

Kally Durso Parish Council Member Hope & Joy Ministries Facilitator We wish you all a happy 2021! May this year bring an end to the pandemic and a return to normal life. We continue to meet twice monthly for Greek dance practice after Sunday services. Although there will be no Sights and Sounds this year, our Goyans continue to meet for the love of Greek dance and to build community with each other. We are still hoping that in the late spring, G.O.Y.A. events may go on as planned. Please keep our G.O.Y.A. in your prayers as we navigate through this challenging year.

Nick and Cynthia Giannakopoulos

SAINT DEMETRIOS LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Happy New Year Everyone. Best wishes for a blessed and healthy New Year!

In December, the Philoptochos continued to support its community by visiting at least ten shutin families. During these visits, we gave individuals Christmas and New Year's greetings and let them know that we are here for them, to help them out the best way we can if they need assistance. We try to bring the spirit of Christmas to their homes by providing cookies, poinsettias and company.

We'd like to thank those of you who supported the Philoptochos' Christmas Bake Sale. Special thanks go out to those who baked the delicious pastries, and to Ms. Irene Pakis, the chairperson for this bake sale.

We regret that the Philoptochos will not be hosting a Vasilopita Luncheon this year due to the circumstances surrounding this pandemic.

































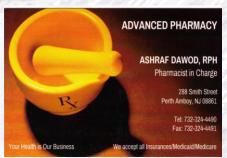




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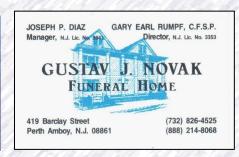
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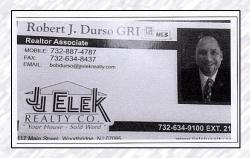
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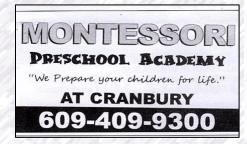


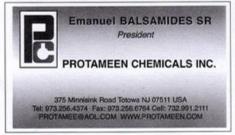












ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ

απο τα βαθη της καοδιας μας στους καθημεοινους ηοωες μας που βοισκονται στην ποωτη γοαμμη.

Παραμεινετε ασφαλεις!



A big

THANK YOU

to our Frontliners and Essential Workers

for their hard work and dedication.

We appreciate you!

Continue to stay safe!