

The Orator

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

(USPS 018-314)



Volume 33, Issue 12

**DECEMBER
2011**

In This Issue

Liturgical Schedule
December Calendar
Letter from the Parish
Council President
Fall General Assembly
Vasilopita Pre-orders
Philoptochos Turkey/Ham
Raffle
AHEPA Canned Food
Drive
Stewardship Activities

2011 - 2012

Parish Council Members

Christopher Kime
President

Phil Hieger
Vice President

Paul Adamopoulos
Treasurer

George Haratsis
Secretary

Shelia Kime

Louis Papalioidis

Nina Spears

Angelo Spelios

Aaron Young



SAINT DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

2020 NW 21ST STREET FORT WORTH, TX 76164

Tel: 817-626-5578 Emergency: Chris Kime (817) 253-5404
or Phil Hieger (817) 564-5717

Fax: 817-626-5073

E-mail: stdemetrios@sbcglobal.net

orator.stdemetrios@gmail.com

Web: www.stdemetrios.net

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Kaye Riopelle, Parish Assistant



Church Ministries

Acolytes

AHEPA

George Vardakis
817-377-8363

Alpha Omega

Mary Galanis
817-377-4060

Bookstore / Choir / Psalti

Youth Choir

Andrea Alexandrides
817-750-2536

Daughters of Penelope

Marty Martsukos
817-624-9526

Greek School

Marina Beasley
817-732-4343

Helping Hands

Sonya Kallinikos
817-656-3029

Hope/JOY

Sonya Kallinikos
817-656-3029

Philoptochos

Tina Young
817-456-7476

Stewardship

Melissa Adamopoulos
817-307-4995

Sunday School

Sonya Kallinikos
817-656-3029

December Worship Schedule

December 2011

| Orthros (Sun) 9:00 am | Divine Liturgy (Sun) 10:00 am

A Letter from the Parish Council President

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

We find ourselves in the middle of the holiday season where it is easy to be distracted by the worldly cares of this life. It is also the time of year that Orthodox Christians affirm their commitment to Christ's Church through our Stewardship.

What a dichotomy.

Last week, Paul Adamopoulos shared the beautiful commentary on how his family is approaching their Stewardship this year. Each year, we hear at least one homily from the pulpit, but it was refreshing to listen to a layperson discuss his view on the topic.

Here is what stuck out to me:

1. We should consider our commitment with great care (prayerfully).
2. Our Stewardship should be sacrificial
3. Where is Christ in our priorities?

This year our Stewardship drive is more important than ever before. We have requested a full-time Priest and we must demonstrate that we are truly committed to making this happen.

What does this mean? It means, we must all find a way to be sacrificial Stewards and increase our gifts back to God.

Following is the breakdown of our Stewardship giving in 2011.

Level	# 2011 Stewards	Wkly average
<100	35	
100	26	\$2
250	16	\$5
500	18	\$10
750	5	\$15
1000	12	\$20
2000	6	\$40
3000	4	\$60
5000	5	\$100
7500	2	\$150
10000	0	\$200

Have you ever stopped to consider that a generous giver of \$500/year gives \$10/week? When I think in those terms, it makes me realize that a small weekly increase would add up to a tremendous increase for the year. Would one really miss an extra \$10 or \$20 each week? Doubtful.

There are certainly those who are giving as much as they can. However, for the rest, I would like to challenge you to try and make a sacrifice and move up two levels above your 2011 Stewardship pledge. Is this possible? Yes, for a sacrificial giver.

Look at the weekly contribution and I think most will see that the difference will be very palatable. But, think about the huge impact it will have on Saint Demetrios.

We can afford a full-time Priest, fully fund Sunday School, GOYA, Hope, and Joy. We could pay off our mortgage quickly and use those funds to truly serve all the needs of our parish and the greater community. We can become the Church God expects and our forefathers envisioned.

If you have the ability to return more to God, please do. I am confident that you will not miss the increase. Instead, God promises that you cannot "out give" Him. You will be blessed.

Consider your commitment seriously, with great thought and prayer.

Help Saint Demetrios deliver the Orthodox Faith to our Parishioners and community at large, today and into the future.

May God bless you with peace and joy this Nativity season. In Christ,

Chris

FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sunday, December 11, 2011

Following the Divine Liturgy, in the Community Center

All Stewards Are Requested To Attend

IN MEMORY OF LEWIS A. "BUCK" NATION

It is with great appreciation and deep emotion that I sincerely thank our many friends in our community for your kindness, prayers, visits, phone calls, food, florals, cards and beautiful messages in memory of Buck. He truly loved our community – the church, its ministries, being a participant, a supporter and his friends.

Mary Nation

UNITED WE STAND

Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a way of life, which acknowledges accountability, reverence, and responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote spiritual growth and strengthen faith. Becoming a Steward begins when we believe in God, to whom we give our love, loyalty and trust and act on those beliefs. As Stewards, we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from Him. Stewardship calls on the faithful to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts with which they have been blessed.

Parishioners of the community are invited to participate during the months of November and December as we contemplate our future with hope. Join us following Divine Liturgy as we explore and reflect on how we can participate in the ministries of our church with our time, talent, and treasure.

November 20: *"Time, Talent, and Treasure"*

December 4: *"Nuts and Bolts"*

December 11: *"Ministries for Our Future" and
"Get Your Card...It's Your Call"*

December 18: **STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY-**
Return your cards

January 2012: *Stewardship Celebration*

Let us, through attendance and attention,
strive to commit ourselves to our offerings
back to our Lord.

Stewardship Committee:

Melissa Adamopoulos	Lemonia Shaw
Paul Adamopoulos	Tony Xenios
Marina Beasley	Nick Tsumpis
Christine Panagopoulos	Stephanie Tsumpis

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 3, 2011

Vespers @ 5pm

Sunday, December 4, 2011

10th Sunday of Luke

Orthros @ 9am

Divine Liturgy @ 10am

Saturday, December 10, 2011

Vespers @ 5pm

Sunday, December 11, 2011

11th Sunday of Luke

Orthros @ 9am

Divine Liturgy @ 10am

Saturday, December 17, 2011

Vespers @ 5pm

Sunday, December 18, 2011

Sunday Before Nativity

Orthros @ 9am

Divine Liturgy @ 10am

Saturday, December 24th, 2010

Christmas Eve

Vesperal Liturgy @ 5pm

Saturday, December 25th, 2010

Nativity of Christ

Orthros @ 9am

Divine Liturgy @ 10am

VISITATIONS AND CONFESSION

Father Bitá will be at the church each Saturday at 9:30am- 11:00am. Father will also be with us every weekend except for New Year's. We are trying to get the Metropolis to send us a Priest for that Sunday as well.

For visitations, including house blessings, Parishioners need to contact the office between 9-1 weekdays to get on the list. The office assistant will confer with Father Bitá and confirm with each person.



**AHEPA
Christmas Canned Food Drive
Benefitting the Tarrant Area Food Bank**

**Please Donate Your Unopened Dry Canned Goods
See Deposit Boxes Throughout St. Demetrios**

GOYA NEWS

Sunday, December 18th all Goyans will gather after church to deliver Christmas Treats and do Caroling for our beloved shut-ins. We currently have a small list of church parishioners who cannot get out so easily these days to visit. If you would like to check and see if one of your loved ones is on the list or if you have someone to add to our list, please contact Marina Beasley, 817-475-9075

Following our philanthropic activity we will have our Christmas Party hosted by the Beasleys, 5:00 pm at 4717 Harley, Fort Worth, 76107. Please bring a gift suitable for boy or girl, ages 12-18, \$20 or less to exchange in our "Chinese/Greek Gift Exchange" Please RSVP to Lemonia, 817-475-4332.



ORDER YOUR VASILOPITA NOW!!!

\$10 round loaf

Please contact Anna Panagopoulos or Laverne Keklen to place your order by December 26

The Philoptochos Turkey and Ham Raffle will take place on Sunday, December 18. See a Philoptochos member to purchase your raffle tickets today!



Philoptochos will hold their holiday party on Saturday, December 10, 10:00am, at the home of Mary Kime. MirAvanti at Ridgmar, 6755 Ridgmar Boulevard, Fort Worth, TX 76116. Please bring 2 non-perishable food items as a donation to the Tarrant Area Food Bank. If you would like to be added to the Philoptochos email list, please email LaVerne Keklen at alex@vrfmail.com.



***8th ANNUAL AHEPA
VALENTINE'S DANCE***

***SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 11th 2012
7 PM***

**ST. DEMETRIOS COMMUNITY CENTER
2020 NW 21ST STREET**

**GREEK AND AMERICAN MUSIC
HORS D'OEUVRES
REFRESHMENTS
PRIZES**

Angelo Spelios(angelo_spelios@yahoo.com)
George Vardakis (gwardakis1@att.net)
Or Any AHEPA Member for More Information

Sponsored by the Fort Worth Order of AHEPA
Chapter 19
All Proceeds Contributed to the AHEPA Chapter 19
Scholarship Fund

The Orator Volume 33 Issue 12

Monthly Newsletter of
St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church



2020 NW 21st Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76164-7708

Phone: 817-626-5578

Fax: 817-626-5073

Email: stdemetrios@sbcglobal.net
www.stdemetrios.net

PERIODICALS
(#018-314)
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FORT WORTH, TX

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO
THE ORATOR 2020 NW 21st St. Fort Worth, TX 76164-7708

Sunday Readings

December 2011

Dec 4 –	10th Sunday of Luke	Epistle: Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5 Gospel: Luke 13:10-17
Dec 11 –	11th Sunday of Luke	Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11 Gospel: Luke 14:16-24; Matt. 22:14
Dec 18 –	Sunday before Nativity	Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40 Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25
Dec 25 –	Holy Nativity	Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7 Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12