

St. Demetrios

Greek Orthodox Church

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Saginaw, MI 48603

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Parish Priest

Fr. Timothy Cook (517) 515-9565

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios

Under the Spiritual Jurisdiction of the

Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople

His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch

Bartholomew I

2014/15 Parish Council

President - Megan Rodriguez (2016)

Vice Pres. - Dr. David Nichols (2016)

Treasurer - Dennis Ostler (2016)

Secretary - Marge Paron (2017)

Dr. Thomas Barris (2016)

Dr. Andrew Bazakis (2017)

Bill Delong (2016)

Yvonne Delong (2016)

Soula Economou (2017)

Eleni Morris (2016)

Joanie Porchia (2017)

Eftihios Siradakis (2016)

Parish Ministries & Organizations

Altar Boy Advisor

Panayiotis Metropoulos

Chanters

Ted Veremis Andreas Skoutelas

Maria Metropoulos

Dr. Andy Bazakis

Choir

Director - Toula Brown

Asst. Director - Elan Nichols

Philoptochos President

Virginia Ulmer

Sunday School Director

Tena Mendyk

Sunday School Directors

Alexia & Evan Houpis

AHEPA President

George Zaharopoulos

Daughters of Penelope President

Vicki Clifford

GOYA Advisors

Dr. Andrew Bazakis

Bessie Bone

Dance Group Directors

Megan Sarantis-Rodriguez

Alexander Sarantis & Jacob Bone

Diakonia Editor

Megan Sarantis-Rodriguez

DIAKONIA

MAY 2016



REMEMBER THE JOY

By: Fr. Timothy Cook

According to the Desert Fathers, there is a miracle that is greater even than raising the dead, and that is to see and to know our own sinfulness. This is the sight that we strive for throughout Lent, as we seek through fasting, prayer, and almsgiving to deny ourselves, love God, and to love our neighbor. We do this all the time, but each year we intensify our efforts during Lent and Holy Week, when we literally walk with Christ through His ministry all the way to the Cross, down to Hades, and thus to the glorious and life-giving Resurrection at Pascha. As we enter and pass through Lent, very often we speak only of the struggle: of the tears, the pain, and the frustration we feel as we come to know, piece by piece and Lent by Lent, our own sinfulness. But we should also remember joy.

We do not often speak of joy during Lent, and yet many of my greatest, most beautiful, and most joyous memories are from Lent and Holy Week, past and present. This may seem strange, because the Lenten season is also the hardest time, set aside for the most bitter struggles. Before we experience the Resurrection, we must suffer the Cross. This is the great mystery of our salvation: that we come only to joy through the sorrow of repentance. The Cross and the Resurrection go together, neither can exist without the other. We are able to bear our sorrow because of the joy of our salvation, and the joy of our salvation is made more full by the sorrow of our repentance. The sorrow of repentance and the joy of the Resurrection are simultaneously ever-present in the life of a Christian.

And so when we invite our family and friends to "come and see" our Church, we are not inviting them to come see how tough we are because we fast and have longer services, nor are we inviting them to add another cultural experience to their mental scrapbook. We are inviting them to "come and see" the story behind the teaching of the Apostles and the sufferings of the Martyrs, the source of our life, our strength, and our joy. We are inviting them to see the joy of Christ, the light of Pascha, the glory of the Resurrection.

And so I say to you, as St. Chrysostom reminds us in his Paschal homily: "Enter you all into the joy of your Lord; and receive your reward, both the first, and likewise the second. You rich and poor together, hold high festival. You sober and you heedless, honor the day. Rejoice today, both you who have fasted and you who have disregarded the fast. The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously. The calf is fatted; let no one go hungry away." Let those who have labored rejoice together with those who have not labored, so that seeing the joy they might understand the mystery, that through repentance we come to joy, and by joy we are sustained for repentance.

Christ is Risen!



PARISH COUNCIL

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Saginaw, Michigan is to promote the tenets of Orthodox Christianity in the community through ministry, evangelism and spiritual leadership.

VISION OF OUR PARISH

To worship God, Fellowship with One Another,
and to Serve the World.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sunday, May 15th

(After Church Services)

Hellenic Center

Prosforon & Fellowship Schedule

- May 1 Prosforon: Kathy Katsiouras
Fellowship: Easter Egg Hunt
- May 8 Prosforon: Janice Kato
Fellowship: Jim & Mini Zubulake
- May 16 Prosforon: Elaine Kimmerly
Fellowship: Andy & Annie Bazakis
- May 23 Prosforon: Mary Kokas
Fellowship: Nick & Grace Makrianis
- May 30 Prosforon: Roula Koutras
Fellowship: Majed & Rheame Sahouri



Many thanks to all the women who prepare the Prosforon each week. It is truly an important offering for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. If you are unable to prepare Prosforon for your scheduled Sunday, please contact the church office promptly.



ALTAR VIGIL CANDLES

3/20 - In Loving Memory of Reverend Gregory and Presbyteria Alexandra by Lou & Soula Economou

3/20 - In Loving Memory of Reverend and Presbyteria Economou, Papou & YiaYia by Stephanie & Mike Koulouninos

3/20 - In Memory of all departed by Ted Veremis

3/27 - In Memory Jordan by Anna Stoumbos

3/20 - In Memory of all departed by Matina Ioannides

4/10 - In Memory of Lucille Bohmer, friend of the Musulin family

4/10 - In Memory of Alda Nichols by Eddie & Gabriella Economous

4/17 - For Lou Economou, to give thanks to the Lord for good health, by his family



**GREEK FESTIVAL
BAKING SCHEDULE
FOR MAY**

**Monday, May 16th
9 a.m. - Melomakarona**



RAFFLE TICKETS

To Benefit the Ahepa/DoP District 10 Educational Scholarship Foundation

**DONATION \$10 per ticket or
7 tickets for \$50**

Many of our youth have received these scholarships over the years and we need to support this worthy cause. To purchase ticket(s) contact Vicki Clifford at veclifford@icloud.com or (989)751- 5610

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Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
P A I D
Saginaw, MI
Permit # 107

Church Office Hours:
9a.m. - 1p.m. Tues. & Thurs.
Office # 989-793-8822
Email Address:
stdemetriosmi@gmail.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PHILOPTOCHOS CORNER

We will be meeting at the church fellowship hall on Thursday, April 28th at 9:00 am to prepare the Easter eggs. Barbara Milionis and Eleni Morris always get there early to dye the eggs and other Philoptochos members wrap them in netting so that Father Tim can pass them out to the congregation following the Paschal Liturgy.

On Holy Friday, April 29th, 9:00 am, we will meet at the church to decorate the Epitaphion with flowers. We continue to work through the Royal Hours service...stopping to kneel and pray when appropriate. If you have never volunteered for this, you are truly missing out on a spiritual experience!!

I want to take this opportunity to thank Eleni Morris for all of her hard work during the lenten season. Please notice the 2 pillars that are in front of the altar. She purchased, painted and distressed them so that we now have a place to place flowers. She decorates all of the appropriate icons. She guides us through the Epitaphion decorating. She is an amazing talented person and willingly shares her talents...she is a true Christian! So, thank you Eleni...for your dedication not only during this blessed season but anytime throughout the year that your services are needed!

Also...congratulations to Gladys Zubulake on her retirement from SVSU. Several of us had the pleasure of attending one of her retirement parties at the college and it was such a joy to hear all the accolades bestowed upon her by her colleagues for her exceptional career there. Bravo, Gladys!!

Get your aprons on, ladies! We have been asked to bake koulouria for the Paschal meal which follows the Paschal Liturgy on May 1st at midnight. If we each bake a couple of dozen koulouria, we will have plenty. This is what we've all been looking forward to...the resurrection of Christ! Let's all join together in prayer and thanksgiving at this beautiful service and enjoy the fellowship of our church family following the service.

May our Holy Week be filled with blessings,

Virginia Ulmer
President

Saint Demetrios Calendar of Events • May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ✠ PASCHA!! Acts 1:1-8 John 1:1-17 Paschal Liturgy (12 am) Paschal meal (2:30 am) Agape Vespers (11:00 am) Easter Egg Hunt	2 Bright Monday Great Martyr George Hebrews 13:7-16 Matthew 5:14-19 Orthros (9:00 am) Divine Liturgy (10:00 am)	3 Bright Tuesday Peter the Wonderworker Raphael, Nicholas, Irene Acts 2:14-21 Luke 24:12-35	4 Bright Wednesday Pelagia the Nun-Martyr Hilarion the Wonderworker Acts 2:22-38 John 1:35-52	5 Bright Thursday Irene of Thessaloniki Neophytos, Gaius, & Caianus Acts 2:38-43 John 3:1-15	6 Bright Friday The Life-Giving Font Job the Prophet Acts 3:1-8 John 2:12-22 Orthros (9:00 am) Divine Liturgy (10:00 am)	7 ♦ Bright Saturday Commemoration of the Precious Cross Cyril of Jerusalem Acts 3:11-16 John 3:22-33 Great Vespers (5:00pm)
8 ✠ Sunday of Thomas John the Theologian 1 John 1:1-7 John 20:19-31 Orthros (8:50am) Divine Liturgy (10:00am)	9 Isaiah the Prophet Christopher the Martyr Acts 3:19-26 John 2:1-11	10 Simon the Zealot & Apostle Laurence of Egypt 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Luke 6:12-19	11 ☩ Renewal of Constantinople Mokios the Holy Martyr Acts 4:13-22 John 5:17-24	12 Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyprus Germanos, Pat. of Constan. Acts 4:23-31 John 5:24-30	13 ☩ Glykeria of Heraclia Sergios the Confessor Acts 5:1-11 John 5:30-47; 6:1-2	14 ♦ Isidore the Martyr of Chios Hieromartyr Therapon Acts 5:21-32 John 6:14-27 Children's Choir (3:00 pm) Great Vespers (5:00pm)
15 ✠ Sunday of the Myrrhbearers Pachomios, Great Martyr Acts 6:1-7 Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8 Orthros (8:50am) Divine Liturgy (10:00am) General Assembly	16 Theodoros the Sanctified Acts 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60 John 4:46-54 Festival Baking Melamakarona (9:00 am) Parish Council Mtg. (7 pm)	17 Andronikos Junia the Martyr Nectarius of Varlaam Acts 8:5-17 John 6:27-33	18 ☩ Peter, Dionysius, Andrew, Paul Julian the Martyr Acts 8:18-25 John 6:35-39	19 Patrikios, Bp. of Proussa Memnon the Wonderworker Acts 8:26-39 John 6:40-44	20 ☩ Thallelaios & Companions Mark the Hermit Acts 8:40; 9:1-19 John 6:548-54	21 ♦ Sts. Constantine & Helen Acts 26:1, 12:20 John 10:1-9 Mt. Pleasant Liturgy (10 am) Children's Choir (3:00 pm) Great Vespers (5:00pm)
22 ✠ Sunday of the Paralytic Acts 9:32-42 John 5:1-15 Orthros (8:50am) Divine Liturgy (10:00am) Sunday School Graduation Elementary Dance	23 Michael, Bishop of Synada Mary the Myrrhbearer Acts 10:1-16 John 6:56-69	24 Symeon the Stylite Vincent of Lerins Acts 10:21-33 John 7:1-13	25 ☩ Mid-Pentecost Third Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist Therapon, Bp. of Cyprus 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 Matthew 11:2-15	26 Carpos & Alphaeus of the Seventy Alexandros of Thessaloniki 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 John 8:12-20	27 ☩ Hieromartyr Helladios John the Russian of Evia Acts 10:44-48; 11:1-10 John 8:21-30	28 ♦ Eutyches, Bp. of Melitene Nikitas, Bp. of Chalcedon Acts 12:1-11 John 8:31-42 Great Vespers (5:00pm)
29 ✠ Sunday of the Samaritan Woman Theodosia of Tyre Acts 9:32-42 John 5:1-15 Orthros (8:50am) Divine Liturgy (10:00am)	30 Isaakios of Dalmatos Emmelia, mother of St. Basil Acts 10:1-16 John 6:56-69 Cemetery Visits (1:00 pm) Memorial Day Cookout (4:00 pm)	31 Hermias, Martyr at Comana Eusebius & Haralambos Acts 10:21-33 John 7:1-13				

• Shaded days denote a fast day. ✠ denotes a Liturgy ♦ Great Vespers/Compline ❖ Akathist/Paraklesis ✂ Presanctified Liturgy ☩ fish/wine/oil allowed ☩ wine/oil allowed

Join your
St. Demetrios Family
for a....

Memorial Day

COOKOUT!

**Monday, May 30
Hellenic Center**

4 p.m.

We'll provide the burgers, dogs, &
lemonade. Just bring a dish to pass!

