

December 3, 2017

14th Sunday of Luke

The Epistle Reading is: Ephesians 5:8-19. The Gospel Reading is Luke 18:35-43. These Readings may be found on pages 1337 & 1226 in the Holy Bible or on pages 107-108 & 115 in the Divine Liturgy Book.

Today we remember: Sophonios the Prophet; Martyrs Agapios and Seleukos; Righteous Theodoulos, Archbishop of Alexandria; Neomartyr Angeles of Chios, the doctor; Holymartyr Gabriel, Patriarch on Constantinople.

The Altar Table Lamp is lit by:

- Helen Coutros McShane, Kelly, Bill, Macy & Meredith MacDonnell and Corinna, Tom, Rynn and Rand Stone *in loving memory of* beloved husband, father & Pappou, Michael William McShane, who fell asleep in the Lord 6 years ago. May his memory be eternal.

The Vigil Lamps of the Iconostasion are lit by:

- Sarantinos, Lamar & Kidd Families *in loving memory of* Sandy Sarantinos, who fell asleep in the Lord 6 years ago. May his memory be eternal.
- Kevin & Linda Goodman *in loving memory of* Godfather, Sandy Sarantinos, who fell asleep in the Lord 6 years ago. May his memory be eternal.
- Helen, Denise, Angelo, Tracey & Will Poletis *in loving memory of* husband, father & grandfather, Lou Poletis, who fell asleep in the Lord 13 years ago. May his memory be eternal.
- Mary Lou Pizanis & Family *in loving memory of* husband, father & grandfather, Manuel Pizanis, who fell asleep in the Lord 5 years ago. May his memory be eternal.
- The family of John Makris: Despina, Mary, Alex & Anna, *in loving memory of* his wife & their mother, Dafni Makris, who went with Jesus 13 years ago. May her memory be eternal.
- Dafne, Steve, Flo, Daphne, Mario, Yianni, Steve, John, Daphne, Maria, John & Demetri *in loving memory of* their grandmother, Dafni Makris, who went with Jesus 13 years ago. May her memory be eternal.
- Despina, James, Gabriela, Nicholas, Yianni, James, Anastasia, Natalia & Adelyn *in loving memory of* their great-grandmother, Dafni Makris, who went to Heaven 13 years ago. May her memory be eternal.
- Stergos & Lucy Kosmos *in loving memory of* their dear friend, Tony Cicone, who fell asleep in the Lord on November 23rd. May his memory be eternal.

The Altar Bread was prepared by: Ritsa Economakis.

Coffee Hour: *There will not be a coffee hour today, due to the Philoptochos Christmas Bazaar.*

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

Parish Assembly: Our final Parish Assembly for 2017 will be held on **Sunday, December 17th**, immediately following the Divine Liturgy in the Hermes Rafailides Center. A quorum of forty (40) Stewards in good standing is required. Voting privileges will be extended to those who are fulfilling their 2017 Stewardship commitment. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. As Stewards of our parish, your attendance and participation in our Parish Assembly Meetings is essential to the future growth & direction of our Parish.

Christmas Service: Sunday, December 24th ~ Orthros at 9:00am / Divine Liturgy at 10:00am. The Liturgy for Christmas Day will be celebrated on **Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th** beginning with *Orthros at 6:00pm followed by the Divine Liturgy at 7:00pm*. The annual Christmas Concert will follow directly after the Divine Liturgy. **Please make note that there will not be any services on Christmas Day.** Also, please plan to join us for a Coffee Hour in honor of the Christmas Holiday Season, sponsored by the Parish Council and their families, directly after the concert.

Orthodox Studies: Join us as we learn more about our Orthodox Faith on **Friday, December 8th at 9:30am** in the board room. For more information please contact Kate Cocoros at: 410.692.7590.

Church Christmas Decorating: We will be decorating our church for the Christmas Holiday on **Thursday, December 14th**, 9am to 2pm. Our tree needs to be decorated, our wreaths hung and poinsettias placed. Your help is needed. Come to the Narthex and dress comfortably

Saint Demetrios Christmas Card/Flower Donation forms can be found on the Narthex table. The cost of sharing your good wishes in the Christmas card is \$20.00 per family. Donations for the flowers and decorations necessary to dress our Church for the season are needed as well. **The deadline has been extended! Please return the form to the church office by December 6th.** All checks should be made payable to: Saint Demetrios. ***No orders for the card will be accepted by phone. No exceptions!***

Adult Choir: The Choir is always looking for additional members. Our rehearsals are held on Thursday's at 7:00 pm. **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!!** For more information, call Jennie at 410.256.2143.

2018 Calendars: On **Sunday, December 17th**, we will be distributing the 2018 Ecclesiastical Calendar & Daily Bible Reading Guides to all Stewards of Saint Demetrios. The calendars will be available after the Divine Liturgy in the Hermes Rafailides Center. Please pick-up your calendar so that we can reduce the cost of mailing them. Because we have a limited number of calendars, to ensure that everyone receives their calendar, only **one** calendar will be given per family.

50 YEARS OF SAINT DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ~ November 29th, 2019 will commemorate the **50th Anniversary** of our beloved Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church. Please join our journey to embrace and celebrate this hallmark milestone for our community. We need you . . . Hearts and Hands Together . . . to honor 50 Years of Saint Demetrios. For more information, please contact Stephanie and Stephen Christ at 410-529-5927 or email: **stephanie2twins@yahoo.com** or pick up a flyer from the Narthex table.

Nativity Pageant Choir: The Nativity Pageant Choir will continue rehearsals directly after the Divine Liturgy in the Music Room. All are invited to attend. For more information, please contact Miss Jennie at 410.246.2143.

Advent & Christmas Program: We will continue our yearly tradition of the Youth Advent Program. Each Sunday, we will feature a different combination of Youth to read, sing and play bells for these programs. We are very excited to once again have the opportunity for our Youth Music Ministry and our Church School to work together on this most worthy program. All Church School students are to wear their "most Sunday best" on the week that their class is performing. We will rehearse for the **December 10th** Programs during Church School time. The following ensembles will present on the following dates:

Sunday, December 10th ~ Church School Grades 3 through 12

Sunday, December 17th ~ Church School Nativity Play / Nativity Pageant Choir & Bells

We look forward to hearing the Youth of Saint Demetrios share their talents and "make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

70's, 80's & 90's Night Bull & Oyster Roast: Join us for a night of dancing to the oldies with the Koko Brothers, great food, great friends, great times, games & prizes! **Saturday, January 20th from 6-10pm.** Money raised will help send our GOYA to visit the St. Nicholas Shrine in New York and the Holy Cross Seminary in Boston, Massachusetts!! For early bird discounted tickets contact Paul Rizas at 410.365.1703 or email **paulrizas@gmail.com**.

GOYA ~ TOYS for TOTS: Please help fill our Toys for Tots boxes for our Saint Demetrios 5th Annual toy drive for the US Marines Toys for Tots Program. Please drop off new unopened and unwrapped toy(s) in our Toys for Tots boxes which are located throughout the Church. Last year, with your help, we collected and donated over 400 toys. Monetary contributions can be made to Saint Demetrios GOYA memo Toys for Tots. We will be collecting Toys through **December 17th**. Thank you for your help. We cannot make this a success without you.

Adult Basketball Tournament: Calling all retired GOYAns, Friends of GOYAns and GOYA Parents! Do you miss being in GOYA? Do you miss the tournaments? Do you miss the dances? Do you miss the friends? Perhaps you weren't in GOYA, but wish you were!!! Well here's your chance!! We are bringing it all back with the Saint Demetrios 1st Annual **THROW BACK TOURNAMENT** on **Saturday, January 20th!!** Start off your day playing basketball with your old friends and representing your decade! Finish your day with a GOYA Dinner/Dance at our Bull & Oyster Roast at Jimmy's Seafood featuring The Koko Brothers playing your favorite old-school dance hits!! To register email Manuel Diacogiannis at Diacol@hotmail.com! See you there!! Money raised will benefit our current GOYA so that they can visit The Shrine at Saint Nicholas in New York and The Holy Cross Monastery in Boston.

Koritsia: WE NEED YOUR HELP! The Savers truck will be here on **Tuesday, December 5th** at 9am to pick-up everything that has been donated. We are looking for volunteers to assist with moving all the items out of the boardroom to the front of the church. If you have any time available, please stop by on **Monday, December 4th** at 6pm, we will have carts to make this task easier. We appreciate your help.

Koritsia: We all have to eat, so why not eat out at one of the following restaurants and raise funds to help pay the mortgage of our beloved Saint Demetrios Church.

January 30th, 2018 ~ Texas Roadhouse in White Marsh. 10% is donated back to church. Also during the Christmas Season if we buy Gift cards and mention Saint Demetrios, Texas Roadhouse will donate 20% back to church.

February 20th, 2018 ~ Uncle's Hawaiian Grindz in Fallston.

We are still collecting clothing & household items for Savers Thrift Store. We will earn .20 per pound for our donations and all money raised will help to pay the mortgage. Our final day for accepting donations is: **December 3rd, 2017.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saint Demetrios Philoptochos Christmas Bazaar ~ December 3rd

Savers Pick-Up ~ December 5th

Christmas Card / Flower Donations Due ~ December 6th

Christmas Bread Baking ~ December 7th

Memorial Sunday ~ December 10th

Philoptochos Christmas Dinner ~ December 14th

Hope/Joy Christmas Event ~ December 15th

Parish Assembly ~ December 17th

Parish Council Meeting ~ December 19th

Christmas Holiday ~ Office Closing at 12:00pm on December 22nd

Closed ~ December 25th & 26th

Sunday, December 24th ~ Orthros, 9:00am / Divine Liturgy, 10:00am

Christmas Eve Service ~ Orthros, 6:00pm / Divine Liturgy, 7:00pm

Musical Christmas Program to follow

New Year's Eve Divine Liturgy ~ St. Basil ~ December 31st

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Board Meeting: Monday, December 4th at 6:30pm in the Philoptochos room

General Meeting: Philoptochos Community Christmas Dinner Thursday, December 14th.

Philoptochos Community Christmas Dinner: The Saint Demetrios Philoptochos would like to invite you to their 1st annual Community Christmas Dinner! Join us as we celebrate Christmas together with food and fellowship. The dinner will be catered by Chefs Expressions and includes a Lenten Italian feast! Tickets are \$25, and a cash bar of beer and wine will be available. Dinner is on **Thursday, December 14th** from 6-9 in the Hermes Rafailides Center. The evening will include singing Christmas carols and a Bid n Buy! Tickets can be purchased after Liturgy at coffee hour or by calling Angie at 443-286-4234 or Presvytera Alice at 443-417-0975. **Tickets must be purchased by December 10th. Tickets will not be sold at the door.** We will also be collecting \$5 and \$10 gift cards from Target or Walmart to benefit the Walden School.

Christmas Breads: Bread Baking Crew/Bread pre-orders. Baking of Christmas breads will be done on **Thursday, December 7th** beginning at 8:30am until we finish. Calling all bakers . . . no experience necessary. Join the baking crew and learn the tradition of baking the Christmas holiday bread. To help with the baking, contact: Georgia Kerasiotes 410.821.9545. All orders must be paid in full when ordering. To place your order for breads: see Dottie Ganer at Sunday Coffee Hour or call 410.870.3372. Final day to order is Sunday, December 3rd. Pick up for ordered breads will be on **December 10th**.

Annual Christmas Bazaar: December 3rd, we will have more than 25 crafters/vendors. We have Lilla Rose hair jewelry & accessories, Scentsy, LipSense, YiaYia's Treasures, homemade Christmas items, Painted Crab Shells, painted tiles, painted gourds, LuLaRoe clothing, Agnes & Dora clothing, Teen books the McGonnical series (possible author signing), wind chimes, Gourmet Popcorn, wood carvings from Africe, Arbonne, Leather Goods, Christian books, Icons, Tastefully Simple, Fresh Greens, Jeweled Candles and more!!! Please come out and support this event. Have friends and family come for lunch and shopping. Contact Lisa Jones-Venetos 410-529-9428 or Joanna Beleos 410-458-1547 with questions.

YiaYia's Treasures, while everyone is in the "Cleaning Mode" please begin bringing in your unwanted or gently-used Christmas items for YiaYia's Treasures! Donations will be collected in the Philoptochos room from now until **November 29th**. Please contact Thorina Trintis at 410-866-2127.

Greek American Sweets: Please bring in your sweets of all kinds to Ritsa Economakis and crew. Please contact Ritsa Economakis if you have any questions.

Stockings of Joy: Items needed to stuff into stockings for Veterans. Gloves, hats, scarfs, hand held games, decks of cards, combs, flashlights, crossword & search word books etc. Place items into blue bins in hallway. Contact Lisa Jones-Venetos 410-529-9428.

Christmas Families: The Philoptochos has accepted 4 families to aid for the Christmas Season, each family will need food and gifts. There are 15 children in total. If you would like to sponsor a family or a child, contact Mary Tsakiris 410-245-1291 or Lisa Jones-Venetos 410-529-9428.

Breakfast with Santa: A big thank you to Lisa Jones-Venetos and Presvytera Alice for another fun filled & successful event.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE OF THE WEEK
“TIME ~ TALENT ~ TREASURE”

In every Liturgy God brings words of eternal life through the Scripture readings and the sermon. Through the Sacrament of Communion, He comes to be born again and again in the shabby stables of our hearts. He is able to continue His forgiving, healing, liberating, transfiguring ministry through the Church.

Are you actively serving God, sharing Him with others? Do you worship regularly? Take a moment to evaluate your life considering these principles. We are called to apply our gifts, training, abilities, education and skills to the tasks that God places before us. If we do this humbly and prayerfully the body of Christ will function to its full potential.

STEWARDSHIP STATISTICS

	Budget Commitment	Goal ~ Total Operating Budget *	Total Commitments to Date	Collections to Date	# of Stewards
2016	\$395,000	\$681,485	\$335,189	\$299,964	426
2017	\$378,600	\$657,842	\$320,386	\$286,186	392

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<p><u>Monday, December 4th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) Greek School, 4:30-7:30pm (C) Philoptochos Board Mtg., 6:30pm (P) Guys & Dolls Rehearsal, Leads A&B, 7:00pm</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, December 6th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) Greek School, 4:30pm (C) GOYS Basketball (H/G) Guys & Dolls Rehearsal, Leads A, 7:00pm</p>	<p><u>Saturday, December 9th</u> Guys & Dolls Rehearsal, Full Cast ~ 1:30pm Dancers ~ 3:00pm</p>
<p><u>Tuesday, December 5th</u> Pre-School, 8:45 am (C) Palikaria Mtg., 9:00am</p>	<p><u>Thursday, December 7th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) Palikaria, 9:00am Christmas Bread Baking Adult Choir, 7:00pm (M)</p>	<p><u>Sunday, December 10th</u> <i>10th Sunday of Luke</i> Orthros, 9:00am Divine Liturgy, 10:00am Memorial Sunday Church School, 9:55am (C) Advent Program (Grades 3-12) Nativity Choir after Divine Liturgy Dance Practice, 12:15pm (C)</p>
	<p><u>Friday, December 8th</u> Pre-School, 8:45am (C) Orthodox Studies, 9:30am (B)</p>	

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.

Saint Demetrios Ladies Philoptochos presents their

Annual Christmas Bazaar

Sunday, December 3rd ♦ Noon to 4pm

Vendors of all types:

*Painted Crab Shells, Greek Pastries, YiaYia’s Treasures,
 Fresh Wreaths and Cemetery Crosses, Sightings of Mrs. Claus,
 Greek & American Food and Much More!!!*

*Why not stop by after Liturgy for a bite to eat?
 Do a little Christmas shopping; visit our vendors,
 YiaYia’s treasures, pastry table, etc.*



*Purchase a beautiful wreath for your door.
 There’s something for everyone!*



HELP SUPPORT OUR PHILOPTOCHOS!!!

Hope/Joy Christmas Party

Friday, December 15th, 2017 ♦ 6pm – 8pm

*Please bring a new, unwrapped present for
 “TOYS for TOTS”*



SHINE WITH THE LIGHT OF JESUS!

*Enjoy a visit from Saint Nicholas, Christmas Tree Decorating,
 Caroling, Crafts, Fellowship and MORE!*

For more information pick up a flyer from the Narthex Table.