

March 22nd, 2015

Sunday of St. John Climacus

The **Epistle Reading** is Hebrews 6:13-20. The **Gospel Reading** is Mark 9:17-31. These Readings may be found on pages 1362 & 1189-1190 in the **Holy Bible** or pages 141-143 in the **Divine Liturgy Book**.

Today we remember: Fourth Sunday in Lent, commemorating John Climacus, author of “Steps of Virtue”; Holymartyr Basil of Ancyra; Kallinike, Martyr; Euthymios, Neomartyr Drosis.

The Altar Table Lamp is lit by:

- Roula Passon *in loving memory of* her son, Peter. May his memory be eternal.

The Vigil Lamps of the Iconostasion are lit by:

- Chris Spanos & Family *for the continued health & welfare of* her husband, their father and grandfather, Jimmy Spanos.
- The family & friends of Basilios A. Trintis, for his *continued health & welfare*. May God continue to bless him.
- Chryssi Karas & sons *in loving memory of* husband & father, Stamati, who fell asleep in the Lord 10 years ago and *in loving memory of* brother & uncle, Leonida and sister-in-law & aunt, Eleni. May their memory be eternal.

The Altar Bread was prepared by: Dimitra Psihopedas & Anastasia Petropoulou.

Coffee Hour: Everyone is invited to the coffee hour that will be held in the Hermes Rafailides Center directly following the Divine Liturgy and served by Val & Sandy Dzwonczyk, Chrisoula Kucharski & Eva Samaras.

Flowers for the Virgin Mary: The basket of flowers gracing the Icon of the Virgin Mary for the Salutations to the Theotokos was donated by Mr. & Mrs. George Lambros & Family *in loving memory of* their parents & grandparents and *for the health & welfare of* their family.

For more information about the events listed in the bulletin, please look for literature on the Narthex Table or call the Church Office.

Salutations to the Virgin Mary: This Friday we will continue singing praises to the Virgin Mary at the *Salutations to the Virgin Mary Service* beginning at 7:00pm in the Church. Salutations to the Virgin Mary will continue each Friday until March 27th. It is a beautiful service and all are invited to attend.

Holy Week Books: Are available for purchase for \$25.00. Please stop by the church office or see a Parish Council member on Sunday. **Holy Week Schedules** are available on the Narthex table. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. **Philoptochos Easter Flower Donations** may be dropped off in the white basket on the Narthex table and the **Easter Offering** envelopes may be given to a Parish Council member at the Pangari or dropped off at the church office.

Palm Making: Please plan to join us on **Saturday, April 4th**, directly after the 10:00am Divine Liturgy (*Lazarus Saturday*), for Palm Making in the Hermes Center. All are invited to attend and lunch will be provided.

Orthodox Studies: During this Lenten season make your spiritual journey more meaningful; learn more about your Orthodox Faith! Join us on **Friday, March 27th**, at 9:30am in the board room. For more information contact Kate Cocoros at 410.692.7590.

Visiting our Parish Today? We pray that your visit here will be uplifting. Welcome cards can be found at the Pangari (candle stand). Please fill the cards out and return them to one of our Parish Council members after today’s Divine Liturgy. Also, please join us the Coffee Hour downstairs in the Hermes Rafailides Center after the liturgy.

Orthodox Christian Way Program ~ The remaining session will take place on **March 31st** when Fr. John Touloumes of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Pittsburgh will speak about the Second Coming of Christ. After group discussion, there will be a question and answer session for the panel of clergy. A Lenten supper begins at 6:15pm, followed by the presentation at 7:00pm. The evening will conclude at 8:30pm. Call the church office at 410.661.1090 ext. 202 for more information.

Hometown Nazareth Vacation Bible School June 22nd – 26th 9am-12pm Saint Demetrios Church. \$20 per child. Register online <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/hl/stdemetrios2015/gpgs/home.aspx> or return completed registration forms (include checks payable to Saint Demetrios Church memo VBS) to Kelly MacDonnell, 9404 Good Spring Dr., Perry Hall, MD 21128 or during Church Coffee Hour. For more information or questions call Kelly at 410.256.4487.

Hope/Joy: 1st Annual Family Fitness Event has been rescheduled for **Friday, May 1st @ 6:00pm** in the Hermes Rafailides Center for a light dinner and instructors from Cross Fit. Come ready for fun and dressed to work out. Contact kellymacdonnell@hotmail.com for more information.

The Play Committee: We have left-over Frozen Uncooked full pan of Pastitsio, \$30.00 for sale. If you are interested in this item listed, please contact Rena Makres at 410.823.4805 to make pick-up arrangements. We will also be selling this item after Church. Thank you for your support.

Greek Parade: The Maryland Greek Independence Day Parade will be held on **April 19th at 2:00pm** on Eastern Avenue in Baltimore’s Greektown. Additional information and registration for participation can be found on the parade’s website: www.greekparade.com or call the parade hot line at 443.267.4735.

Library News: St. John Climacus is celebrated on March 30th. He is celebrated today because of his book *The Divine Ladder of the Ascent*. John was surname Climacus “the ladder” because of that book. His book teaches the seeker after salvation how to lay a sound foundation. The Christian gradually ascends the heights of spiritual perfection in thirty steps. We are human and there are many temptations and diversions from the path of Christianity. His book will help us with the diversions set by Satan and help us find virtues and Godlike piety. You can read about St. John and many other saints by visiting our library. We have books to guide you through Lent. We also have DVD’s & Lenten Cookbooks. Come check us out, you might be surprised.

The Book and Knitting Club will meet on **Tuesday, April 14th, 2015** at 9:00am to 11:30am. The book of choice is *The Yellow Crocus by Laila Ibrahim*. All are welcome to join our group. Experience is not necessary, as we will teach you how to knit or crochet.

Scholarships: Anyone interested in endowing an academic scholarship at Saint Demetrios, please contact Lou Triandafilou at 410.458.1589 or ltrinda28@gmail.com. If you have a 2.5 GPA or higher and wish to apply for a 2015 scholarship, application packets will be available shortly. **PLEASE NOTE:** A high school/college transcript, letter of acceptance/of good standing, and recommendations from the Parish Priest and **two faculty members under whom you have studied** must be included. **NO OTHER** letters of recommendation will be accepted. If you have any questions, please call Lou.

Pan Hellenic Scholarship Foundation, is now accepting applications for this unique study abroad program through **March 27th, 2015**. If you are a college student of Hellenic descent **who has never been to Greece** apply today to participate in Hellenic Birthright. This summer's program takes place from June 19th through July 19th, 2015. Hellenic Birthright is a four week program that enables students to experience the history, culture and everyday life of Greece. Offered in collaboration with the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT), the program includes a rigorous academic schedule combined with excursions throughout historic sites of Greece. Students will also earn three transferable college credits. For more information or download an application, please visit our website at: <http://panhellenicscholarships.org>.

The American College of Greece (ACG) is accepting applications for **Heritage Greece 2015**, an experiential educational and cultural program for college-aged, Greek-American students. Developed by the National Hellenic Society (NHS) and hosted by The American College of Greece (ACG), Heritage Greece is an unforgettable opportunity for young people to explore their Greek heritage. This year, the Heritage Greece Program will run from **June 11th – 28th, 2015**. Participant will attend a four-credit Greek language and culture course and will travel to the Greek Islands, traditional villages, and archaeological sites. They will have the opportunity to take a Greek cooking class, learn Greek dancing, and experience an insider's tour of the Acropolis museum. ACG is accepting application through **March 27th, 2015**. We are seeking Greek-American college students who have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and have never or seldom been to Greece. We invite you to visit our website at: <http://www.acg.edu/admissions/study-abroad/heritage-greece/apply-heritage-greece>, where you can apply as well as learn more details about this year's program.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday of Lazarus Divine Liturgy, April 4th at 10:00 am
Palm Making Saturday, April 4th following Liturgy
Palm Sunday, April 5th at 10:00 am; Bridegroom Service, 7:00 pm
Holy Monday, Bridegroom Service, April 6th at 7:00 pm
Holy Tuesday, Bridegroom Service & Hymn of Kassiani, April 7th at 7:00 pm
Holy Wednesday, Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, April 8th at 9:00 am; 1st Holy Unction 4:00 pm;
2nd Holy Unction, 7:00 pm
Holy Thursday, Divine Liturgy, April 9th at 10:00 am, The Passion of our Lord, 7:00 pm,
All Night-vigil, 10:30 am
Holy Friday, Royal Hours, 9:00 am; Apokathelosis, 3:30 pm; Lamentation Service, 7:00 pm
Holy Saturday, Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am; Easter Vigil/Resurrection & Divine Liturgy, 10:00 pm
Easter Sunday, Agape Service, 12:00 pm; Hope/Joy Easter Egg Hunt (following Liturgy)

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE OF THE WEEK: "TIME ~ TALENT ~ TREASURE"

If you are visiting Saint Demetrios today, thank you for worshipping with us. We invite you to fill out the welcome card that can be found at the *Pangari*. For your convenience, Stewardship commitment cards and envelopes can also be found at the *Pangari*.

Dear Stewards, remember that at Saint Demetrios we don't pass trays every Sunday because we ask you to include your tray contributions in your annual commitment.

STEWARDSHIP STATISTICS

	Budget Commitment	Goal ~ Total Operating Budget *	Total Commitments to Date	Collections to Date	# of Stewards
2014	\$392,000	\$693,000	\$255,665	\$107,559	370
2015	\$395,000	\$612,300	\$257,019	\$95,021	316

**Our goal as Christian Stewards is to fund 100% of the Church operating budget.*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

<u>Monday, March 23rd</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Home School, 9:00 am (C) Greek School, 4:30 pm (C) Sweet Adelines	<u>Wednesday, March 25th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) No Greek School 5th Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 6:00 pm GOYA Basketball, 7:00 pm (H/G)	<u>Friday, March 27th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Orthodox Studies, 9:30 am (B) The Akathyst Hymn, 7:00 pm
<u>Tuesday, March 24th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Play Wrap-Up Mtg., 7:00 pm (B)	<u>Thursday, March 26th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Men's Basketball, 6:00 pm (H/G) Pre-School Bull Roast Mtg., 6:30 pm (B) Adult Choir, 7:00 pm (M)	<u>Sunday, March 29th</u> Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt Orthros, 9:00 am Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am Church School, 9:55 am

***In order to provide meeting space for all ministries, please take notice as to where your ministry is scheduled to meet within the facility.**

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

There will be a special tray passed today for the Metropolis Social Services Fund. This fund is overseen by our Metropolis Philoptochos Board for the cases that may be of a severe nature including cases in our own local area. Thank you for your generosity.



"Food Baskets For Friends" ~ Easter Food Drive ~ FINAL DAYS TO ACCEPT DONATIONS FOR food and snack to distribute for Easter to the homeless and less fortunate families from our adopted Elementary schools and other families in need. Food donations needed: breakfast cereals, oatmeal, peanut butter, jelly/jams, juices, instant potatoes, gravy, stuffing, canned fruits & vegetables, soups, noodles, canned meats/tuna, spaghetti and sauce, puddings, dessert mixes. Snack items needed should be non-perishable, individually wrapped (if possible) and **NUT FREE**. Snack items needed: individual cereal boxes; boxes of individual fruit snacks; individual apple sauces, peaches, pears, etc.; individual cereal/granola bars; or individual bags of goldfish, pretzels. See the flyer on the Narthex table for complete details or contact ~ Elaine Sackleh 410.472.3458. Items may be dropped off to the Philoptochos Blue Bin through **Thursday, March 26th**.



Easter Bread baking ~ We will be baking the Easter breads this coming **Thursday, March 26th** beginning at 8:30 am until we finish in the early afternoon. To pre-order, stop by the Philoptochos table during coffee hour or contact Georgia Kerasiotes, 410.821.9545 The breads will be ready for pick up on **Sunday, March 29th** at coffee hour following the Divine Liturgy.



Saint Demetrios Philoptochos Easter Candy Sale (Pre-orders only this year) ~ See Presvytera Alice during coffee hour today to pre-order your chocolate filled Easter Eggs and Chocolate Bunny Lollipops. Order forms available on the Narthex table. Pick up will be on **Sunday, March 29th** and **Sunday, April 4th** after the Divine Liturgy. To contact Presvytera Alice 410.817.9651



Easter Flower Donations ~ Envelopes are available in the basket on the Narthex table or look for the letter and envelope in the forthcoming Spring Philoptochos Newsletter. Please return all donations to the church office.



Last Call for Chocolate! And other needed items for our Military Personnel. The Ladies Philoptochos Society is currently collecting all types of chocolate and other items to send to our troops! Please bring in all types of chocolate, plain white socks (men's all sizes), tank tops (men's all sizes), marshmallow peeps, soups, snacks, etc. Collection will be through **March 31st** so that we can package everything to coincide with the Easter holiday. Items will be shipped to two different platoons. Philoptochos drop box locations: blue bin in Church building & at Coffee hour. Monetary donations accepted and will be used to purchase needed items. Questions can be sent to: jones_lisa@bah.com or by calling Lisa Jones at 443.621.6805. We thank you for your support!



Easter baskets aren't just for kids! Grown-ups like them too...especially when they have something like a cookbook in them to keep and use for many years to come. We're featuring an Easter basket filled our newest cookbook, Kali Orexi IV and coordinating apron. Purchase something special for someone special! See us in the Hermes Rafailides Center during coffee hour or contact Mary Triandafilou, 410.528.1589.



We invite you to become a Philoptochos Member or Associate Member (for the men in our community) Pick-up a Membership Form at the Narthex Table and return it to the church office. Attention 'Philoptochos Membership' on the envelope. Please specify "Philoptochos Stewardship" on the memo line of your check. For more information, contact the Membership Committee, Thorina Trintis 410.866.2127 or Violette Cocoros 410.256.6283. The 2015 active membership enrollment will continue through the month of April. Remember that \$22 of your donation will be applied to your National and Metropolis membership, while the remainder will be used to support the various local charity projects, such as Beans & Bread, Ronald McDonald House, School children's needs and the Baltimore Rescue Mission.



Saint Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero ~ We are well on our way to achieving 100% participation from our Saint Demetrios chapter members, family and friends. Our second installment will soon be due in April. Each Philoptochos member is asked to contribute \$100 per person, in a single check or over the course of several months, whichever fits your budget. Your contribution will help to achieve a total Philoptochos commitment of more \$2 million towards this worthy project. Please direct your donation to 'Saint Demetrios Philoptochos' and specify in the memo line on the check to earmark for the 'Saint Nicholas Shrine'. The chapter liaison to National Philoptochos for this project is Margo Lambros, our Assistant Treasurer. When making your donation please put "attention: Margo Lambros" on the envelope. Saint Nicholas National Shrine will be the only religious structure at Ground Zero and it will be **ORTHODOX**. Thank you to those who have already made a donation to this important Christian Orthodox project!



Save the date ~ Friday, May 15th Philoptochos' Annual Bingo Night! Vounteers and donations wanted. To offer your help and for more information, please contact Mary Tsakiris via email at tsakisa@comcast.net or by phone, 410.245.1291.

2:00 PM
SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2015
ON EASTERN AVE. IN BALTIMORE'S GREEKTOWN

GREEK
INDEPENDENCE
DAY PARADE

HONORING OUR ANCESTORS'
SACRIFICES TO PRESERVE THE IDEALS
OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

FOR INFORMATION
PARADE HOTLINE: 443-267-4735

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