

THE VINE

ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, 57 BROWN STREET, WESTON, MA 02493



Jesus said,
 "I am the vine;
 you are the
 branches.
 If a man remains
 in me and I in him,
 he will bear
 much fruit."
 (John 15:5)

CONTENTS

Liturgical
 Schedule.....2

Building on
 Our Faith.....3

Youth.....4-6

Photos.....7

Calendar.....8

Stewardship &
 Philoptochos.....9

News & Events.....10

Media, Witness
 & Outreach.....11

Announcements.....12

FR. NICK'S MESSAGE

YOU ARE MISSED

The mother of a large family of children was being interviewed by a newspaper reporter. The reporter asked her the difficult question, "Which one of your children do you love the most?" Her reply showed what a wise and loving mother she was. She told the reporter, "I love the one who is away until he returns home; the one who is sick until she is well; the one who is hurt until the hurt disappears; and the one who is lost until she is found." This is how God feels about us. He has missed you too.

St. Paul writes to the Corinthians (1 Cor 12), "For as the body is one and has many members but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For, by one spirit, we were all baptized into one body...." You are part of this body of Christ. Without you, we are incomplete.

When we were baptized, God planted His light within our hearts so that we may shine for Him in this world. In the writings of the Church fathers we read, "When we are baptized, our soul, purified by the Spirit, becomes brighter than the sun." Our baptism was not the ending but the beginning of our growth in faith in Jesus Christ. Our calling as Orthodox Christians is to strive toward the example of Christ. He is our great example.

God took the first step at our baptism as an expression of His love. Passively we received Him. But there is nothing automatic about becoming Christian. It has been said that "It is not mere belonging to the Church that saves for there is no magic in Christianity, but we are saved by our personal acceptance of the Spirit of Christ."

Perhaps you or someone you know has drifted away from their spiritual roots and the Church. They may have been baptized in this or another Orthodox Church, attended Church School, Greek School and GOYA. They may have been in a dance group or played on the basketball team. But then something changed. In short, we got busy and slowly drifted away from the Church. Few people wake up one day and decide to leave the Church. Most just slowly drift away, always intending to come back—someday.

Each of us is born with a God-shaped vacuum in our heart. But this vacuum is in constant danger of being filled with the wrong things—love for money, our job, alcohol and drugs and more. But God is what belongs there. In Revelations chapter three, Christ says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him and he with me."

It is my prayer that you will hear His voice and open that door and that you will say to Him, "I commit my life to you, from this day forward. I place You at the center of my life, to be my guide and my perfect example. Show me the plan You have for me. Use me in whatever way You see fit. And in all things, I take no glory for myself but give all the glory to You."

We would love to see all our faithful become part of that one body—Christ's Body! Please join your spiritual family at St. Demetrios for Sunday worship! We await and welcome you, for "you are missed."

*With Love in Our Lord,
 Fr. Nick*

SAVE THE DATE!
Important St. Demetrios events:

November 5:
 Family Night

November 6:
 Pet Blessing

November 7:
 Altar Training Day

November 14:
 GOYA Lawn Busters

November 19:
 GOYA Friday Boston outing

November 24:
 Thanksgiving Eve Liturgy



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE OF CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY SERVICES

ORTHOS, 8:30; DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30

October 3

2nd Sunday of Luke

October 10

3rd Sunday of Luke

October 17

Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

October 24

6th Sunday of Luke

October 31

5th Sunday of Luke

MIDWEEK SERVICES

ORTHOS, 9:00; DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30

Wednesday, October 6

St. Thomas

Monday, October 18

St. Luke

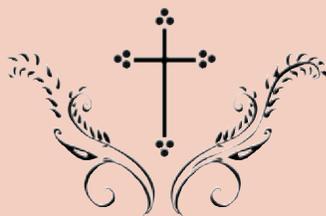
Tuesday, October 26

St. Demetrios

VESPERS, 7 PM

Monday, October 25

St. Demetrios, Weston



ST. DEMETRIOS: REFLECTIONS ON TRUE FRIENDSHIP



Each October, we reflect in The Vine about the life of St. Demetrios. He was a soldier, a leader, a thinker, a faithful Christian, a martyr and he is an inspiration to us all. But he was also a true friend: his dedicated friendship to Nestor, a young Christian, reflects the loving, sacrificial friendship of Christ to His Apostles and us all.

During the period of St. Demetrios' imprisonment by the Emperor Maximian (because of his Christian faith), St. Nestor visited him regularly and interceded with a host of authorities on his behalf. He did these things at great risk to his own person. Together, they strived, prayed and stayed hopeful in Christ. Even

though it was risky for Nestor to be a true friend, He did it anyway. As Christ taught us all, Nestor knew what it meant to sacrifice for another: "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). Christ gave all for His Apostles, for his friends, and for all of us—this example was not lost on Nestor.

Further, before the famous battle with Layios, the deadly gladiator, Demetrios also instilled in Nestor an unwavering conviction that God's power is truly with every believer, that the greatest difficulty can be overcome through faith. And this inspiring testimony from Demetrios led Nestor to inexplicable victory in the arena, in fact a merciful victory as Nestor spared Layios, to the chagrin of the screaming crowds. True friends inspire, guide and teach one another. True friends act with compassion. These, again, are what the Lord did for, and taught, His beloved friends. Even when the "lesson" was difficult, He loved them enough to teach them. Even when they did not listen to Him, He was compassionate enough never to give up on them.

In the end, Sts. Demetrios and Nestor were both martyred for their faith, but it is said that on that day so long ago, hundreds of non-believers became believers.

Christ's love radiated through their friendship, through their actions and behavior; the world could not help but be moved—and changed.

Upon this feast of our St. Demetrios parish, may we also be changed, moved. May we rediscover true sacrifice and compassion. May we seek guidance in the life of our Patron Saint, searching his holy life for inspiration and hope.

A blessed feast to us all!

ST. DEMETRIOS FEAST DAY SERVICES & CELEBRATIONS

Join us for Great Vespers on Oct. 25, 7 pm, with a reception to follow. As always, many thanks to Philoptochos for offering wonderful hospitality to our parish and sister parishes.

On Sunday the 24th, following the Divine Liturgy, we'll enjoy a delicious luncheon, in honor of our beloved Patron Saint.

All are invited to our festal celebrations—bring family and friends. Together, we'll celebrate the Feast of St. Demetrios and give thanks for our parish family!

Teaching Liturgy Oct. 17

As last fall, we'll once again offer a Sunday service interspersed with commentary, highlighting the major moments, hymns and prayers of the Liturgy. Please make a special effort to join us on the 17th. This is also a perfect day to bring friends and family members who may not understand the Liturgy or have questions about why we worship the way we do.

Prosfora Ministry:

"We offer to you these gifts from your own gifts..."



At each Divine Liturgy, a "prosfora"—a specially made bread—is used for the preparation of Holy Communion. This bread, that has a seal imprint on it, is baked and brought to Church by the faithful as their offering and participation in the Divine Liturgy. We thank those who faithfully bring and make "prosfora" throughout the year and invite others to join them in this meaningful ministry. **On Oct. 15, there will be a Prosfora Workshop at St. Demetrios, 10 am – 12 pm. All are invited!**



BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

OUR NEXT MONTH TOGETHER

During the second week in October, you will be receiving a very significant package in the mail. It will represent a precious affirmation of the faith we share in the future of Saint Demetrios Church and of Orthodoxy in America. Your package will contain a beautifully designed brochure premiering elements of the

design of our NEW CHURCH. Also included will be a dramatically new pledge card that represents the road to the fulfillment of this new vision. It will invite you to participate in, without doubt, one of the most significant undertakings in the proud fifty year history of Saint Demetrios Church. This is one of the moments upon which our spiritual future will pivot.

We all know this moment has been coming—the moment when we are asked to gather as a family to read the brochure, unfold the pledge card and discuss together our pledge to the future of your Saint Demetrios and the generations of your family that it will serve.

Before sending this extraordinary package to you, your Building Committee has quietly sought and received pledges totaling almost half of the project budget voted at the Special General Assembly. An extensive architect selection process has yielded the beautiful design you will see depicted in the brochure. All this has been accomplished PRIOR to asking you to make a pledge. Why? To assure you our common dream can be fulfilled. To assure you that your pledge is a necessary step along a path that is set. To offer a way for you to participate with your SACRIFICIAL GIFT in this once-in-a-generation dream-come-true. How can anyone experience the rising of solid new walls and the placement of a stunning new dome and cross without seeking to play a role that will be recognized permanently and for generations to come?

In the September issue of *The Vine*, we discussed a number of important gatherings and events giving parishioners the opportunity to reflect on our glorious past and celebrate our bright future: our last Divine Liturgy in the current sanctuary, the ground breaking and the laying of the cornerstone of the new Church, the “topping off” of the structural steel of our new dome and the placement of the cross atop the dome, and obviously opening the doors of our new Church. Soon, you will be learning the specifics associated with the first of these events. On this momentous occasion, will you not feel proud to have made your pledge by October 30th and stand as a co-author of the great new future of our church?

—Peter Bassett



ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

57 Brown St.
Weston, MA 02493
(781) 237-5561
(781) 237-8612 (fax)

www.stdemetriosweston.org

Fr. Nicholas Krommydas
Proistamenos
fnick@stdemetriosweston.org

Fr. Alex Chetsas
Presbyter
fralex@stdemetriosweston.org

CHURCH SECRETARY
Cathy Smith
csmith@stdemetriosweston.org

ST. DEMETRIOS CONNECTIONS 781-237-5561 | www.stdemetriosweston.org

Fr. Nicholas Krommydas, Pastor
Fr. Alex Chetsas, Co-Pastor
Cathy Smith, Secretary
Peter Gramenelles, Sexton
Chris Pappas, Parish Council President
Eugenia Kourlos, Philoptochos President

Bookstore, Carol Loridas
Choir, Gregory Condakes
Fifty-Something Club, Portia Pantages
Faith and Works Ministries

A Suitable Image, Nancy Savage
Brown Bag Sunday, Lydia Santangelo
Habitat for Humanity, Elaine Fischer
Helping Hands, Kathy Bakes
St. Nicholas Angel Tree, Nancy Savage

Hospitality/Fellowship Hour, Mary Ellen Paravalos
Library, Cindy Dabrowski
Orthodox Life Series, James Skedros
Outreach and Evangelism, Peter Gavrilles, Chris Resmini
Philoptochos Care Ministries

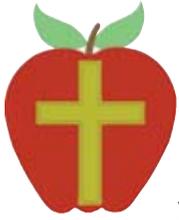
Hellenic Nursing Home, Pam Brody
Miracle Kitchen, Dorothea Ocnos
Prayer-Shawl, Tilda Mitsakos
Quiltathon, Debbie Morakis

Profora Ministry, Christina Booth Steele
Senior Guild, Tina Haratsis
Stewardship, Dean Coclin

YOUTH

Altar Service, Chris Kourlos
Basketball, Matt Little
Church School, Stavroula Gurguliatos
Church School Outreach, Gloria Moskos
Church School Music Director, Jane Kourtis

GOYA, Mina Koukos
Greek Folk Dancing, Margaret Talmers Galatano
Greek Language School, Avra Parpos
HOPE, Donna Markis, Stacy Katsikaris
JOY, Jill Kovatsis
OCF, Peter Gavrilles, Chris Resmini



CHURCH SCHOOL

Welcome to St. Demetrios Church School. We are all committed to do our best in bringing our youth to Christ, in a nurturing, calm, respectful and playful environment.

We are trying to be good role models for our students, reaching their hearts, while we bring to reality the teachings of Jesus Christ. Through art, music, reading, writing, discussing, outreach and stewardship, we learn about our Christian faith.

This year, please take an interest in what your children are being taught in Church School. Ask and discuss with them what they learned. Try to incorporate their lessons into your family time. Always feel free to contact your children's teachers with any issues or even to help clarify a particular lesson.

We look forward to a wonderful year in Christ. Feel free to contact me via email at StDemetriosChurchSchool@verizon.net with any questions or concerns.

A few of our upcoming church school events include:

- October** **First grade bulletin board display**
- October 3** **Church School Classes; Church School Staff Meeting, 11:45 am**
- October 10** **Family Worship: No Church School**
- October 17** **Church School Classes**
- October 24** **Church School Classes**
- October 31** **Church School Classes**

If you have not registered you child (children) yet, please pick-up a registration form from the church and return it as soon as possible to Stavroula Gurguliatos, Church School Director.



GREEK LANGUAGE & CULTURAL SCHOOL



Our year is underway, and our classes are off to a wonderful start. Join us for an open house event on Oct. 6 at 5:30 pm. Meet your child's teacher and connect with other parents. We look forward to seeing all of our parents on this truly special day.

For details, please contact Avra Parpos at (508) 875-2103.

GREEK DANCING RETURNS!

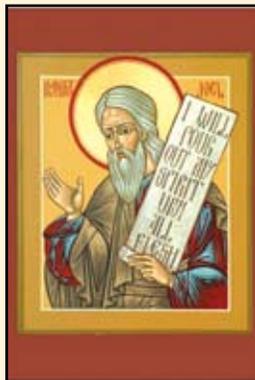
Please check the weekly bulletin for upcoming dates. All welcome!

Contact Margaret Talmers:
margaret.e.talmers@gmail.com or 617-323-4752.



SAINTLY LIVES

JOEL THE PROPHET COMMEMORATED OCTOBER 19



St. Joel's ministry flourished in Judah about 830 B.C. His primary message was of repentance and "homecoming" to the Lord. He was also inspired by God to look nearly nine hundred years into the future and witness the birth of the Church (Joel 2:28-32). This magnificent day that he foretold was the first Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, following the Resurrection of Jesus. Joel prophesied—and St. Peter quotes the Prophet in Acts 2:17-21—that God would "pour out of (His) Spirit on all flesh" and "that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Getting Practical: Talk to your child about the Prophets, how they were men driven by conscience to tell the truth in order to help God's people—and how sometimes they were attacked for being truthful. Let this lead to a discussion about how all of us will sometimes be unpopular if we tell the truth; point out that although this isn't easy, it brings us closer to God and connects us to the sacrifice of Jesus. We'll always feel better about our lives if we do the right thing!

...but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12)

YOUTH



ALTAR SERVERS: TRAINING DAY SUNDAY, NOV. 7, 12 – 1:30 PM

Last month our servers visited the 6th grade Church School classroom, spreading their enthusiasm for Altar service to our younger boys. Please save the date of Nov. 7 for a training session following Liturgy—this will be a very important program and all are highly encouraged to attend.

The program will begin with lunch, immediately after Church School, in the Fr. Manikas Library, after which our boys will move to the Church. Please contact Altar Chair Chris Kourlos (508.380.8220) with any questions.

OCTOBER SCHEDULE

ST. LAWRENCE: Oct. 3 & 17

Captain: Tom Resmini, Vice-Captains: Jason Theoharis & Luke Pashos
Walker Littlehale, Perry Maheras, Kosta Pappas, Alex Santangelo, Nick Spinale

ST. STEPHEN: Oct. 10 & 24

Captain: Lee Condakes, Vice Captain: Anthony Chirban
Alex Camp, Mike Gatzunis, Matt Gatzunis, Anthony Houhoulis, John Kambouris, Michael Stourmaras

“FAMILY NIGHTS” OCT. 1 AND NOV. 5

We look forward to another year of faith, fun and friendship with our 2010/11 Family Nights. This year’s theme will be “Lending A Helping Hand,” which will focus on building a spirit of outreach among our youth. To this end, our Oct. 1 guest speaker will be our own Kathy Bakes, who will share her excitement about a new outreach project—St. Demetrios “Helping Hands” at Chesterbrook Learning Center—in which we can all play a part. As always, HOPE, JOY and GOYA groups will enjoy age-specific sessions after our community dinner. It will be great to see friends old and new, and also plan to join us for our Nov. 5 event, when we’ll help Mrs. Savage with St. Nicholas Tree cards and have a chance to think about the “reason for the season.” Bring friends, neighbors and family—all welcome!

6:00: Welcome and Brief Worship Service

6:15-7:00: Community Dinner

7:00-8:00: Group Sessions and Dismissal

Each family is asked to bring juice boxes for donation to Chesterbrook—please do what you can to help us kick off this long-term outreach project!

Please confirm your meatless potluck offering with Gina Spencer: gina@pdillc.com.

GOYA Carwash & More



Hi Everyone! GOYA has had an exciting fall! Our carwash was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who had their car washed and to all our amazing GOYAns! We also had a great day at the Harvest for Hunger. Looking ahead to October, in addition to Family Night on the 1st, we have our first General Assembly on

Sunday the 3rd, and our first GOYA Friday on the 8th from 6 -9 pm. Hope to see everyone there!

Stacey Kourtis, President
staceykourtis@comcast.net

HOPE & JOY:

“Prayerful Pumpking Carving Event” Oct. 16!



Join us from 3–4:30 p.m. for this combined (HOPE/JOY) seasonal event that our children absolutely love and also learn from. Please bring carving tools for your family as well as a snack. \$5 donations per family are welcome to help

defray the costs of pumpkins and supplies. Contact our ministry leaders to help out and with questions:

HOPE (K–2nd)

Donna Markis:
dmarkis@boston.k12.ma.us

Stacy Katsikaris:
stacy.katsikaris@comcast.net

JOY (3rd–6th)

Jill Kovatsis: ja.k@verizon.net

“PUMPKIN PRAYER”

Dear God,

As I carve my pumpkin help me say this prayer:

Open my mind so I can learn about You;

Take away all my sin and forgive me for the wrong things I do.

Open my eyes so Your love I will see;

I’m so sorry for turning up my nose to all You’ve given me.

Open my ears so Your word I will hear;

Open my mouth so I can tell others You’re near.

Let Your light shine in all I say and do! Amen.

OCF: LOOKING FORWARD TO A YEAR OF FAITH, SERVICE AND FUN

Our unified St. Demetrios/Brandeis OCF enjoyed a kickoff movie night at the home of Peter Gavrilles last month (thanks, Peter!), and the group looks forward to a great fall/winter program. Peter is also our Parish Council representative this year, and we're thankful to him for fulfilling that role. October events include a planning session/volleyball night on the 6th (@St. Demetrios, 7 – 9 pm) and a discussion on the 20th (@Brandeis, 7 – 9 pm).

We're also working on a special project in coordination with the Middlesex County Sheriff's Association: we've promised to supply Sheriff DiPaola with 20 Thanksgiving dinners for Middlesex County veterans-in-need (5 more dinners than last year!) This awesome cause is close to our hearts and we hope you feel the same.

Will you help us with these offerings?

- 20 turkeys, frozen or fresh
- 80 canned/non-perishable sides: cranberry sauce, squash, stuffing, etc.
- 20 frozen/fresh pies
- Monetary donations to purchase any of the above

To donate or just learn about OCF, contact St. Demetrios Chair Peter Gavrilles (peter.gavrilles@maritime.edu), Brandeis President Kristina Yepez (klyepez@brandeis.edu), or Advisors Chris Resmini (chrisresmini@gmail.com) and Chris Kourlos (kourkat@comast.net).

YOUTH BASKETBALL: SWISH!



September's Ice Cream Social/Registration Event was amazing! Thanks to all our parents, players and parishioners for supporting. It was also great to see everyone for our parent/player meeting on the

29th, when we discussed the season, shot around and enjoyed a pizza dinner. While game schedules are still forthcoming, this month's practices are the 13th, 20th and 27th, 6:30 – 8:30 pm (please see your child's coach for details). If you haven't registered your son or daughter yet, please contact one of our coaches ASAP. Registration cost this season is the same as last year: \$35 per child. Thanks, and we look forward to a fantastic season.

Matt Little: mattlittle@northeastia.com
Nick Kakas: nkakas@comcast.net
Jack Markis: ejmarkis@markislaw.com
Jim Tsiantoulas: james.tsiantoulas@verizon.net

A Child's Vision

My child took a crayon
 In her little hand
 And started to draw
 As if by command

I looked on with pleasure
 But couldn't foresee
 What the few simple lines
 Were going to be.

What are you drawing?
 I asked, by and by.
 I'm making a picture
 Of God in the sky.

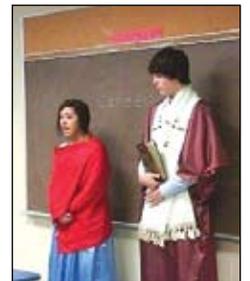
But nobody knows
 What God looks like,
 I sighed.
 They will when I'm
 finished
 She calmly replied.

—*Sherwin Kaufman*

"SAINTLY LIVES" WILL JOURNEY TO PEABODY DECEMBER 12



St. Anna



Saintly Lives players
 Barbara and Alex

After an excellent visit to our sister parish in Cranston, RI last spring, our Saintly Lives players will look forward to presenting at St. Vasileos in Peabody on the 12th, where Alex Santangelo and Barbara Cambas will present the lives of St. Basil and St. Anna, respectively. There's always room for more performers and supporting roles—please contact Fr. Alex to connect with this unique and creative ministry. Much help is needed in preparation for Dec. 12!



THIS WORLD OF OURS . . .



The Fall is a lovely time of the year. One thinks of the words of the Psalmist: "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament shows his handiwork." People leave the highways and turnpikes and go onto the country roads that display the splendors of the season. It is a sight to behold the hues and shades of red, orange, yellow and brown.

But Autumn is also a sad time of the year if we reflect that the trees and flowers lose their lovely foliage and seemingly fall asleep for the winter season. Yet, this is precisely what preserves the life of those plants. This is God's provision for the continuation of life.

And so this cycle in nature goes on, season upon season, year after year. We, too, are part of this vast cycle of life. The more we alienate ourselves from nature, the worse off we are. We are now reaping the bitter harvest of decades of pollution of the earth, the air and the water of our world. "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof," said King David long ago and we are slowly learning the lesson of preserving this blue planet of life that is but a speck in the vast universe.

The Church has always considered God's creation, now redeemed and restored, as sacred. Water is blessed. Food is blessed. Branches and palms are blessed. God breathed into man to give him life. Jesus breathed upon the Apostles giving them the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of sins.... Yes, indeed, this world bears the imprint of the Lord's glory and love.

Parish Hike to Noanet Peak



Senior Guild Outing



Philoctochos Board Pledge

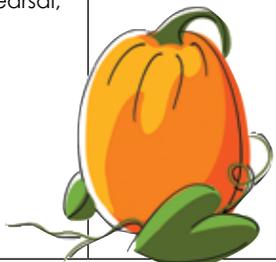




CALENDAR



OCTOBER 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Family Night, 6-8 pm	2 Metropolis Clergy Laity Conference
3 2nd Sunday of Luke Brown Bag Blitz Philoptochos Membership Tea GOYA General Assembly	4	5 Greek School, 4-6 pm Orthodox Life, 7 pm	6 St. Thomas Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am Senior Guild Luncheon Greek School Open House, 5:30 OCF Volleyball, 7-9 pm	7 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	8 GOYA Friday, 6-9 pm	9
10 3rd Sunday of Luke Buddy Walk	11	12 EPOCH Out- reach, 10:30 am Greek School, 4-6 pm Orthodox Life, 7 pm	13 Basketball Prac- tice, 6:30-8:30 pm Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm Philoptochos Board Meeting, 7:30 pm	14 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	15 Prosforo Workshop, 10 am-12 pm	16 Bingo at Hel- lenic Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 2-3:30 pm HOPE/JOY Prayerful Pump- kin Carving, 3-4:30 pm
17 Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council Teaching Liturgy	18 St. Luke Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am	19 Feast of St. Joel Greek School, 4-6 pm	20 Basketball Prac- tice, 6:30-8:30 pm OCF Discussion at Brandeis, 7-9 pm	21 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	22 Salvation Army Miracle Kitchen, 4-7 pm	23
24 - 6th Sunday of Luke St. Demetrios Luncheon	25 Vespers for St. Demetrios, 7 pm Vespers Reception	26 St. Demetrios Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 9 am Greek School, 4-6 pm	27 Basketball Prac- tice, 6:30-8:30 pm	28 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm	29	30 St. Demetrios Dinner-Dance at Radisson Hotel
31 - 5th Sunday of Luke						

STEWARDSHIP & PHILOPTOCHOS



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: GIVING WITH GENEROSITY & CHEER

Stewardship is all about taking care of our Church. In fact, many older texts interchange the word "steward" with "caretaker." Whether this care is through the donation of our time, our talents or our treasures doesn't really matter. What matters is that we take it upon ourselves to give freely and willingly. The Bible says, "So let each one give as he intends in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:7).

This is no different in modern times. Our Church needs our support. Our current Stewardship drive is currently behind last year's amount at the same time of year. To date we have received 390 pledges totaling \$330K. Of this we have collected approximately \$216K. Last year we had 425 pledges totaling \$368K. Unfortunately as much as we try to control expenses, some are fixed and cannot be changed. Please try and "catch up" on your pledge for 2010. If you still have not submitted a pledge card, we have plenty available in the Church office. Credit card payments are always accepted. Soon our 2011 pledge drive will kick off as well as the building fund campaign. Please stay tuned for more information and our new Stewardship section of the website which is in development.

As we look to the future of our Church, let's remember what it takes to maintain our parish. Our operating expenses are close to \$750,000 this year despite belt tightening. Our income is derived mostly from Stewardship while the balance comes from events such as the golf tournament, candles, trays, rental income (from the parish house) and other smaller items. Without a major fund raiser, and with Stewardship income decreased, how can the Church make up the difference? If everyone were to increase their Stewardship donation by only 10%, we would not face this situation. I know this is a lot to ask in challenging economic times. The St. Demetrios parish is not immune to the macroeconomic environment and we have to rely on our stewards to support the mission of the Church. Let's all dig a little deeper this year to insure our Church survives these times as it has in the past. No one else will do this for us. It's up to each and every one of us.

"You will never overcome God's generosity, even if you give away all that you have.... And however much you bring to him, always more remains. Nor will you give anything that is your own; for all things flow from God (St. Gregory the Theologian; Or 14.22).

—Stewardship Committee

A NIGHT OF DINNER AND DANCING

Our Philoptochos invites the entire St. Demetrios community to join us, as we work together, "Building On Our Faith," for a night of dinner and dancing:

Saturday, October 30, 2010

Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart Street, Boston

Cocktails at 5:30 pm, Dinner at 7:00 pm

Music by Ta Pethia

All proceeds from the event will benefit the Building Fund. Parishioners will be receiving formal invitations in the mail.

DRAWING DETAILS

(tickets on sale now):

1st Prize: 36 month, 10,000-mile (annual) lease, on a BMW 328i X-drive sedan; or \$15,000 cash.

2nd Prize: 46" Samsung LCD HDTV (\$1699 value).

3rd Prize: \$500.00 cash.



PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD MEETING:

October 13, 7:30 pm



PHILOPTOCHOS EVENTS



Oct. 3: Membership Tea. We invite you to attend our Membership Tea on Sunday, October 3, following the Divine Liturgy in the hall. A light lunch will be served. New members are welcome. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Brown Bag Blitz. The reprint of *The Greek Collections Cookbook* will be available for purchase (\$20.00) at the tea.

Oct. 25: St. Demetrios Vespers Reception. If you would like to donate baked goods, please contact Presbyteria Elaine at 508-359-7492.

Nov. 14: Charities Benefit Luncheon (Metropolis Philoptochos Board). Our theme for this special day is "The Giving Feast," featuring Executive Chef James Botsacos (Molyvos Restaurant, New York).

Granite Links Golf Club at Quarry Hills, Quincy, MA

12:30 pm, Reception; 2:00 pm, Luncheon

\$85.00 per person

(bring a canned/dry good to be donated to a local food bank)

If you are interested in attending, please contact Eugenia Kourlos at 508.881.2409 or kourkat@comcast.net.



UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOOKING FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS

Hosting a Fellowship Hour is a fun way to meet people and serve our Church community. All supplies are provided. If you can help on a Sunday please contact Mary Ellen Paravalos (781-349-8077) or Julie Kavaz (781-762-1647).

SENIOR GUILD

Liturgy and Luncheon on Oct. 6 Please plan to attend Liturgy, beginning at 9:30 am, celebrating St. Thomas the Apostle. Then stay and join us for lunch. All welcome – bring friends!



METROPOLIS CLERGY LAITY AT HELLENIC COLLEGE/HOLY CROSS, OCT. 2



Following up on the 2009 event at St. Demetrios, the parishes of our Metropolis will be gathering on the campus of our seminary for this year's conference (9 am – 3 pm; 50 Goddard Ave., Brookline). Vital information will be shared, and stimulating educational

sessions will be offered on everything from marriage & family to internet ministries. Please make this event a priority. Interested parishioners and ministry leaders should register with the Church office ASAP.

BABY SHOWER FOR PRESBYTERA BRANDY



All parishioners are invited to celebrate a new arrival for Fr. Alex & Presbyteria Brandy on Saturday, November 6 at 1 pm in the church social hall. Coffee and dessert will be served. Presbyteria Brandy is registered at Babies r' Us and Pottery Barn for Babies.

RSVP by October 29 to hosts:

Presbyteria Elaine Krommydas:
ekrommydas@comcast.net or 508 359-7492

Donna Markis: dmarkis@boston.k12.ma.us

Eugenia Kourlos: kourkat@comcast.net

May Georgakopoulos: mayjlau@gmail.com

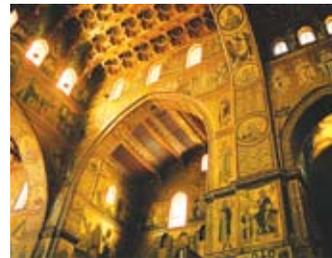


ST. MODESTOS PET BLESSING EVENT NOVEMBER 6



Join us from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (open-house/ come when you can) for this exciting annual event. All pets are welcome (furred, feathered or scaled!) to come for a special blessing, uniting an ancient Orthodox Christian tradition with our lives, right here, right now. Children without pets may bring their favorite stuffed animal. Hot cocoa and treats—for humans, dogs and cats—will be served. Representatives from local animal helping agencies will be on hand, as well as "Mighty Mouse" and other magnificent horses from the Middlesex Sheriff's Dept. Alex Poly, a parishioner and professional photographer, will again be on hand to snap that perfect holiday portrait of you and your pet! Open to the public—share the news with friends from work and neighbors. Contact Chris Resmini (chrisresmini@hotmail.com) or Peter Gavrilles (peter.gavrilles@maritime.edu) for details or to help.

ADULT EDUCATION



ORTHODOX LIFE MINISTRY

**"Come and See:
The Architecture
of Faith"**

Our mini-course on
the Saints continues

Oct. 5 & 12, 7-8:30 pm. It's not too late to join us for these fascinating nights with our own Dr. Jim Skedros. Our next series, "Come & See: the Architecture of Faith," will be led by Fr. Nick, Fr. Alex and special guests and will run from Nov. 2-Dec. 7. Specifics will follow in the November *Vine* and weekly bulletins. For all of our programs, no prior experience in biblical study or theology is needed. In addition to parishioners, friends, neighbors, and colleagues from work are more than welcome.

MEDIA, WITNESS AND OUTREACH



A NEW OUTREACH: ST. DEMETRIOS “HELPING HANDS” AT CHESTERBROOK LEARNING CENTER



For several months, St. Demetrios volunteers have been dialoguing with Project Bread, the Dept. of Education and other agencies about the need for “after school snacks” at local schools and community centers. Many children in the greater Boston area cannot go home after school and depend on after school programs to offer them constructive activities and simple nourishment before dinner—and many may not have that dinner to look forward to. Chesterbrook Learning Center (a Waltham organization supported by the Waltham Police Dept. and Bentley University) is just such an organization, and has asked us for help in providing simple, nourishing after school snacks and general supplies for its children. With the compassionate help and support of our parish family, we’re planning to launch “St. Demetrios Helping Hands” and do everything that we can to answer this call. In raising funds, seeking food donations, and the delivery of precious resources, we’re looking forward to the support of our youth organizations, family night participants and the leaders of our parish ministries. Parishioners and families are already jumping on board! Please join the effort by contacting Kathy Bakes (Katerina.bakes@gmail.com; 203.610.3088) and look for news on our November launch event. Visit Chesterbrook’s website to learn more: www.chesterbrookwaltham.org.

Special Appeal from Chesterbrook for October: Juiceboxes!

Please bring healthy juice boxes to the Church office, to Liturgy on Sundays, to Family Nights on Oct. 1 and Nov. 6—anytime! We’ll make sure they get to Chesterbrook. Thanks for helping us kick off this first month of service. In addition to the office, donations can be left with Fr. Alex.

PHILANTHROPY and SOCIAL ACTION

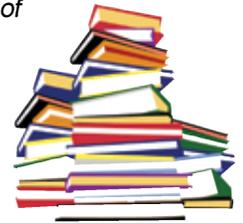


**BROWN BAG BLITZ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3:
BENEFITING THE SALVATION ARMY MIRACLE
KITCHEN!**

On the 3rd, OCF members will hand out those familiar brown bags to all of our parishioners. Our Oct./Nov. segment will benefit the Miracle Kitchen ministry, and our goal is to collect as many general, non-perishable items as possible. Thanks to all for your ongoing, generous and loving efforts. Contact Lydia Santangelo to get involved: lydiaeventspclst@aol.com.

ST. DEMETRIOS BOOKSTORE: A NEW OFFERING

Available now: *Greek Orthodox Churches of New England: The Metropolis of Boston & Its Parishes*.



This volume beautifully depicts, through photographs and thoughtful text, the 63 parishes of our Metropolis, including our own St. Demetrios Church. It is a handsome coffee-table book that will make a great gift.

SOPHIA KOUKOULAS AT OUR “REFLECTIONS” BLOG



This month, visit www.stdemetriosweston.org/blog/ to read about this summer’s service trip to New Orleans. Sophia Koukoulas, Barbara Cambas, and Marianne Cambas worked hard during their week in Tammany Parish. They helped construct a home for a needy family, and truly built bridges of faith and hope. Sophia’s article captures the spirit of their trip—check it out today!

NEIGHBOR BRIGADE

Our own Pam Washek instituted this helping organization, dedicated to the idea that “help is next door.” Chapter leaders and volunteers are needed. Learn more at: www.neighborbrigade.org.

MASS. DOWN SYNDROME CONGRESS’ 14TH ANNUAL “BUDDY WALK” OCTOBER 10



The funds raised help the MDSC fund important programs in the areas of education, research and advocacy for those with DS.



To join the effort, give or learn more, visit: www.mdsc.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS



Sunday, September 12

The Mavrikos Family,
in loving memory of
Catherine Mavrikos.

Bill and Evelyn Pavloglou,
in memory of Evelyn's
mother, Evangelia.

Sunday, September 26

Jane Bouyoukas, in loving
memory of her husband, Peter.

CONDOLENCES

Condolences are extended to John Spiliakos on the falling asleep of his father, Spilios, on August 26.

May his memory be eternal!

FUNERALS

Harriet Angus of Wellesley,
Sunday, August 22.

Betsy Cholakos of Arlington,
Monday, September 20.

May their memory be eternal!

BAPTISMS

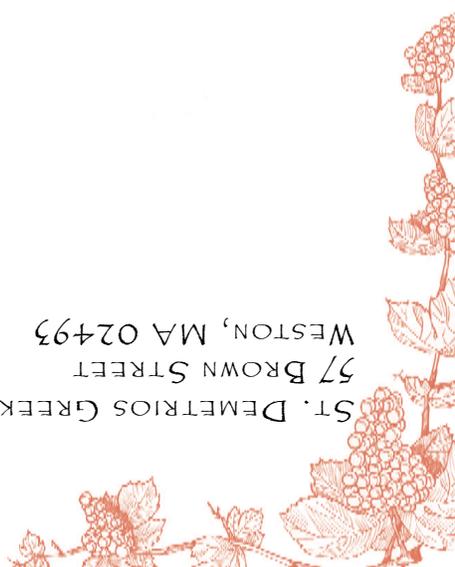
The son of Sophocles and Renee Sophocles was baptized on Saturday, September 11, and named Michael Sophocles. The sponsor was Nicholas Sophocles.

The daughter of Gary and Vasiliki Petralias was baptized on Sunday, September 19, and named Katherine Julia. The sponsors were Dean Spyropoulos and Christina Oster.

The daughter of Jonathan and Mia Allen was baptized on Saturday, September 25, and named Grace. The sponsor was John Bizanes.

The daughter of Nicholas and Christina Pappas was baptized on Sunday, September 26, and named Chloe Elizabeth. The sponsor was Elizabeth Koumantzelis.

*May God bless them
with His divine grace!*



ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
57 BROWN STREET
WESTON, MA 02493