

**December 24, 2017**

**Sunday before Nativity**

**The Epistle Reading is:** Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40. The Gospel Reading is Matthew 1:1-25. These Readings may be found on pages 1366 & 1147 in the Holy Bible or on pages 118-121 in the Divine Liturgy Book.

**Today we remember:** Day preceding Nativity: The Genealogy; Eugenia, Righteous Virginmartyr and her father Phillip, Patriarch of Alexandria; Martyrs Achaikos and Vassila; Neomartyr Ahmet.

**The Altar Table Lamp is lit by:**

- Gus, Ritsa & Georgia Economakis *in loving memory of* their son & her brother, Chris Economakis. May his memory be eternal.

**The Vigil Lamps of the Iconostasion are lit by:**

- The Saint Demetrios Adult Choir *for the health and welfare of* Robert West, husband of Alice, as he continues his most challenging medical journey. May God keep Bob in the palm of His hand.
- The Kegel, Cocoros & Meyer Families *for the health and welfare of* our dear brother-in-law Robert West, as he continues his uphill medical journey. May God give strength and continue to watch over Alice, our sister, and his children, Steve and Robin.
- Sam, Mary & George Tsakiris *for the health & welfare and continued good health of* their family.
- Sam, Mary & George Tsakiris *in loving memory of* parents & his grandparents, Pandelis & Kalliopi Theodore. May their memories be eternal.
- Sam, Mary & George Tsakiris *in loving memory of* parents & grandparents, George & Anastasia Tsakiris. May their memories be eternal.
- Sam, Mary & George Tsakiris *in loving memory of* uncle & aunt, Elias & Sevasti Eliodis. May their memories be eternal.
- Flora Christ *for the health & welfare of* her grandchildren.

**Artoclasia:** The Artoclasia is being offered by Flora Christ *for the health & welfare of* her family.

**The Altar Bread was prepared by:** Diamando Sarigianis.

**Coffee Hour:** There will not be a coffee hour after the 10:00am Divine Liturgy, but please join us for a Coffee Hour *in honor of* the Christmas Holiday Season, sponsored by the Parish Council and their families after the 7:00pm Divine Liturgy.

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

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*On behalf of Fr. Lou, the Parish Council and the Church Office, we would like to take this opportunity to wish all the members of our Saint Demetrios Family a very Merry Christmas!*

**Christmas Service:** The Liturgy for Christmas Day will be celebrated on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

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**Pilgrimage to Jerusalem:** On January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 we will conduct a special blessing and prayer on those members of our Congregation who will depart of Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 on a Pilgrimage to Jerusalem and the Holy Lands. We pray for their safety and that they may experience a very enlightening pilgrimage and arrive home safely to share with all of us their wonderful experience.

**Orthodox Studies:** Please be advised that we will not be meeting on Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup>. We will resume on Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, but instead of meeting in the board room, we are planning on attending the *Eve of the Feast of the Epiphany Divine Liturgy at 9:00am*. For more information contact Kate Cocoros at 443-564-6618.

**2018 Calendars:** Will be distributed on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to all Stewards of Saint Demetrios. The calendars will be available after the Divine Liturgy in the Hermes Rafailides Center. Please look for Aris Daniels & Stephanie Christ and pick-up your Calendar, Daily Bible Reading Guide & 2018 pocket calendar. Because we have a limited number of calendars, only one calendar will be given per family.

**2017 Stewardship Pledge Reminder:** The Stewardship Committee extends our appreciation to our Stewards who have met their 2017 pledge commitment. Stewardship is the lifeblood of our Community and we thank you! If you are not current in your 2017 commitment, we ask that you fulfill your pledge in December. The final Stewardship statement for the year has been mailed and we ask you to help us finish strong for the year.

**For Your Awareness:** In January 2018, we will start a monthly passing of a collection tray for the purpose of funding much-needed building maintenance items. The tray will be passed the second Sunday of each month, and proceeds will be dedicated to building maintenance items, including the heating and cooling system for the Sanctuary, and a security system for the Church building and grounds. Trays are not for the purpose of Stewardship pledge collection; we ask that you thoughtfully consider what you can do above your Stewardship pledge this one Sunday per month to address the increasing needs of our buildings and grounds. Every dollar matters, and is responsibly managed by your Parish Council. We thank you in advance for your contributions!

**Godparents Sunday:** Saint Demetrios will be celebrating Godparent Sunday on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018, and The Koritsia will be hosting the Godparent Sunday Luncheon that afternoon in the Hermes Rafailides Center immediately following church. Tickets will be on sale during coffee hour. You can also contact Stephanie Gavrilis at [spadousis@hotmail.com](mailto:spadousis@hotmail.com) or Christina Tsakiris at [cmt7226@gmail.com](mailto:cmt7226@gmail.com) to purchase tickets. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for children if purchased prior to the event. If purchased at the door, tickets will be \$20 for adults and \$15 for children. We look forward to seeing you there and we thank you for your support!"

**50 YEARS OF SAINT DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ~ November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019** will commemorate the **50<sup>th</sup> 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 & Stephen Christ at 410-529-5927 or email: [stephanie2twins@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanie2twins@yahoo.com).

**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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:paulrizas@gmail.com).

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**Tickets are available for the Suburban Players 43<sup>rd</sup> Production** ~ “Guys and Dolls.” Dates are: February 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Ticket prices for Dinner Theatre are \$46 (Adults); \$45/pp for 10 or more tickets; \$25 (Children under 12); Saturday matinee on February 10<sup>th</sup> for \$20/pp at 11:00am with light fare for purchase. Contact: Eleni Libertini via email at: [elibertini@comcast.net](mailto:elibertini@comcast.net) or phone at 410.679.5622. A delicious meal and wonderful show awaits you! Ad spaces in all sizes are also available in our program book. This is an inexpensive way to advertise your business, send well wishes to fellow stewards and support your church. Contact [kellymacdonnell@hotmail.com](mailto:kellymacdonnell@hotmail.com) or phone at 410.256.4487 to purchase your ad. Deadline for all ads is **January 22, 2018.**

**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 1<sup>st</sup> Annual **THROW BACK TOURNAMENT** on **Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>!!** 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](mailto: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 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 30<sup>th</sup>, 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 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 ~ Uncle's Hawaiian Grindz in Fallston.**

**SAVERS:** Parrish Council approved a spring Savers fundraiser event. Items can begin to come into church January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. The donated items can be placed into the Grade 4 Church School classroom which is located across from the library. Please label the items with SAVERS. The end date for this is May 18<sup>th</sup>. Help is needed on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am, when Savers does the pick-up. So clean out those closets!!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

*Musical Christmas Program to follow*

*Christmas Holiday ~ Office Closed ~ December 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>*

*New Year's Holiday ~ Office Closing at 12:00pm on December 29<sup>th</sup>  
Closed ~ January 1<sup>st</sup>*

*Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> ~ Orthros, 9:00am / Divine Liturgy, 10:00am*

*New Year's Eve ~ Feast of Saint Basil Divine Liturgy, 5:00pm*

*Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup> ~ Eve of the Feast of Epiphany & Blessings of the Waters  
Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil, 9:00am*

*Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> ~ Feast of Epiphany ~ Blessings of the Waters  
Divine Liturgy, 9:00am*

*Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> ~ Three Hierarchs Divine Liturgy ~ 9:00am*

*There will be no Liturgies on Christmas Day ~ Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>.*

*Please join us Christmas Eve ~ Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>*

*Orthros, 6:00pm and Divine Liturgy, 7:00pm.*

## PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

**Board Meeting: Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm in the Philoptochos room**

**General Meeting: Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm in the Philoptochos room**

Saint Demetrios Ladies Philoptochos are wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. Thank you for all your support, love and hard work in helping to make the lives of those less fortunate a little brighter.

## 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
<b>2016</b>	\$395,000	\$681,485	\$336,599	\$317,333	426
<b>2017</b>	\$378,600	\$657,842	\$326,575	\$308,065	400

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

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<p><b><u>Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <i>Merry Christmas Office Closed Pre-School Closed Greek School Closed</i></p>	<p><b><u>Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <i>Pre-School Closed Greek School Closed Guys &amp; Dolls Rehearsal, Leads A, 7:00pm</i></p>	<p><b><u>Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <i>Guys &amp; Dolls Rehearsal, Cameo Kids, 1:00-1:45pm Full Cast, 2:00-3:30pm Dancers, 2:30-4:30pm</i></p>
<p><b><u>Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <i>Office Closed Pre-School Closed</i></p>	<p><b><u>Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <i>Pre-School Closed</i></p> <p><b><u>Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <i>Pre-School Closed Office Closing at 12:00pm</i></p>	<p><b><u>Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup></u></b>  <i>Sunday before Theophany Orthros, 9:00am Divine Liturgy, 10:00am</i></p> <p><b><u>New Years Eve ~ December 31<sup>st</sup></u></b>  <i>Feast of Saint Basil Divine Liturgy, 5:00pm</i></p>



*The Saint Demetrios Suburban Players Presents*

## *“Guys and Dolls”*

### **Tickets on Sale NOW!**

**Show A: Saturday, February 10, 2018**

(Matinee)

Doors Open ~ 10:15am

Show ~ 11:00am

(Refreshments will be sold during intermission)

**Show B: Saturday, February 10, 2018**

Dinner ~ 6:30pm

Show ~ 8:00pm

**Show C: Sunday, February 11, 2018**

Dinner ~ 3:30pm

Show ~ 5:00pm

**Show D: Friday, February 16, 2018**

Dinner ~ 6:30pm

Show ~ 8:00pm

**Show E: Saturday, February 17, 2018**

Dinner ~ 6:30pm

Show ~ 8:00pm

**Show F: Sunday, February 18, 2018**

Dinner ~ 3:30pm

Show ~ 5:00pm

### **Ticket Prices**

Matinee ~ \$20.00

*Dinner Theatre:*

Adults ~ \$46.00 (Table of 10 ~ \$45.00 each)

Children under 12 ~ \$25.00

To purchase, or reserve tickets, please contact  
Eleni Libertini at 410.679.5622 or  
[elibertini@comcast.net](mailto:elibertini@comcast.net) or during coffee hour in  
the Hermes Rafailides Center

Checks, cash and credit cards accepted.

Return check fee: \$35.00

Tickets are sold by assigned tables.

All sales are final.

No Refunds.

For Dinner Shows ~ Doors open

30 minutes before

Dinner is served!

*Thank you for your support!!!*