

THE SPIRIT

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Father's Corner:

Attacking Your Senses with Icons!

There are many symbols used by the Greek Orthodox Church to enhance the services and beautify an actual Church structure. One of these symbols is the icon. I will deal with the history of iconography and why it still remains so important to Orthodox Christianity. I will examine iconography until Saint John of Damascus came to the rescue of the icons.

An icon is a symbol which expresses indirectly, through images, that which can not be expressed directly, in material or verbal form. Icons take various forms and shapes, painted in oil on wood or canvas, or wrought in mosaic on ivory. They may represent Jesus Christ, the Virgin Mary or many other saints observed by the Orthodox Church and events and scenes from their lives. The set of icons found on the *Iconostasis* are, from left to right, the Archangel Michael, our Church's Feast Day Icon of Saint Demetrios, the Virgin Mary, Jesus Christ, Saint John the Baptist, and the Archangel Gabriel. The large icon found within the altar on the rear wall is called the *Platytera* and depicts the Virgin Mary holding Jesus as an infant. In the Altar are two icons situated over the tables of oblation; the left is the birth of Jesus Christ, and the right is the Resurrection of Christ.

Icons have an important role in public worship (Divine Liturgies) and private worship (one's home). It is very important to understand that in

the Orthodox tradition, icons are venerated, not worshipped. In venerating an icon, the faithful pray to whomever the icon depicts. The actual wood or canvas is not worshiped or adored, but the depiction is venerated, incensed, or kissed. Icons depicting saints have exercised beneficial powers when prayed to. One icon recently was found to be weeping in a small church in Chicago.

In the 8th and 9th centuries a controversy about veneration of icons arose which greatly disturbed the Orthodox Church. This ordeal was the Iconoclastic Controversy, and the term "iconoclast" means a person who attacks long-established beliefs (from the Greek *eikon*, image, and *klastes*, breaker). Before the Sixth Ecumenical Council the controversy concerning the Person of Christ created a problem in the Church. Members there condemned Monotheletism as a heresy and determined that, as in Jesus Christ there are two natures, unconfused, unchanged, inseparable and indivisible, there are also in Him two natural activities and two wills, which do not compete against one another since the human will subordinates itself to the all-powerful divine will. But the dispute over the Persons of Christ did not end with the Sixth Ecumenical Council; it branched off into Iconoclasm. The images the Iconoclasts focused on were the Holy Icons of Christ, the Mother of God, and the saints, which were found in churches and in the homes of Christians. The Iconoclasts went through churches and homes and originally placed the icons higher so that people could not venerate them. Later, they actually smashed the icons in the churches. Iconodules, or venerator of icons, opposed iconoclasts and strongly defended the use of icons.

In the West the Iconoclastic struggle has less of an impact but produced more results. The controversy led to three main events: the separation of the Eastern and Western Churches, the establishment of the temporary power of the Papacy, and the loss of the imperial dominions in Northern, Italy.

Leo III is considered the most cruel emperor that ever attacked Christianity and the originator of the Iconoclastic controversy. He passed many legal and administrative reforms, including his famous *Ecloga* in 740. This was a system of penalties that perfectly illustrates his barbarism: cutting off the nose, tearing out the tongue, chopping off hands, blinding, shaving the head, burning off hair. These punishments were sometimes substitutes for the death sentence, but in other cases they replaced the fines imposed by the law of Justinian. The oriental delight in mutilation and corporal punishments revealed in the *Ecloga* contrasts Roman law which was also known in Byzantium. He also made divorce more difficult to obtain and improved the position of women. Leo II was accused of closing the schools of art and theology; George the Monk went as far as to accuse Leo III and the Iconoclasts of burning the university, books and professors. Controversy lasted for 120 years until the actual removal of icons from churches in 725.

Iconoclasts used against icons was the Second Commandment, that we should not make any image or likeness of God. The Iconoclasts objected that this commandment absolutely forbade Christians to frame the likeness of any living thing. But with deep examination of the issue, the Icons were returned. They were revealed as are pictures of our own loved ones and they are not worshiped.



Stewardship

Stewardship Message of Stephanie Christ ~ October 2012

Dorothy said it best in a classic movie decades ago: **“There’s no place like home.”** Sure we like to travel but after a while aren’t you ready to come home? What I am talking about today is this very “home” we find here at 2504 Cub Hill Road. For many of us it’s our second address because within these blessed walls we find home, our home with God, where our personal relationship with Jesus Christ blooms and grows, where we find our family and our friends. It’s *koinonia*, or community.

January 4, 1976 when I was six years old we were going to see our new church! My Papou held me in his arms so I could see the Opening Ceremony. I give my deepest love to my parents and grandparents because they fostered my growth at Saint Demetrios which has been one of the greatest blessings in my life. There isn’t a room I can’t walk in and not feel at home. For decades I was witness to countless Stewards caring, sharing, cooking, baking, singing, dancing, constructing, teaching, and advising. They all had busy lives—but they were here, and their role was the one that I desired to grow into. So many have touched my life. Ms. Rene Alatzas taught Sunday school. At my first GOYA meeting a tall, husky man with a welcoming smile said to me, “Hello Stephanie! ~ Come on in.” Little did I know that one day that man, Spencer Vavas, would become my father-in-law. Chief GOYA Advisor, “Mrs. Dottie,” encouraged me to be GOYA President. After attending a festival meeting with Nick Eliou, Irene Kaminaris said “It was time,” and we became festival chairpersons.

When my husband Stephen and I went to a meeting to discuss expansion, he walked out as Architecture Chairman, and I left as Marketing Chair. This time our lives were touched by Sophia Vendelis. Shortly after Stephen and I made the first steps to our future expansion, we were

blessed with twin sons, Daniel and Stephen. On the very night of their birth another Saint Demetrios child was born, a little girl who shared the nursery at GBMC and now is a Sunday school friend and dance troupe partner. Saint Demetrios always weaved in and around our lives.

Years later my mom and I went to a Philoptochos meeting, and Margo Lambros got me inspired to chair the fashion show. Soon after, Maria Antonakas asked us to co-chair the Saint Demetrios 35th Anniversary Banquet. Someone touched our lives and believed in us.

A few years later it was time for my children to go to preschool. I saw the excitement surrounding the Saint Demetrios Preschool and applied for a job opening. Again the Holy Spirit moved through our lives because we came to know Jennie Kegel, a blessing. She gave me the opportunity of a lifetime, to teach in God's school. I can truly say I work at home. Every day close to 60 little angels come to embrace the faith.

How does this relate to Stewardship? It doesn't—it is the *fabric* of Stewardship. Webster defines Stewardship as "the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care." God has entrusted us to be his caretakers of Saint Demetrios, an awesome responsibility which all of us take to heart. Our families enjoy being here and giving their time, talent and treasure. Time is hard, but, "*there's no place like home.*" Regarding talent, every one of you in the pews has God-given talents. I encourage everyone young and old to discover how your talents can enrich our Church.

Then, of course, there's treasure. We need to look internally at our own budgets to determine our Stewardship commitment. Here is the Christ family budget:

Food ~ \$120/week

Fios ~ \$165/month

Recreation (registrations, team pictures, team parties, sports equipment for football, soccer, basketball, lacrosse, baseball; music lessons)
\$1976/year

Smartphones ~ \$125/month

Anti-aging cream ~ (my personal favorite)
\$150/year

Ravens tickets ~ \$1800/year

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church ~
PRICELESS

Faith-based education at Saint Demetrios Day School ~ **PRICELESS**

I ask you to examine your own budgets and see what you can do for your church. Fill out the beautiful Commitment Card; sign up for Network for God on the church website and you'll never worry about forgetting your payment.

Saint Demetrios Church brings us all close as one unified family in Christ. We must always promise to take care of her. She's thriving, and as she thrives so will we.

Parish Council

Welcome to the New Year! We hope that everyone had a safe and Healthy Christmas and New Year! With the New Year, there are changes to the Parish Council that come as well. Please help me welcome the new Parish Council Members in 2013. We pray the Lord gives us the strength as a group to lead the community into the New Year.

Robert Brown ~ **Recording Secretary**

Stephen Christ ~ **President**

Smaro Cook

C.J. Ditsious ~ **Financial Secretary**

Bob Garrish

Jim Kastanaras

Nick Kosmas ~ **Vice President**

Steve Kucharski ~ **Treasurer**

Emily Liadakis

Demetri Makres

Jerry Sackleh

Panos Sargianis

Gus Serevetas

Gus Stamatopoulos

Victor Woods

Church School

George Zaverdinos, Church School Director



Winter



Psalm 51:7 states:

Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

The winter solstice was, for thousands of years, a pagan celebration as a time of new beginning or 'rebirth'. Whether modern-day celebratory winter traditions have any correlation whatsoever to ancient winter solstice merriment or, if the two merely coincide based on calendar dates, can most likely be argued. Either way, the winter season, also known as the 'Season of Light' for Orthodox Christians worldwide, is one for reflection, rebirth, prayer and giving.

In ancient times, people were more intimately connected with the cycles of nature. The worship of the Sun is understandable in light of humankind's reliance upon warmth for survival. Thousands of years ago, people noticed the days became darker and shorter as the sun travelled lower in the sky, and many thought this was a sign the world was ending. During the winter months in that era, in the Northern Europe region there would be up to 35 days without any glimpse of the sun. As the sun diminished, people believed that everything would soon die. After all, without sunlight, there could be no plants or animals, therefore no food, and eventually life would cease to exist.

Throughout centuries there has been much controversy as to when the Nativity of Jesus actually occurred; however, in spite of whatever time of year His miraculous birth is viewed, since God offered the world His greatest gift ~ His only begotten Son, the winter season is today recognized by faithful Christians worldwide as a blessed time for joy and religious festivities.

Each year the winter months transform into a season enabling us to celebrate the rebirth and wholeness of our own lives in fellowship with family and friends, understanding that all of life is holy, whole and precious. It is also a time to rejoice in the peace, joy, and renewal emanating from the tranquility of the beautiful wintery landscape. Perhaps most importantly, it is a time of year to become reminiscent and look beyond our inner, as well as outer differences of daily thoughts, actions, customs and beliefs ~ a season to reflect and offer sincere love, forgiveness, peace, goodwill, and brotherly love to all in this God-created universe. As a result of the Holy Nativity of our Lord and Savior, for us Christians, it has become a period of renewal and a time to recognize the strength of the transcending 'light' within our own souls and inner consciousness. Last but not least, it is a time to realize that only through means of faith in Him, prayer, devotion, piety, and learning His word and teachings by attending Church regularly, we may overcome and conquer darkness.

In the Holy Gospel (John 9:5) Jesus Christ said: ***"I am the Light of the world."*** Just as the cold winter season brings an innocent joyfulness to our children, may God's majestic gift of the Season of Light we commemorate during these frigid months offer a spiritual fulfillment that remains glowing, guiding, heartwarming, and alive within us throughout each season of the year.

Our volunteer staff members remain prepared and dedicated to planting seeds that will spiritually nurture your children in Orthodoxy with FAITH, HOPE, LOVE and ENCOURAGEMENT.

Just bring them and trust us to do the rest!



Suburban Players

The Suburban Players

presents



FEBRUARY 22, 23, 24, MARCH 1, 2, 3, 2013

The Hermes Center

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

2504 Cub Hill Road ♦ Baltimore, Maryland 21234

Tickets & Information: Harriett at 410.248.0582

Fridays: Dinner 6:30 pm & Show 8:00 pm

Saturdays: Dinner 5:30 pm & Show 7:00 pm

Sundays: dinner 4:30 & Show 6:00 pm

Produced by: Demetrios & Rena Makres

Directed by: John Desmone

Musical Direction by: Tiffany Underwood Holmes

VISA & MASTERCARD ACCEPTED

(4% Surcharge per Transaction)

ALL SALES FINAL ♦ NO REFUNDS

*Tickets \$45.00
Group Rate of \$40 Available
Fridays, February 22 & March 1 ONLY!
(Minimum 3 tables required)*

*Family Night
Sunday's ONLY!!!
Children 12 & under \$25*

Suburban Players

The Suburban Players of Saint Demetrios are excited this year's production is the Baltimore community theatre premier of the hit Broadway musical comedy Xanadu. Xanadu follows the journey of a magical and beautiful Greek muse, Kira, who descends from the heavens of Mt. Olympus to Venice Beach, California in 1980 on a quest to inspire a struggling artist, Sonny, to achieve the greatest artistic creation of all time – the first ROLLER DISCO! (Hey, it's 1980!) But, when Kira falls into forbidden love with the mortal Sonny, her jealous sisters take advantage of the situation and chaos abounds.

This hilarious, roller skating, musical adventure about following your dreams despite the limitations

others set for you, rolls along to the original hit score composed by pop-rock legends Jeff Lynne and John Farrar of ELO fame, and includes, "Magic", "All Over The World", "Suddenly", "I'm Alive", "Evil Woman", "Have You Never Been Mellow" and "Xanadu", and is based on the Universal Pictures' cult classic movie of the same title, which starred Olivia Newton-John and Gene Kelly.

The performance dates are February 22, 23, 24 and March 1, 2, 3, 2013. Demetrios and Rena Makres will produce and John Desmone will direct this Tony nominated hit. **For tickets, please call Harriet Hatzidimitriou at 410-248-0582.**

Fulfilling the Promise!

The following Stewards have come forth and pledged their support for our 2013 Stewardship Campaign. We would like to thank you for continuing to support our Saint Demetrios Church. You, too, can be added to this list simply by completing and returning your 2013 Stewardship Commitment Card to the Church office.

Mrs. Esther Alatzas	Ms. Georgia Economakis	Miss Emily Liadakis
Mr. & Mrs. George Alatzas	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Economides	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Libby
Mr. & Mrs. Petros Alatzas	Mr. & Mrs. Gary Edwards	Mr. & Mrs. Van Lomis
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Alberding	Mrs. Helen Foudos	Mrs. Alexandra Lygoumenos
Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Albright	Mr. George Frangos	Mr. & Mrs. Bill MacDonnell, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Alexander	Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Galanakis	Ms. Vasilias Maggelakis
Mr. & Mrs. Athos Alexandrou	Ms. Dorothy Ganer	Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Makres
Mrs. Evangeline Alexion	Col. & Mrs. John Gavrillis	Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Makres
Mrs. Helen Amentas	Mrs. Joan Geer	Mr. & Mrs. George Makres
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Amentas	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Georgopoulos	Agisi & Monica Makrodimitris
Mrs. Anna Amorgeanos	Mrs. Sophia Gilland	Mrs. Mary Manesis
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Anagnos	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Girken	Mrs. Stella Manesis
Mr. & Mrs. John Anastasiadis	Mrs. Vasiliki Glava	Mr. Vasilios Maravelakis
Dr. & Mrs. John Andreadakis	Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Hagan	Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Markas
Mr. & Mrs. Andrea Andreyev	Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Hagepanos	Ms. Robin Marshall
Mrs. Fannie Angelos	Mrs. Dorothy Halkousis	Ms. Evangeline McQueeny
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Antonakas	Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Harris	Mr. & Mrs. Meno Meraklis
Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Antonakas	Mr. & Mrs. John Hatzidimitriou	Mr. Steven Michael
Mr. & Mrs. Nickolas Antonas	Mr. & Mrs. Ray Hedrick	Mrs. Irene Michallas
Mr. & Mrs. John Antonopoulos	Ms. Anne Hegarty	Mr. Sotirios Mitilineos
Mrs. Maria Antonopoulos	Athanasios Heper	Mr. & Mrs. James Moskos
Dr. Sophia Balis	Mr. Tony Heper	Mr. & Mrs. Craig Moyer
Mr. & Mrs. Zakk Becker	Ms. Joan Jasman	Fr. & Mrs. Louis Noplos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Beleos	Ms. Lisa Jones	Mr. & Mrs. David Oliphant
Ms. Maria Brady	Mr. & Mrs. George Kafkakis	Dr. & Mrs. Evan Padousis
Mr. Spero Brahos	Mr. & Mrs. Clemin Kaikis	Dr. & Mrs. Robert Padousis
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Brown	Mr. & Mrs. Soterios Kakavas	Mr. & Mrs. Gus Panageotou
Mr. James Canelos	Dr. & Mrs. Constantine Kaminaris	Mr. & Mrs. Gabriel Pantelides
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Caprinolo	Mr. & Mrs. Brian Kanely	Dr. & Mrs. Stavros Papaeracleous
Mr. Patrick Carling	Ms. Evelyn Karas	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Papageorgopoulos
Ms. Tasia Cavas	Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Karavedas	Mr. & Mrs. Tharrenos Papavasiliou
Ms. Anthoula Chakales	Ms. Erene Kariotis	Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Patiniotis
Ms. Christina Chilimindris	Mr. & Mrs. Efthymios Kastanaras	Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pecunes
Ms. Maria Chirgott	Mr. & Mrs. Mihail Katris	Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Pedrick
Mr. & Mrs. Telemac Chryssikos	Mr. & Mrs. Larry Katsafanas	Mrs. Irene Peltsems
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Cocoros	Mrs. Mary Katsafanas	Mrs. Anastasia Petropoulos
Mr. & Mrs. George Cocoros	Mr. & Mrs. Regis Kegel	Dr. & Mrs. Diomidis Pirovolidis
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Cocoros	Mrs. Georgia Kerasiotes	Mrs. Mary Lou Pizanis
Mrs. Irene Cocoros	Ms. Popey Kleon	Mr. Alexander Platis
Mr. & Mrs. George Conits	Mr. & Mrs. John Kontorousis	Mrs. Theodora Poletis
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Conits	Mrs. Margaret Kontoyianis	Miss Eleni Polites
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Cook	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kootsikis	Mr. & Mrs. George Polites
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Courpas	Ms. Mary Kosmas	Mr. Mathew Polites
Mrs. Antonia Courtalis	Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Kosmas	Mr. & Mrs. Manual Psaris
Mr. & Mrs. Nicolaos Courtalis	Mr. & Mrs. Ted Kostopoulos	Mrs. Dimitra Psihopedas
Mrs. Mary Cross	Ms. Angela Koutsoutis	Mr. Peter Rizas
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Daniels	Mr. & Mrs. David Lamar	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Rizas
Mr. & Mrs. Pascalis Dellios	Mr. & Mrs. Basil Lambros	Mr. & Mrs. Kirk Rogers
Mrs. Evangeline Demetrakis	Mr. & Mrs. George Lambros	Mr. & Mrs. Mark Roros
Ms. Katherine Diafokeris	Ms. Effy Lamp	Mr. & Mrs. John Roussos
Mr. Constantine Ditsious	Mr. & Mrs. James Latgis, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Sackleh
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Downs	Mr. & Mrs. James Lefter	Mrs. Elaine Sain
Mr. & Mrs. Valiant Dzwonczyk	Ms. Irene Lericos	Mrs. Marie Sain
Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Economakis	Mr. & Mrs. William Lericos	Mrs. Rebecca Sajjad

Fulfilling the Promise continued

Mr. Pete Sakell
 Mrs. Eva Samaras
 Mrs. Nikki Sanders
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sarandos
 Mrs. Leslie Sarantinos
 Ms. Argiro Sarantinos-Perrin
 Mrs. Diamando Sarigianis
 Mr. Aristidis Serevetas
 Mrs. Diamonto Serevetas
 Mr. & Mrs. Konstantinos Serevetas
 Mr. & Mrs. John Sigambris
 Mrs. Martha Sinis
 Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Sitaras
 Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Sjoberg
 Mr. James Smyrnioudis
 Mr. & Mrs. Casimir Sobus, Jr.
 Mrs. Cynthia Sourvanos
 Mr. & Mrs. Adam Soutar
 Mr. & Mrs. James Spanos
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Spanos
 Mr. Ioannis Spiropoulos
 Mrs. Voula Stamas
 Mr. & Mrs. Gus Stamatopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Gus Strakes
 Mrs. Katherine Strakes
 Mr. & Mrs. Van Strakes
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Tagliaferro
 Mr. & Mrs. George Thomakos
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Tomezewski
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Triandafilou
 Mr. Michael Trikeriotis
 Mr. & Mrs. Basilios Trintis
 Dr. Julia Trintis
 Mr. & Mrs. Steve Trintis
 Mr. Marshall Tsakiris
 Mrs. Despina Tsamoutalis
 Mr. & Mrs. Gus Tsottles
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher VanRoden
 Mr. & Mrs. John Vasilios
 Mrs. Georgia Vavas
 Mrs. Irene Vavas
 Dr. & Mrs. Andrew Vendelis
 Mr. & Mrs. Lazaros Volikas
 Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Voxakis
 Mr. John Voxakis
 Mrs. Bernadine Wazlavek
 Mr. & Mrs. Marty Weigand
 Mr. Robert Steven West
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert West
 Mr. & Mrs. William White, Jr.
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Williams
 Mr. & Mrs. Victor Woods
 Dr. & Mrs. Sam Zamaria
 Mr. George Zaverdinos

GOYA News

Our GOYA has been very busy over the holiday season. In November, the GOYAnS donated full Thanksgiving meals to 5 families in need in our own community. In December the GOYAnS selflessly gave up their own gifts at their GOYA Christmas Party and donated toys to the Ravens Toys for Tots program instead.

Our GOYAnS are looking forward to helping out by serving dinner at our upcoming church play scheduled the last weekend in February and the first weekend in March.

On March 16th and 17th our GOYAnS will need some help from our community. They will be hosting their annual Basketball Tournament and are in need of volunteers to help with score keeping during the games. They will also need some food items donated for the weekend as well as some items for their silent auction.

If you can help in any way please contact our tournament chairperson, Peter Makres, or any one of our Advisors at ourgoya@gmail.com.

Library News

The Library is up and running. We have a new computer and lots of new books and DVD's for the young and not so young. The Book Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. Our book for the month of January is: ***God's Child Andrew*** by Sharon Johnson. Our book for the month of February is: ***The Time Keeper*** by Mitch Albom.

Knitter's Night is something new that was started at the suggestion of some of the Library volunteers. Our first meeting was a success with 12 knitters; we are making scarves for Special Olympics and afghans for amputees. We will meet on Wednesday February 27th at 6:30 pm in the Library. All are welcome to join us!

Philoptochos

2013 Membership Drive in Full Swing

It is time to remember to make your stewardship commitment to Philoptochos. Stop by our membership table after Liturgy or pick up a membership form at the Narthex Table and return it to the church office with Attention: Philoptochos written on the envelope. Please specify "Philoptochos Stewardship" on the memo line of your check. Membership Chairperson Thorina Trintis (410.866.2127) is available to answer your questions and receive your stewardship.

February ~ Heart Health Month/"Go Red"

Read and share the *Philanthropy by Philoptochos* blog dealing with heart disease, posted at <http://philoptochos.posterous.com/> or download information from the American Heart Association website, www.heart.org

Sunday 10th ~ "GO RED SUNDAY". We ask our parishioners to join in promoting improvement of heart health by wearing RED to church on this Sunday.

Monday 11th ~ Ronald McDonald House dinner committee serves up a Valentine's Day celebration with winter soup & chili menu. To donate items for dinner and/or to help serve, contact Mary Tsakiris 410.592.7319.

Tuesday 12th ~ Our Philoptochos General Meeting is at 7:00 pm in the Philoptochos Room. Special heart health activity planned. Become a member!

March- Lent Begins

Charity Drive ~ Collection of Easter Food for families in need from our adopted neighborhood school will begin.

Tuesday 12th ~ Our Philoptochos General Meeting is at 7:00 pm in the Philoptochos Room. Please save this date for our Special presentation "Great Grains" given by Mary Triandafilou. Which is perfect as we begin Great Lent on March 18th.

Day School Bull Roast

The 7th Annual
SAINT DEMETRIOS DAY SCHOOL



BENEFIT BULL/OYSTER ROAST & SILENT AUCTION

*All proceeds to benefit the children of
Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Bilingual Day School*

**Saturday, February 9, 2013
12:00 noon - 5:00 pm**

Hermes Center

The Bull & Oyster Roast will be catered by Jerry D's Catering, Entertainment by Koko Bros. and PA Annual Silent Auction.

For more information or to purchase tickets
please call 410.661.1090 x204

**PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND
AND SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN!!**

The Way

Are you looking for a way is to bring a more spiritual focus to the upcoming Lenten season? The next session of the Orthodox Christian Way program is the answer.

Session Two of the Orthodox Christian Way begins Tuesday, March 19th, 2013, in the Hermes Center at 6:30 p.m. As in the first session last October, there will be four evenings of presentations on the Orthodox faith by area clergy. Group discussion follows, and questions are then presented to a panel of clergy. Presentations will begin at 7:00 p.m. following a light supper. Last October's session was very well-received, with attendance topping 100 each evening. Mark your calendars for Tuesdays, March 19th, 26th, April 2nd, and 9th. Registration will begin shortly.

Call the church office at: 410.661.1090 for more information.

Saint Demetrios Day School

Children who care:

Throughout each school year, the children of our Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Bilingual Day School are involved in several outreach programs. For the past nine years, our school has been involved in an "Adopt-a-Family" project during the Christmas Holiday. Each year, our school adopts between 4 and 5 families, and provides food, clothing, and toys for each of these families. Members of our Parent Association Board, along with Mr. Regis Kegel, hand deliver these items to each family right before Christmas. This year, our Elementary students voted to send the total sum of donations that they collected to the IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities) to be used for families in the New Jersey and New York areas who were so adversely affected by Hurricane Sandy. With over \$900.00 raised, we are very proud of their efforts.

Our Saint Demetrios students are no strangers to the IOCC office. Each February, the entire school participates in our "Hearts-for-the-Hungry" Project. During a two week period, each child performs chores around home, and any monies earned during these chores is placed in a heart decorated box and brought to school. On Valentine's Day, each child brings their box to Church and empties its content into a large basket on the Solea. After a special blessing, the money is counted and a check is written to the IOCC. This year, we will continue this wonderful tradition.

Each year, the students of Saint Demetrios Day School raise a total of over \$2,000.00 for all of their outreach projects. We would like to commend our students for their outstanding work and for following the words of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ: "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did this to me."

Welcome Sunday



Christopher & Amy Svrjcek

On Sunday, October 14th, 2012, the following new members of our Saint Demetrios Parish were recognized in Church after the Divine Liturgy, and were honored during coffee hour at the Hermes Center.

Pictured above are Christopher & Amy Svrjcek. The couple was married last year and currently lives in Bel Air with their baby son, Nicholas. Christopher is from Bel air and graduated from C.M. Wright High School. He works for the Cardinal Logistics trucking company as an Operations Supervisor. Amy is from the Essex area and graduated from Kenwood High School. She received a Business Administration degree from Wilmington University in Delaware and works for the Johns Hopkins University as an Administration Coordinator. Christopher & Amy are avid Ravens fans, and also enjoy recreational boating activities.

Other individuals & families who have become members of Saint Demetrios between September 2011 and September 2012:

Ms. Sylvia Adams	Mr. & Mrs. Don Larkin
Dr. Alexandra Antonopoulos	Ms. Elaine Lennox
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Atchison	Mr. & Mrs. John Logothetis
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Baranowski	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Lomis
Mr. & Mrs. John Bratsakis	Mr. Chuck Markakis
Mr. Jeanne Brocious	Ms. Christina May
Mr. Thomas Cook, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Moshonisiotes
Ms. Egi Demiri	Mr. & Mrs. David Perrone
Ms. Suzanne Economas	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Rybry
Ms. Stephanie Edge	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sabracos
Ms. Carole Fulghum	Mr. Pete Sakell
Mr. Charles Georgopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Schwanke
Ms. Paulette Georgopoulos	Ms. Daphne Sollon
Mr. & Mrs. Mihail Giannaros	Ms. Christina Stefanaras
Mr. & Mrs. Kostandinos Harris	Mr. Paul Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Hutson	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ward
Mr. & Mrs. Kosmas Koukoulis	
Ms. Heather Koutrakos	

We wish each of these new members all of God's blessings as we welcome them into our Saint Demetrios Church family.

Sacraments

WEDDINGS

November 10, 2012

John Andrew Blair, III & Maria Ashley Diacoloukas

November 17, 2012

Peter J. Xanthakos & Meaghan O. Whalen

BABY BLESSINGS

Mr. & Mrs. Konstantinos Kypraios presented their daughter for the traditional 40-day blessing on December 23, 2012.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Rybny presented their son for the traditional 40-day blessing on January 13, 2013.

BAPTISMS

Zoe Kathryn, daughter of Evan & Penny Padousis was baptized on September 2, 2012. Godparents were Chris & Pauline Nicolaides.

Nicholas Stephen, son of Steve & Caroline Sollon was baptized on November 4, 2012. Godparents were Edward Joseph Millon, Florence Markela Millon, Maria Ines Giraldo Marquez.

Nora Clare, daughter of Lee & Patricia O'Drudy was baptized on November 11, 2012. Godparents were Dr. Julia Trintis, Seth Wethkamp, Patricia Fadok, D. Lazaros & Simone Volikas.

Luca Angelo, son of Jaime & Annette Spicciati was baptized on November 24, 2012. Godparents were Andre & Leah Forest.

Leah Elizabeth, daughter of Peter Chilimindris & Jessica Brunner was baptized on November 24, 2012. Godparents were Christina Chilimindris & Phillip Chilimindris.

Avery Rose, daughter of Adam & Eve Soutar was baptized on December 9, 2012. Godparents were Emily Winchatz & Justin Soutar.

Alexandros Antonios, son of Antonios & Allison Nicolaides was baptized on January 12, 2013. Godparents were Minas & Kleopatra Dargakis.

CHRISMATION

Rebecca Bunting was received into the Orthodox Faith on December 16, 2012.

ETERNAL MEMORY & CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF

Deborah J. Sakell

Steve C. Xintas

Gus P. Mattes

Pope Markopoulos Platis

Manuel Pizanis

Irene Mavronis

Mary Sorvalis

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Saint Demetrios
Greek Orthodox Church



Rev. Louis J. Noplos
Protopresbyter

2504 Cub Hill Road
Baltimore, MD. 21234

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410.661.1134

E-Mail:
Saintdemetrios@comcast.net

Mark Your Calendars!

Saint Demetrios Day School Bull Roast
Join us on **Saturday, February 9th** for a great night of fun and dancing, all while supporting our Day School.

Suburban Players presents "Xanadu"
Make plans of attending our annual dinner theatre on **February 22nd, 23rd, 24th, March 1st, 2nd & 3rd**
Call Harriett at 410.248.0582 for tickets.

GOYA Basketball Tournament
March 16th & 17th

HOPE/JOY Event
March 22nd

See upcoming bulletins for more information on these events!

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
www.stdemetriosmd.org

If you have any news that you would like to share with our community or if you would like to submit and article, please email your article to:

www.stdemetrios@comcast.net

Deadline is March 11th!

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
2504 Cub Hill Road ~ P.O. Box 28218
Baltimore, Maryland 21234