



December 2025
USPS 8048, No 12

Office Hours

9:30 am - 4:00 pm
Monday - Friday

Phone: 206-631-2500
Fax: 206-631-2550

saintdemetrios.com

Parish Directory

Rev. Fr. Photios Dumont
Proistamenos
206-631-2501
frphotios@saintdemetrios.com

Fr. Spyridon Rice
Assistant Priest
206-631-2502
frspyridon@saintdemetrios.com

Dn. Perry Angelos
Deacon
425-652-2983
Angelos3@msn.com

Chris Kouldukis
Director of Music Ministry
ckouldukis@saintdemetrios.com

Johanna Rios
Parish Administrator
206-631-2500
jrios@saintdemetrios.com

Maria Barbas
Financial/Stewardship Admin
206-631-2505
mbarbas@saintdemetrios.com

Tedros Habte-Mezengi
Custodian

Demetri Themelis
Parish Council President
pcpresident@saintdemetrios.com

Paula Charuhas-Macris
Sunday School Director
pmcmacris@gmail.com

Pam Plumis, Emilie John
Philoptochos Co-Presidents
pplumis@comcast.net,
emiliejohn@gmail.com

The Orthodox Way

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SAINT DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Mission Statement: Loving God and One Another in Spirit and in Truth

Preparing the Family for the Nativity of Christ: Living the Advent Fast in the Orthodox Home

The season of the Nativity Fast—known in the Orthodox Church as the “Advent Fast”—is a sacred gift, an invitation for every family to re-enter the mystery of Christ’s coming into the world. Far more than a countdown to December 25, this period is a forty-day pilgrimage into humility, repentance, and joyful expectation. For Orthodox Christians, the Fast is not meant to be merely dietary or external; it is a spiritual workshop in the home, a time for parents and children alike to prepare a dwelling place in their hearts for the incarnate Lord. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us, “The home is a little Church,” and thus the entire household is called to participate in the journey toward Bethlehem.

Scripture continually urges believers to prepare themselves inwardly for the Lord’s coming. The prophet Isaiah cries, “Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God” (Isaiah 40:3). Though originally spoken in anticipation of the Messiah’s arrival, these words are lived anew each Advent season. The Orthodox family heeds this call by striving to “make straight” the pathways of the heart through prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and the cultivation of peace within the home.

The Nativity Fast begins each year on November 15 and continues until the Feast of the Nativity. While its prescriptions are milder than the Great Fast, it is nonetheless a holy season of restraint, watchfulness, and deliberate detachment from excess. Families are encouraged to understand fasting not as deprivation but as preparation. As St. Basil the Great teaches, “Fasting gives birth to prophets and strengthens the powerful; fasting makes lawgivers wise.” The Father’s insight reveals fasting as a gift capable of forming virtue, wisdom, and spiritual clarity.

For young children, fasting must always be approached with gentleness and discernment. The goal is never legalism, but formation. Parents may explain that we fast because fasting “makes room” in our hearts for Christ by loosening our attachment to foods, habits, and comforts that often distract us. St. John Climacus offers guidance: “Do not think that the fast consists only in eating rarely; no, the true fast is the removal of evil deeds.” Thus, families are invited to emphasize fasting of the tongue—avoiding anger, gossip, and harsh words—as well as fasting of the heart from resentments and selfishness.

When practiced with peace and consistency, fasting unites the home. Shared meals, simple menus, and intentional choices cultivate solidarity and mindfulness. Each member becomes aware that the whole household is walking toward the cave in Bethlehem together.

The Nativity Fast is also a call to deepen prayer within the family. In the Gospel of Luke, the Lord says, “Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning” (Luke 12:35). Prayer becomes the oil that keeps the lamps of faith bright as we await the coming of the Light of the world.

Families may set aside an evening each week for special prayer—lighting a candle before the icon of the Nativity, reading the daily Scripture readings from the Psalter or the Prophets, and chanting or singing the hymn “Christ is Born! Glorify Him!” Children often treasure these moments of beauty, and they form memories that will anchor their faith for years to come.

The Fathers emphasize that prayer is not merely words but a disposition of the heart. St. Theophan the Recluse writes, “Stand with the mind in the heart before God, and remain there constantly.” Even brief prayers spoken throughout the day—“Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me”—help transform the home into a place of continual remembrance of God. As December 25 approaches, these prayers weave a thread of anticipation through the daily life of the family.

Fasting and prayer are incomplete without almsgiving. The Apostle Paul exhorts, “Let all that you do be done in love” (1 Corinthians 16:14). The Nativity Fast is a time for families to practice generosity in Christ’s name—giving to the poor, visiting the sick, helping neighbors, and performing acts of service quietly and joyfully.

St. John Chrysostom insists, “If you wish to honor the Body of Christ, do not despise Him when He is naked. Do not honor Him here with silken garments while neglecting Him outside, suffering cold and nakedness.” The Nativity Fast provides a concrete opportunity for families to teach children that the celebration of Christ’s birth must always be linked to compassion for those in need. Setting aside toys, clothing, or food to donate, or volunteering together as a family, becomes a living icon of God’s love entering the world.

Participation in the liturgical life of the Church is at the heart of Advent preparation. The services of the season—especially the forefeast hymns and the Royal Hours—immerse families in the theology of the Incarnation. The Church’s hymnography reveals the mystery: “Make ready, O Bethlehem, for Eden has been opened for all! Prepare yourself, O Ephratha, for the Tree of Life blossoms forth from the Virgin in the cave!”

In the home, families may prepare an Advent wreath or set up an icon corner featuring the icon of the Nativity. As the fast progresses, parents can share stories of the saints commemorated during this season—St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, St. Spyridon, St. Herman of Alaska—showing children how holiness radiates Christ’s light.

Orthodox tradition is profoundly incarnational; physical actions teach spiritual truths. The baking of prosphora, the making of kolyva, or even the crafting of homemade Christmas ornaments all help children understand that the faith is lived and embodied.

-Continued on page 24-

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church - 2100 Boyer Ave E, Seattle, WA 98112

The Orthodox Way is published monthly. Parishioners who wish to contribute content or announcements are asked to email information to info@saintdemetrios.com by the 20th of the month.

Saint Demetrios reserves the right to edit, alter, or reject any content.



Memorials & Candles

Sunday School Psalter Group for the Nativity Fast	3
Youth Director Job Opening	4
OCMC Support a Priest	5
Philoptochos	6
Philoptochos Men Who Cook Fundraiser	7
Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon	8
HOPE	9
Christmas Card	10
Bookstore Yiayias & Friends Papouthes	11
2025 Stewards	12-14
November Calendar	14
Greek Cookbook	16

November 2:

A memorial service was offered in loving memory of **Presbytera Artemis Demopoulos** by her family.

November 23:

Two Holy Altar Table vigil lights were offered in loving memory of **Demetrios Begleris** (seventeen years since his passing) and **Eula Begleris** (forty-five years since her passing), by their daughters,

Renee Knowles, Stephanie Lembesis and Elaine Laurent.

A Holy Altar Table vigil light was offered in loving memory of **Constantinos Mitalas** (two years since his passing), by his wife, Paula, his children, Maria, Andy and Niko and grandchildren.

November 30:

A one-year memorial service and the social hour were offered in loving memory of **Christina Meletis**, by her children, Alexia, Steve and Maria.

A memorial service was offered in loving memory **Petros Farmasonis** (forty days since his passing) by his children Nicolette and Faye Farmasonis and their families.

A Holy Altar Vigil Light is offered in loving memory of **Vasilios Lazarou** (two years since his passing), by his wife, Emorfia Lazarou, his children (George, Voula, Pete and Blue) and grandchildren.

December 7:

A one-year memorial, a Holy Altar Table vigil light and the social hour are offered in loving memory of **Harold Andrew Kusulos** by his daughters Maria, Angela, and Elaine, and his grandchildren.

A memorial service is offered in loving memory of **Spencer Michael Lathrop** (three years since his passing) by his mother and step-father, Karen and Tino Theoharatos and his sister, Christine and Nate Rudd and nephews Oliver and Charlie.

A one-year memorial service is offered in loving memory of **Gabriel Daoura** by his wife May Daoura, sons Dr. Nick, Marco, Daniel and families.

A Holy Altar vigil light is offered in loving memory of **Betty George Kusulos** (twenty nine years since her passing), by her daughters Maria, Angela and Elaine, and her grandchildren.

Two Holy Altar Table vigil lights are offered in loving memory of

Konstandinos (twenty three years since his passing) and **Panayiota Makris** (sixteen years since her passing) by their niece and nephew Paula and Chris Macris.

December 12:

A Holy Altar Table vigil light is offered in loving memory of **Spiro Dino Todoulos** in honor of his name day by his wife, Niki Todoulos and his children, Haroula Todoulos, Effie and Nick Tornetta and grandson, Demetri.

December 14:

A one-year memorial service and the social hour are offered in loving memory of **Peter Stavros**, by his wife, Maria Stavros and family.

A 24-year memorial service is offered in loving memory of **Peter Economou** by his wife Mary and family.

A two-year memorial service is offered in loving memory of **Alex Hatziantoniou** by George Hatziantoniou and Elizabeth Economou Hatziantoniou, and Christos (son of Alex).

A Holy Altar Table vigil light is offered in loving memory of **Mary Cotton** (fourteen years since her passing), by her daughter Barbara.

A Holy Altar Table vigil light is offered in loving memory of **George Stamolis** (one year since his passing), by his godson, Chris Macris.

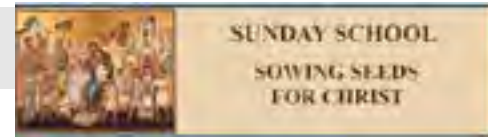
December 21:

Three Holy Altar Table vigil lights are offered in loving memory of **Haralambos and Margaret Delimitros** (twenty years and sixty-six years since their passing) and **Jim Delimitros** (two months since his passing) by Tom Delimitros and Phyllis Delimitros Steen.

December 28:

A memorial service and the social hour are offered in loving memory of **Theodore Kaltsounis** (ten years since his passing) and **Sofia Tobe** (one year since her passing) by his wife and her mother Maria and family.

Sunday School Update



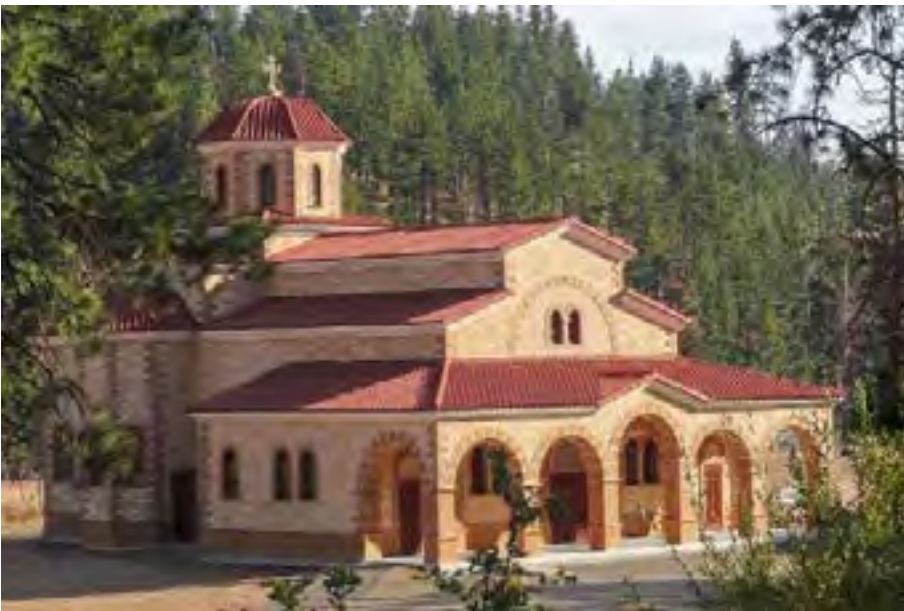
Sunday School is sponsoring a “Happy Birthday, Jesus” party on **December 14**, during Sunday School. We’ll hear the Christmas story, sing carols, and enjoy Lenten refreshments as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!



Also, join us on **December 21** for our annual Sunday School Christmas Pageant, The Christmas Story, following Liturgy.

No class on Sunday, **December 28**.
Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Sunday School 2025 Christmas Service Project



Our Sunday School Christmas Service Project is raising funds for the St. John the Forerunner Greek Orthodox Monastery in Goldendale, WA. Founded in 1995 by three nuns from Greece, St. John’s currently has 20 nuns and novices. The monastery supports itself solely by the handiwork of the sisters and donations. The sisters practice the traditional arts of the Orthodox church including creating Byzantine icons, knotting prayer ropes, making incense, and dipping beeswax candles. For more

information on St. John’s, please visit www.stjohnmonastery.org

During this season of giving, we invite all Sunday School kids to help support St. John’s. Each child who donates will receive a komboskini (prayer rope) bracelet and his/her name will be shared with the nuns to request their prayers. Donations (checks may be made payable to St. John the Forerunner) will be accepted through **December 21, 2025**.

Thank you for your support!

No Sunday School on **December 28, 2025**.

Condolences

We express our Deep Condolences to Nicolette and Faye Farmasonis and their families for the passing of their father, **Petros Farmasonis**. May his memory be eternal!



OCMC Active Projects: Translations

A main component of establishing a vibrant Church is having services, music, and theological literature adapted to the local language(s) and culture. OCMC does not create translations, but instead achieves its Liturgical Translation goals by developing free products and services for national translators in Orthodox Christian archdioceses and metropolises in the countries we serve.



DOXA (Digital Orthodox Akolouthia) is a suite of technical software tools that supports the translation of Orthodox liturgical texts into clear, accurate, and beautiful language that speaks to the faithful. It enables translators to study original Greek texts, compare translations, and develop translation strategies. DOXA also enables Churches to publish approved content such as dynamic daily services, static service books, or print-ready PDFs, all available on liturgical websites which can be viewed on a browser or on the DOXA mobile app. If you would like more information on the software or to support its development, please email Translations@ocmc.org.

For more information on the work of the OCMC, visit www.ocmc.org or call **877-GO-FORTH**. God Bless You!

Philoptochos

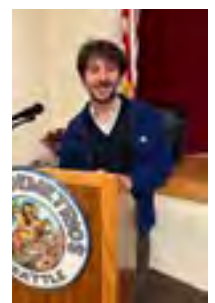


Christmas is not about opening presents but about opening our hearts. Our mission is to always be open and aware to the needs of those around us. Where there is pain, hunger, sickness, unemployment, despair, we try and want to be there with our hearts for the philanthropic purposes of the Church. The holidays are always a busy time for everyone and our Philoptochos is busy with open hearts and faith to perform charitable work with discretion, courtesy and kindness.

Men Who Cook Event Recap



The recent Men Who Cook event was an outstanding success, bringing together talented chefs from our community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the chefs who participated with enthusiasm and shared their signature dishes, making the event memorable for everyone.



Recognition of Chefs and Judges



Our esteemed judges—Ethan Stowell, Alex Marek, and Maria Kaltsounis—were thoroughly impressed by the creativity and skill displayed by all the chefs. Their thoughtful deliberation ensured that each chef received the recognition they deserved for their exceptional contributions.



Competition Results

- 1st Place: Demetri Ginosatis for Wild Duck Wontons
- 2nd Place: Ted Plumis and George Plumis for Baked Feta
- 3rd Place: Paul Plumis for Taramosalata, Jim Kost for Smoked Salmon Dip, and Jim Christo for Portokalopita

People's Choice Awards

- 1st Place: Demetri Themelis for his Country Line-Up
- 2nd Place: Demetri Ginosatis
- 3rd Place: Steve Teodosiadis for Chocolate Pie



Donations

Upcoming Dates:

- **December 6:** Christmas Luncheon – Tickets available now! Contact Pam Plumis to purchase.
- **December 7:** Deadline for pre-ordering Christmas Pastries – Contact Alexa Thompson for orders.
- **December 16:** Return filled Christmas Food Bags for distribution at Lowell Elementary
- **March 7:** Lenten Retreat - Orthodoxy and Modern Life - Jeannie Constantinou guest speaker

PLEASE JOIN SAINT DEMETRIOS
PHILOPTOCHOS FOR OUR 2025

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
11:30AM ~ 2:00PM

**ST. DEMETRIOS GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH
LARGE HALL**

Tickets: \$40 per person

Starting, Nov. 9th through, Nov. 30th

RSVP TO PAM PLUMIS BY DECEMBER 1ST
206.349.8341 | PJPLUMIS@GMAIL.COM

**PLEASE BRING AN UNWRAPPED NEW OR
GENTLY USED CHILDREN'S BOOK FOR
LOWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(OUR OPERATION CLASSROOM PARTNER)**

2025-2026

SAINT DEMETRIOS

HOPE

HELPING ORTHODOX PARENTS EDUCATE

A MINISTRY FOR BABIES, CHILDREN, AND THEIR PARENTS

DATE	TOPIC	DATE	TOPIC
10/15/25	Our Church	3/3/26	Holy Cross
11/4/25	Thankfulness	3/31/26	Pascha
12/2/25	Nativity	4/10/26	Retreat
1/6/26	Theophany	5/5/26	Family
2/3/26	Icons	6/2/26	Party

We typically meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 10:30am at church for fellowship, crafts, snacks, and a lesson about our Holy Orthodox Faith



Saint Demetrios Community Christmas Card

You are cordially invited to join us in sending Christmas greetings to all our parishioners and friends. Donations are \$25, payable to Saint Demetrios Christmas Card. Please write your name as you wish it to appear on the Christmas Card and mail it to 2100 Boyer Ave. E. Seattle, WA 98112. If you pay via the QR Code below, please send your receipt with how you would like your name to appear to jrios@saintdemetrios.com. The deadline for submission is **December 10, 2025**. As always, we thank you for your support as well as the love and joy you share.

CHRISTMAS CARD 2025



Bookstore News

Your St. Demetrios Bookstore's Christmas Shop is open and receiving new items each week. Please stop by to visit us and browse the selection.

There are beautiful Christmas ornaments including red jeweled and wood ornaments with Nativity icons. New wool prayer ropes are available, including in 50-knot and 100-knot lengths, each containing different bead accents. Hand beaded bracelets, in white and pink, make loving gifts for moms and yiaiyas.



There is also a large assortment of books, by and about our saints and elders. New titles include **Saint Evmenios: The Disciple of Saint Nikoforos the Leper** and **Sermons from the Life of St. John Chrysostom**. The bookstore also has **Meditations for Advent: Preparing for Christ's Birth** by the author of the popular book **Meditations for Great Lent**. This book takes the reader through the hymnography, scripture readings, and iconography for the forty days leading up to the Nativity of Christ.

For children we have the Potamitis titles **The Gifts of the Magi** and **The Nativity of Christ** in addition to over half of the **"Paterikon for Kids"** collection. These little books make great stocking stuffers! Also in stock is **Saint Nicholas and the Nine Gold Coins** which invites readers to rediscover the real Saint Nicholas, a compassionate defender of the poor, an almsgiver, and a bold witness to Christ. For babies and toddlers we have board books to help familiarize them with the Nativity and their Orthodox faith while also helping them to learn their ABCs and counting!

The bookstore works with a number of the Greek Orthodox Monasteries to make their handmade items available in the bookstore. One monastery, known for their hand-painted icons, reproduces them and then applies them to colorful agate pieces or embellishes them with embroidery. Come see these gorgeous agate icons that are truly unique. The larger agates can be displayed in stands and the smaller agates are available as magnets or ornaments.

We wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas!

Yiayias & Friends

On **WEDNESDAY, December 10th** (*Please note the day/date are not the usual first Thursday, due to the Philoptochos event*), at **11:30am**, our Yiayias & Friends will gather at **SPIRO'S PIZZA & PASTA, 18411 Aurora Ave N, Shoreline, WA, 206-546-2900**. There will also be food available, for those who observe our Advent fast.

****An important reminder to please RSVP -- it is difficult for restaurants to plan staffing, if they do not know how many to expect. Many thanks to those who always reply; you are very appreciated!**

For further information or to RSVP for December 10th, please email **Cathy** at chowoo@comcast.net, text 206-282-9641, or ask to join our private Facebook group, YIAYIAS & FRIENDS. We hope many of you will join us!

Papouthes and Friends

The December Papouthes and Friends luncheon will be:

Thursday, December 18, 2025 12:00 noon at:
Acropolis Pizza and Pasta
500 Central Way
Kirkland, WA 98033

RSVP or Questions to: **Michael Gikas** at mwgikas@gmail.com or text/call **206-295-4349**.

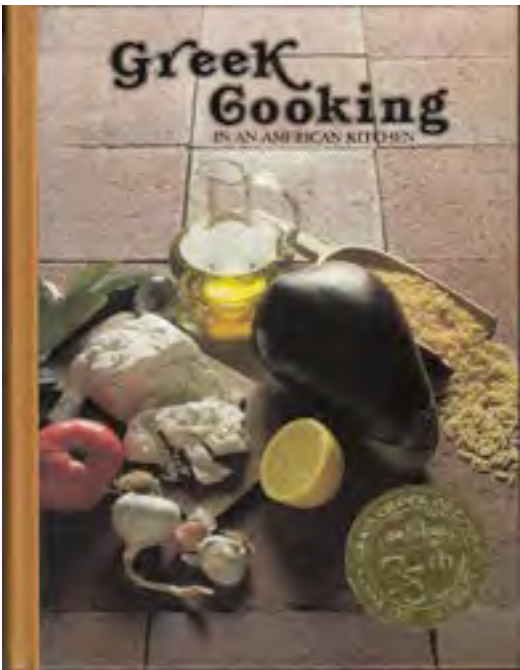
Reminder: The Papouthes and Friends meet on the third Thursday of each month at noon.



Give the Gift of Greek Cooking

In 1980, Parish Council President, Jim Katsandres, approached Board Member, Alice Plumis Panagakis, to suggest creating a new St. Demetrios cookbook. Alice accepted the challenge and gathered a committee together consisting of her mother Theodora Plumis, sister Frances Barnecut, Presbyteria Artemis Demopulos, Maria Kaltsounis, Jean Katsandres, Anita Leonidas, and Evie Rigas. With an initial \$6,000 investment from the Parish Council, the committee began its work, meeting every week, and often twice a week, to test and retest each recipe. At the end of two years the book was ready to launch and was presented at a Cookbook Luncheon in the Church Hall. Today Greek Cooking in an American Kitchen is in its 9th printing. It has been featured in Bon Appetit magazine and sold in Greek Orthodox churches around the country. Locally, it has been available in book stores as well as here at the Saint Demetrios Festival and in our own book store.

Its success has allowed the committee to generously give back (over twentyfold the initial investment) to our church and community in the following ways:



UW Hellenic Studies program	\$5,000
All Saints Camp Cabin Theodora	\$8,553
YAL Conference	\$300
Appliances for Asst Priest's home	\$1,000
St. Demetrios Sound System	\$7,500
Community Center chairs	\$12,164
Retiling of Narthex	\$14,000
Community Center Stage	\$20,000
Community Center Kitchen	\$40,000
Power Washer	\$5,000
Gas Line	\$10,000
All Saints Camp improvements	\$15,000
Loukoumades machine	\$3,500
Community Hall dishes	\$5,000
Philoxenia House	\$10,000

In the forward to the book we wrote:

"We dedicate this book to the mothers and grandmothers who are affectionately called "Ta Koritsia Mas"—Our Girls. Through their cooking, they have helped keep alive our traditions and the Greek spirit in America."

Please consider helping us continue to keep our traditions/spirit alive as well as support various philanthropic and community projects by purchasing the book. It makes a great gift for birthdays, graduations, engagements, weddings, and Christmas!

The Cookbook Committee
December, 2025



All Saints Camp

Annual Fundraising Dinner

**Join us for a festive evening,
Winter Olympics style!**



**Buy Your Tickets Today!
Costumes Encouraged
Dinner Provided by AHEPA**



**5:30PM
January 31, 2026**

**St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
2100 Boyer Ave E, Seattle, WA 98112
www.allsaintscamp.com**

Kids Nativity Series

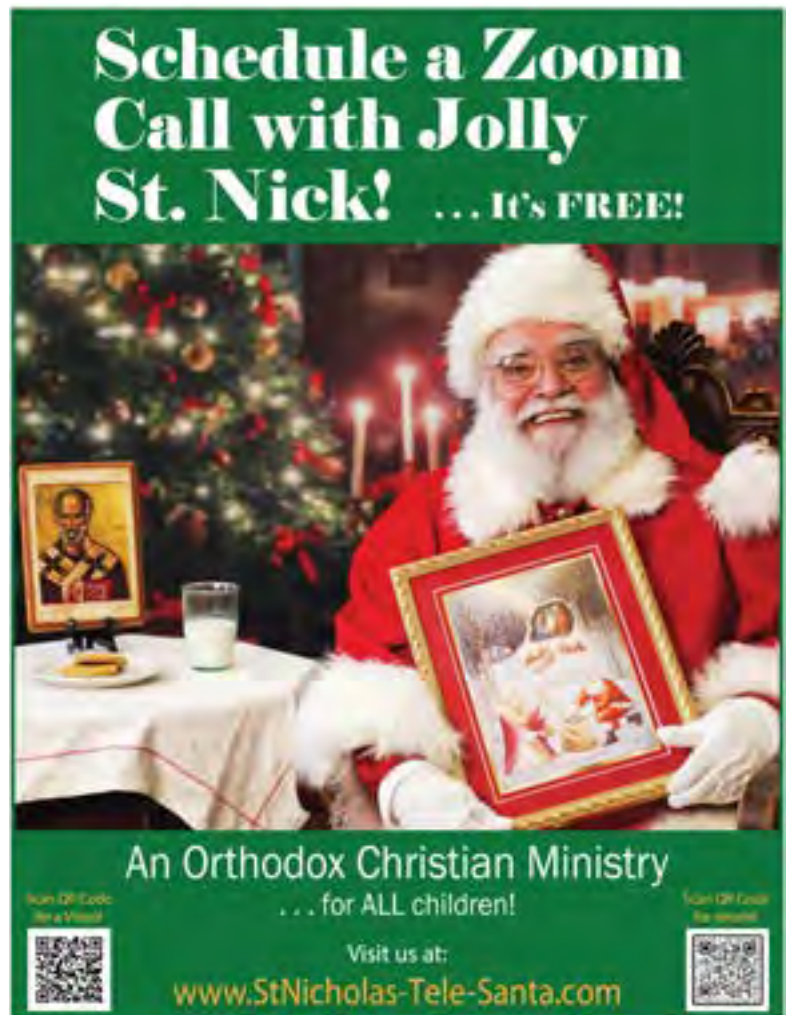
In the spirit of giving, the Department of Religious Education (DRE) is pleased to announce a new collaboration with the Saint Nicholas Tele-Santa Program to present a new seasonal series: the Kids Nativity Series, a special holiday initiative designed to bring the true meaning of Christmas into the hearts and homes of our children and their families everywhere.

This holiday season, our Kids Nativity Series offers 12 short stories that celebrate both the Incarnation of our Lord and the life and legacy of Saint Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra. Designed for children, parents, and Sunday School teachers alike, the series connects the Christmas spirit to the meaning of Salvation and the familiar figure of Santa Claus to the real-life saint. Each story offers a meaningful way for children to understand the deeper significance of the holiday, bridging the secular traditions they know with the timeless teachings of the Church.

Families participating in the Saint Nicholas Tele-Santa Program can use the Kids Nativity Series alongside their scheduled calls from “Saint Nicholas.” Parents are encouraged to read the Nativity themed stories with their children before the call. At the same time, the Saint Nicholas stories serve as extraordinary selections for Santas to share during their conversations, creating a truly faith-filled and memorable experience for children. Each story will be available in both English and Greek and can be accessed here: www.goarch.org/departments/religious/sermons/kids/nativity.

Parents and religious educators can request a phone call with Saint Nicholas; calls will take place between **December 6 and December 24**. To book a call, visit www.stnicholas-tele-santa.com/.

At the heart of this collaboration is a powerful image: The Spirit of Christmas icon, featured within a Christmas ornament and serving as the symbol of the Saint Nicholas Tele-Santa program. The icon depicts the humble and holy Saint Nicholas offering to Santa Claus, the modern figure inspired by him, the Cross of Christ, like an athlete passing a baton to his teammate in a relay. This sacred gesture represents the ongoing sharing of the true Spirit of Christmas—the love of Christ—that continues to be handed down and spread throughout the world. Each act of giving and kindness reenacts the joy of the Nativity, reminding us that the Spirit of Christmas is, at its heart, LOVE.



Citizens of the Year and Axios Awards

Citizens of the Year

Congratulations to **Christina Bayouk**, **Lena LaMarche**, and **Brian Koceski** for receiving this years Citizens of the Year Award.



Christina Bayouk: There are few aspects in the church in which Christina Bayouk is not actively involved in, if not, outright leading.

Here are just a few of Christina's contributions to our parish life:

- She has faithfully and consistently taught Sunday School for several years. This is a volunteer position.
- She lends her voice to the church choir and was one of the first to sign on when the choir was "reformed" under the direction of Chris Kouldukis.
- She is involved in leadership in YAL at the local, metropolis, and national levels. She helped put on the metropolis YAL conference this past Labor Day weekend.
- In that capacity as YAL leader, she has organized and led several outreach programs to feed the hungry locally and send assistance to Orthodox ministries abroad.
- While a college student at the UW, she helped organize and lead the college's Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) chapter.
- Along with her sister, Noreen, Christina organized and ran the most successful Youth Booth in festival history last month. With the addition of the bouncy house, face painting, balloon sculptures, and other activities, the booth grossed over \$10,000—at least three times the amount generated in previous festivals.
- Christina's faith is unshakeable and she lives that faith in her worship and her actions to serve others.

There may be more that Christina has accomplished in her young life; these are just a few areas of her contributions of which I am aware. I am sure there are more. Because of her humility and sweet nature, however, Christina would never "toot her own horn." Despite her youth, or maybe, because of it, she deserves to be recognized and honored with this recognition. She is an example that you don't have to be "of a certain age" to live a life of service to our Church and to others in the greater community.



Lena LaMarche's unwavering commitment, selflessness, and tireless service have made her an invaluable member of our parish community, embodying the spirit of Christian stewardship and love. Lena's dedication is evident in her willingness to take on any task, no matter how challenging, with a joyful heart. Here's a partial list of the many ways Lena has and continues to contribute to our community:

For 12 years, she has been a cornerstone of the St. Martin DePorres homeless cooking team, often volunteering for the most difficult jobs, such as cleaning the cooler or other areas beyond the scope of meal preparation. Setting up the Halls (large and small) for many different events of our Parish. For

example: 100 Anniversary, Ordinations, Fr Photios' 25th anniversary. Baking and packaging goods for Philoptochos at Easter, Christmas and the Festival. Involvement with multiple fund raisers that support the ministries of the church: Christmas tree cross ornaments, seasonal wreaths for raffles, auctions. Lots of heavy sanding to finish Crosses sold to support various church ministries during Covid, she's been a team member that prepared and delivered baskets for shut-ins at Easter and Christmas for several years in the past. Lena is always available to support these activities and always with a smile. Her reliability and positive attitude inspire everyone around her. Despite living in Mill Creek, Lena sometimes drives to St. Demetrios multiple times a week to participate in parish activities. She goes above and beyond by serving as a carpool driver for parishioners who cannot drive, ensuring they can remain active in our community. Her selflessness extends to her active role in Philoptochos, where she is an integral part of every event, contributing her time and energy to make them successful. Additionally, Lena's compassionate visits to shut-ins demonstrate her deep care for those who are isolated, bringing them comfort and connection. What makes Lena truly remarkable is her humility. She never seeks recognition for her countless contributions, quietly serving as a role model of faith and service.



Brian Koceski has been a long-time member of St. Demetrios and has shared his time and talents with our parish. Brian served on Parish Council for several years and in 2024, became Parish Council President. In this role, Brian was a very visible leader, at the Narthex early every Sunday morning, greeting parishioners and welcoming them to St. Demetrios. He made a true effort to get to know parishioners whether it be young children or beloved senior citizens. Brian's calm demeanor and positive attitude made him a very approachable leader. For the past two years, Brian has served as the co-chair for the St. Demetrios Auction. He devoted many hours to ensure the financial success of this annual event. Brian has also been a dedicated festival volunteer, working tirelessly throughout the weekend at the Estiatorio. Finally, Brian is currently working to enhance our parish's website. Brian is a very kind and caring individual with a strong Orthodox faith who exemplifies the characteristics of a Citizen of the Year.

Axios Award



Costas Antonopoulos is well known throughout the community for his devotion to Saint Demetrios and for his many charitable contributions over the years. Costa served as a chanter in the early 1990s and willingly chanted at times in the 2000's when called upon. In 2023, when one of our young adult members was interested in learning how to chant, Costas gave this young man private lessons in Greek (without asking for a fee). It would

be hard to imagine Pascha or Festival at Saint Demetrios without Costas' avgolemono soup. He even made avgolemono to go during the Pandemic. Costas has on many occasions deliberately timed his return to Seattle from Greece to make avgolemono for the Festival. In addition, for many years Costas is the individual in our community who orders Salmon for our annual Palm Sunday salmon luncheon. Costas has been a supporter of the church for more years than many of us can remember. Due to his love for the church, continuing support of our parish, regular church attendance, and a kind heart, Costas embodies what it means to receive the Axios award.

Saint Demetrios

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER & GREEK MUSIC

APPETIZER

GREEK STYLE MEATBALLS, SPANAKOPITA,
CHEESE, OLIVES, PITA BREAD/HUMMUS

SOUP

AVGOLEMONO: TRADITIONAL EGG LEMON GREEK SOUP

SALAD

SEASONAL GREENS BALSAMIC VINAIGRETTE

MAIN COURSE

PRIME RIB OR NY STEAK

DESSERT

GREEK DESSERTS AND COFFEE

CHILDREN

CHICKEN NUGGETS & TATOR TOTS

December 31st at 7pm Large Hall

\$60 ADULT PRICE

\$20 CHILD PRICE

\$20 ONLY MUSIC

CONTACT MANOLI MAGOULAS: EMANUEL.MAGOULAS@GMAIL.COM
FOR TICKETS SCAN QR CODE, CLICK ON LINK BELOW OR PAY WITH CHECK

[HTTPS://WWW.CLOVER.COM/PAY-WIDGETS/63113722-1B3E-472E-AA99-CD57AB25FF2D](https://www.clover.com/pay-widgets/63113722-1B3E-472E-AA99-CD57AB25FF2D)



Sponsored by Volunteers &
the Parish Council of St Demetrios

YAL Seattle Updates

Thank you to the young adults who attended our YAL Friendsgiving! We had 30 people attend from the following 6 parishes: St. Demetrios, St. Sophia, St. Paul, Assumption, Holy Apostles, and St. Spiridon. We look forward to bringing everyone together at our future events!



Young Adult League (YAL) Seattle

YAL is a community of young adults ages 18-35 who come together to grow closer to Christ and one another through worship, service, and fellowship. Connect with us below:

GroupMe: https://groupme.com/join_group/95398216/v3zQQsYC

Instagram: [@yalseattle](https://www.instagram.com/yalseattle)

Email: yalseattle@gmail.com

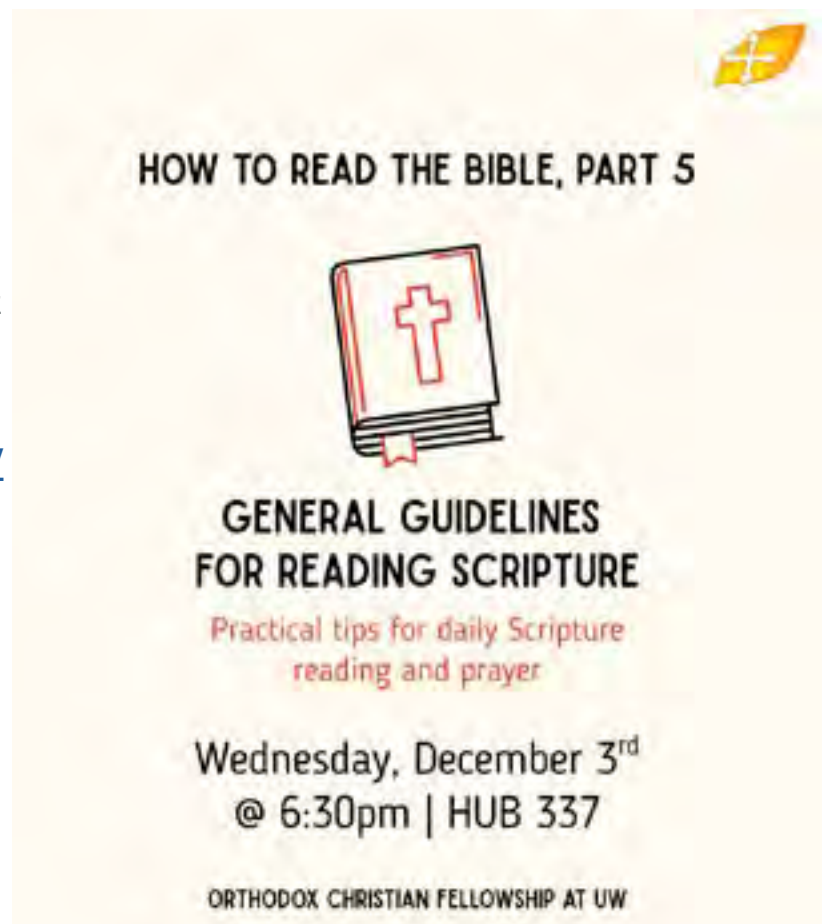
Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)

If you are a college student in the Seattle area, join our OCF group at the University of Washington! Connect with us below:

GroupMe group chat: https://groupme.com/join_group/85524228/CUbVqV5a

Instagram: [@ocf_uw](https://www.instagram.com/ocf_uw)

Email: ocf@uw.edu





SWEATPANTS AND LEGGINGS CLOTHING DRIVE

*Benefiting Lowell Elementary School
Sponsored by YAL Seattle*

We are collecting **new** cotton sweatpants and leggings for kids, sizes 5-14, now through December 21.

Drop off donations in the marked box outside
of the St. Demetrios Large Hall.



Youth Director Job Opening

We are officially looking for a Youth Ministry Director. To be considered, please email a copy of your resume to hope@saintdemetrios.com

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church Youth Ministry Director

Mission Statement: Loving God and One Another In Spirit and Truth.
Vision Statement: To Follow Jesus Christ, Make Disciples, and Minister to the Needs of One another and the Community.

Position: Youth Ministry Director
Reports to: Parish Council President
FLSA Classification: Non-Exempt
Location: Parish/Work from Home
Position Type: Part Time, 15 hrs/week, 47 weeks/year
Level/Salary Range: \$30,000/ year, 2 year contract

Overview:

Youth Ministry Director will provide oversight for all youth ministries at Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church. The primary focus will be to work with the Church Priest, Parish Council, and families to develop and implement a mission statement that includes the vision and goals for Youth Ministries in alignment with the Metropolis of San Francisco. The Youth Ministry Director will encourage and equip youth, families, and volunteers, and ministries with opportunities for growing their faith and walking in their Orthodox journey.

Responsibilities:

- Coordinate across ministries for events and develop cohesion between youth ministries
- Build relationships with parents, leaders, and staff to drive our mission, vision, and goals in connecting families to Orthodoxy
- Manage a master calendar for Youth Ministries and events and provide updates for the Church website
- Monitor Youth Ministries budgets
- Regularly communicate with the Church Priest, Deacon, Church Staff, Parish Council and Church Community
- Ensure that Youth Ministries have a digital presence and outreach to our community
- Create graphics, flyers, newsletters, email to communicate regularly with families and the broader community
- Recruit, train, and equip volunteers
- Ensure that volunteers have completed the Metropolis youth safety program
- Attend church meetings as needed (e.g., staff meetings, Parish Council, Sunday School Director Meetings)
- Oversee and start HOPE, JOY, Junior GOYA, GOYA Ministries

Preferred Skills:

- Practicing Greek Orthodox Christian with a foundational knowledge of the Church
- Strong communication and organizational skills
- Efficient and detail oriented with the ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously
- Team player and able to carry out verbal/written instructions
- Previous experience in kids, student, and family ministry
- Computer/technology skills to effectively use commonly used computer programs.

Physical Requirements

- Ability to sit and work at a computer for extended periods.
- Must be able to lift up to 15 pounds occasionally.

Thank you to those of you who signed 2025 Stewardship cards

Steven and Sue Ahrens
 John and Margaret Ales
 Andrew and Vicky Aliferakis
 Nick and Teri Alvanos
 Nikolas and Britani Alvanos
 Fr. John and Presv. Anna Angelis
 Theodore and Kim Angelis
 Dimitris and Anne Angelou
 Artemis Antipas and Achilleas
 Stamoulis
 Costas Antonopoulos
 Ioanna Antonopoulos and Michael
 Moser
 Ariel Apostoli
 George and Dina Apostolou
 Victoria Ardiente
 Clifford and Theodora Argue
 Patricia Arvanitidis
 Yeshareg Asfaha
 Emmanuel Athans
 Stella Athans
 Nancy Aziz
 John and Sylvia Baisch
 Matthew and Nicole Balkenbusch
 Josh and Eleni Banchemo
 Christa Barbas
 Maria Barbas
 George Bariames and Eleni
 Athans
 Loula Barker
 Frances Barnecut
 Greg Bartell and Fotini
 Georgiadou
 Alice Bayouk
 Bassam and Duaa Bayouk
 Christina Bayouk
 Gabriel Bayouk
 Lena Bayouk
 Angelo and Anastasia Bekris
 Constantinos and Eirene Bekris
 Hristos and Diamando Bekris
 Arvid Berg and Sophia Zervas-
 Berg
 Nikolas Biros
 Panagiotis and Demetra Biros
 William and Elaine Black
 Jeffrey and Allison Brooks
 Theodora Broutzakias
 Frank and Shelley Buhler
 Mark and Maria Burke
 Calliope Carras
 Eleni Carras
 Douglas and Jillian Chandler
 Tony and Sallie Chikas
 Ron and Vicky Christianson
 Eleni Christo
 James Christo
 Constantinos and Jeannine
 Christofilis
 Demetre and Katherine Christofilis
 John and Helen Christofilis
 Dino and Nikki Christophilis
 Margo Christophilis

Voula Christophilis
 Kosta and Maria Christopoulos
 Heather Christothoulou
 Tula Christothoulou
 Benjamin Clapp
 Ed and Anastasia Clarke
 Daniel and Vicky Cohen
 Marie Collins
 G. Paul and Carolan Constantine
 O. George and Kay Constantine
 Debbie Constantine-Skouras
 Dino and Cynthia Cooper
 Marco and Lori Cooper
 Nick and Karen Cooper
 Stephen Corotas
 Barbara Cotton
 Maria Cotton
 Gus Courounes
 Nicoleta Courounes
 Renee Courounes
 Dale and Mariann Crane
 Donald and Laura Crews
 Christos Dagadakis and Judith
 Turner
 George and Angela Dalas
 Mary Damascus
 Sofia Damascus
 Daniel and Angela Daoura
 Vince Davis and Effe Manolakos
 Kirt Debique and Ann Mentis-
 Debique
 Katherine DeJong and Scott Stroup
 Alexandra Delegans
 Andrew and Alicia Delegans
 Sam and Vicki Deliganis
 Nicholas and Stella Demonakos
 Peter and Diane Demopulos
 Ryan and Demetra Dennis
 Christina Derezes
 Mary Derezes
 Sammy and Juli Derezes
 Dimitrios Devekios
 Panagiota Devekios
 Nick Diafos and Athena Modonas-
 Diafos
 Panagiotis and Voula Dikeakos
 Stephanie Dikeakos
 Vasili and Katherine Dikeakos
 Dessie DiMino
 Ted Dimitriou
 Christopher Dodd and Maria
 Christofilis
 Voula Dodd
 Gus and Gregoria Dounis
 James and Jodi Dounis
 Robert and Janie Drumhiller
 Thomas Dudler and Pandora
 Christie
 Kenneth and Kristina Dudunakis
 Athan and Demetra Dumont
 Fr. Photios and Presv. Katherine
 Dumont
 Robert Dunbar and Andrea Tsiakilos-

Dunbar
 Georgi and Elena Dzhalazova
 Chris and Marla Economou
 Mary P. Economou
 Thomas and Michelle Economou
 Michael and Elaine Falangus
 Ed Fancher and Katherine Retelas-
 Fancher
 Sameh Farah
 Nicholas and Melissa Farmasonis
 Nicolette Farmasonis
 Georgios and Maria Flemetakis
 Bill Fournarakis
 Mariana Frangos
 Jonathan and Eleni French
 Nick Ganoulis
 Zoe Ganoulis
 James and Romana Garner
 Alexander Garrard
 Demos Gennaiois
 Panagiotis and Nicoletta Gennaiois
 Meletios Geokezas
 Evan George
 Tyler and Anastasia Geving
 Konstantinos and Mary Ann
 Giakoumatos
 Michael and Wanda Gikas
 Elaine Giusti
 Katrina and Moussa Gloyd
 Kathy Gookstetter
 David and Stephanie Gravenkemper
 Robert and Danielle Griffith
 John and Ioanna Grose
 Richard Grunder and Christina
 Economou
 Shawn Hages
 Dorothy Haskell
 Jack Hatfield
 George Hatziantoniou and Elizabeth
 Economou
 Dale Hazapis
 Christopher and Joanne Hegge
 Helen Heuer
 Robert Hill
 John and Maria Hillman
 William and Angelea Hoeft
 Christopher and Mary Hohensinner
 Patrick and Vickie Howard
 Vickie Huff
 Chris Hummel and Kait Graettinger
 Stella Hummel
 Michael and Tina Impala
 Sophia Impala
 Peter and Demetra Jacobsen
 Joe and Virginia Jarek
 George John
 John and Emilie John
 Barbara Kay Johnson
 Brandon and Elli Johnson
 Nicholas Jones and Tina Xidias-
 Jones
 Gerry Kaelin and Christina
 Demopulos-Kaelin

Athanasia Kalasountas
 Panagiotis and Rena Kalasountas
 Jim Kaloris
 George and Christina Kaltsounis
 Maria Kaltsounis
 John and Virginia Kapelouzou
 Maurice and Carmen Karagiorgos
 Christine Karambelas
 Jim and Georgene Karambelas
 Joanna Karas and Thomas Pallua
 Tim and Nadine Karas
 Terri Karis-Hawdon
 Andrew Kartunen and Erica Holland
 Georgia Karvountzi
 Christine Karzmar
 Katherine Karzmar
 Michael and Michelle Karzmar
 Paul and Sally Kassab
 Kalliopi Katholos
 Gregory and Angela Kavounas
 Michael and Laura Kemmerer
 Timothy and Sofia Kenny
 Bishara and Diane Kharoufeh
 Samir Kharoufeh
 David and Leila Kirske
 Brian and Jiovanna Koceski
 Fannie Kolios
 Leta Kolios
 Sophia Kollias
 Vivie Kollias
 Peter and Carla Kolytiris
 Ioannis Konstantakopoulos and Georgia Kakali
 James and Patti Kost
 Maria Kost
 Panagiota (Julie) Kotsali
 Christopher Kouldukis
 Petros and Regina Koumantaros
 Toulia Koutlas
 Curtis and Alexandra Kruse
 Gary Kuhar
 Dena Kusulos
 Peter and Rachele Kyriacou
 Alexandra Kyrimis
 Kostas and Linda Kyrimis
 Steve Lacey and Lana Georges-Lacey
 Jack and Javiera Lakkis
 Derek and Em LaMarche
 Katerina LaMarche
 Michael and Lena LaMarche
 Tait and Sunday Lane
 Larry and Elaine Laurent
 Elisabeth Lavaris
 Ken and Irene Lehman
 Alexandra Lemelson
 Dean and Kathleen Lentgis
 Diane Leonidas
 Thomas Leonidas
 Jeffrey and Tina Lewis
 John and Polette Limantzakis
 Johnny and Lucy Limantzakis
 Jonathan and Amy Lines
 Nick and Panagiota Lolos
 Glen and Georgine Looney

Sophia Looney
 Theodore Looney
 Chris Lorenz and Kristina Plumis-Lorenz
 George and Giannoula Lymberis
 Alexis Macaskill
 Peter and Katherine MacBride
 John and Mary Maciejewski
 Chris and Paula Macris
 Emanuel and Dina Magoulas
 Sandy Makratzakis
 Mary Malesis
 George and Mary Malevitsis
 Perry and Eleni Malevitsis
 Samuel Mallos
 Ryan and Anastasia Malmassari
 Nicky Manitaras
 Georgia Manolakos
 Stilianos and Kari Manos
 Constantine Markezinis
 James Markezinis
 John and Kelly Markezinis
 Anthony and Alexandra Maroussis
 Deena Maroutsos
 Jean Mastor
 Niki Mastoropoulos
 Lamise Matalaka
 Constantine and Areti Mavromatis
 Marty McAndrews
 Alena McDonald
 David and Georgia McFarlan
 Sam and Tania McIntosh
 Irini Michelakis
 Antonis and Irisi Millo
 Thanasi and Sophia Millo
 Pete and Demetra Mitalas
 Chuck and Anne Mitsakos
 Walter and Frances Moldskred
 Andrew (Gil) and Susan Morgan
 Alexandros and Maria Moroseos
 James Morris and Vickie Kolios
 Marijana Morrow
 Chris Mulenios
 Carol Mykris
 Bettyann Nassar
 Peter Neckas
 Sandy Neckas
 James and Stella Nelson
 Michael and Elaine Newton
 John Nikon
 David and Yiota O'Laughlin
 Shirley Olsen
 Charlie and Tina Olson
 Terry and Linda Olson
 Insaf Oraivej
 Yacoub and Ruba Oweis
 Zaid Owies and Maria Haddad
 Philip Palios
 Stella Palios
 Bill Pallis
 Chris and Rebecca Pallis
 Chris and Vasiliki Pallis
 Chris Greg and Alexis Pallis
 Elli Pallis
 Margie Pallis
 Tina Pallis

Anastasia Pampoukas
 Alice Plumis Panagakakis
 John and Lisa Panagiotou
 Sam and Colleen Panagiotou
 Evgenia Pangopoulos
 Yiannis and Johnette Panopoulos
 Artemios and Rebecca Panos
 Steve Panos
 Gregory and Stelée Papadeas
 George Papanastasiou
 Konstantinos Papanastasiou
 George and Lora Pappas
 Jason and Angela Patrao
 George and Susan Pess
 Helen Petratos
 Alexa Phillips
 Thomas and Renee Phillips
 Daniel and Christiana Piker
 Diana Plumis
 George P. and Courteney Plumis
 Paul and Pamela Plumis
 Ted and Kim Plumis
 Elizabeth Poiana
 Alexandra Popescu-Vladimir
 Nikolaos and Charikleia Poulas
 Anna Tacia Cooper Prineas
 Eleftheria Proios
 Christos Psichos and Tammy
 Kangyu-Psichos
 Robert and Despina Read
 James Retelas
 Nick and I. Nina Retelas
 Fr. Spyridon and Presv. Ranae Rice
 Evie Rigas
 Todd and Feletsa Robinson
 William and Karen Rockwell
 Cathy Rottle
 Adele Rottle-Williams
 Kary Roumeliotis
 Ted Routos
 Mark and Angelique Saffle
 Penelope Sakellaris
 Pantazis and Katina Samolis
 Philip and Barbara Sancken
 William and Georgia Sandeman
 Nina Sankey
 Angelos and Penelopi Savranakis
 Meropi Serpanos
 James Sfekas and Deborah Huang
 Iyad and Christina Shahwan
 Annette Shepherd
 Athanasios and Terri Shinas
 Simoni Shirland
 Margaret Shnorhavorian
 Lance and Stephanie Simons
 Christos and Agapi Siskos
 Michael and Katherine Skafidas
 Alexandra Skepetaris
 Demetrios and Stamatina Skepetaris
 Konstantinos Skepetaris
 Brenda Skokos
 Alexander and Vassie Skoulis
 Alexandros J. Skoulis
 Vladimir and Elena Smagley
 Sofia Smetheram
 Nate Smith and Nina Lagos-Smith

Stavros and Aimee Sourellos
 Vagios and Fanoula Sourellos
 Mary Spyridis
 Pauline Spyridis
 Gregory and Vicky Stamolis
 Vasilike Stamos
 Steven and Sarah Stanos
 Alexi J. and Aggeliki Stavropoulos
 Dimitra Stavros
 Maria Stavros
 Vlasi J. Stavros
 Phyllis Steen
 Kevin and Georgia Steenis
 Andy and Joann Stergachis
 Michael and Christine Stollings
 Heather Stotz
 Lindsay Stotz
 Robert and Alvia Swegle
 Elizabeth Takis
 Marco and Christina Tapia
 Linda Tavernarakis
 Stacy Taylor
 Stephen and Georgia Teodosiadis
 Demetri G. and Heather Themelis
 Demetrios N. and Jacki Themelis
 Tom and Karen Themelis
 Nick and Cindy Theodorou
 Constantino and Karen
 Theoharatos
 Christos Thraskias and Gianna
 Tansarli

Niki Todoulos
 Kegan and Nichole Tosto
 Antonios and Antonia Touras
 Harry and Angela Tourikis
 Athan and Cindy Tramountanas
 Emmanuel G. Tramountanas
 Emmanuel P. Tramountanas
 George A. Tramountanas
 T. George and Diamanto
 Tramountanas
 Elly Treperinas
 George and Thelma Treperinas
 Dionisia Tsafos
 Angelos Tsakopoulos and Katerina
 Lagos-Tsakopoulos
 George and Eftihia Tsantilas
 Sotirios and Angelina Tselios
 Nick and Vera Tsiakilos
 Nicholas Jr. and Krisanna Tsiakilos
 Stavros Tsitsis
 George and Susan Tsoukalas
 Ioannis and Georgia Tsoulouhas
 Liz Valauri
 John and Karin Varlamos
 Kosta and Judy Varlamos
 Nina Varlamos
 Peter and Maria Vassiliou
 Costas and Meena Vellis
 Paraskevi Vlahos
 Demetrios and Aspasia Voltsis
 Evangelos Voltsis

Demetry Vyzis
 Demetra Waldron
 J. Robert and Effie Walker
 George Webb and Anastasia
 Deliganis-Webb
 Brett and Yvonne Willard
 Jason Wise
 Ghennet Woldegabrel
 Edmund Wood and Cathy Chohlas
 James Woodard
 Daniel and Mary Wright
 Melissa Wyatt
 Demetra Xenos
 John Xenos
 Angelos and Mary Xidias
 George and Mia Xidias
 Nicholas and Despina Xidias
 Tim and Harriet Young
 John and Andreanna Zafiropoulos
 Alexander and Candace Zardis
 Anthony and Kira Zardis
 Nicholas and Lizabeth Zardis
 Chris and Helen Zervas
 Diane Zotos
 John and Mary Ellen Zoulas

The Stephanie V. Deliganis Service Above Self Award



The Stephanie V. Deliganis Service Above Self Award was established to support the youth of Saint Demetrios who have demonstrated commitment to more than one Saint Demetrios Ministry in their pursuit of higher education, another value she held dear. In remembrance of her gifts to our community, we are honored to offer this opportunity.

CRITERIA:

1. Nominated by other than self or family

2. Displayed exemplary service

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Enrolled or intending to pursue higher education

2. Member of St Demetrios

3. Service in choir and/or Sunday school preferred

AWARD:

1. Applications emailed to sdeliganis@gmail.com by February 1, 2026 and Awarded in March in Amount of \$ 5,000

Liturgies in December

Dec	Service	Time
1	St. Philaret the Almsgiver Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am
2	St. Porphyrios Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am
3	1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers Divine Liturgy	6:00am 6:30am
4	St. Barbara Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am
5	1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers Divine Liturgy	6:00am 6:30am
6	St. Nicholas Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am
7	10th Sunday of Luke Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:15am
8	1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers Divine Liturgy	6:00am 6:30am
9	Conception of St. Anna Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am
10	1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers Divine Liturgy	6:00am 6:30am
11	1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers Divine Liturgy	6:00am 6:30am
12	St. Spyridon Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am
13	Saturday of the 12th Week Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am
14	11th Sunday of Luke Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:15am
15	St. Eleutherios Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am
16	1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers Divine Liturgy	6:00am 6:30am
17	Prophet Daniel Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am

Dec	Service	Time
18	1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers Divine Liturgy	6:00am 6:30am
19	1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers Divine Liturgy	6:00am 6:30am
20	St. John of Kronstadt Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30pm
21	Sunday before Nativity Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:15am
22	1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers Divine Liturgy	6:00am 6:30am
23	1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers Divine Liturgy	6:00am 6:30am
24	Royal Hours for the Nativity Vespereal Divine Liturgy of the Nativity	9:30am 6:00pm
25	Nativity of Christ Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am
27	St. Stephen, Martyr Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30pm
28	Sunday after Nativity Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:15am
30	St. Anysia, Martyr Orthros & Divine Liturgy	8:30am
31	St. Basil the Great Vespers Orthros & Devine Liturgy	5:00pm 6:00pm

December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Nov 30</p> <p>Epistle: 1Corinthians 4:9-16 Gospel: John 1:35-51 Sm Hall Catechism Celebration...</p> <p>8:15a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 12:30p Catechism: The Virgin Mary, the Mother of God 2p Baptism 3:30p Baptism</p> <p>St. Andrew the Apostle</p>	<p>Dec 1</p> <p>8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 6p Greek Dance</p> <p>Naoum, Prophet St. Philaret the Almsgiver</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Seattle Prep Poinsettα Evening 8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 10a Dome Meeting Lib or Hall 10:30a HOPE 5p Akritakia 6:30p Choir Practice</p> <p>Habbakuk, Prophet St. Porphyrios</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6a 1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers 6:30a Divine Liturgy 10a Philoptochos Board Meeting 1p Open Confession 4p MEM Monthly Meeting 6:15p Greek School 6:30p OCF: University of Washington - ton</p> <p>Zephaniah, Prophet</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 7p Bible Study in Person and Zoom</p> <p>St. Barbara</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Lg Hall Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon 6a 1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers 6:30a Divine Liturgy 11:30a Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon 5p Great Vespers</p> <p>St. Sabbas</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Dance Glendi at Varlamos pizza 8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 11:30a Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon 5p Great Vespers</p> <p>St. Nicholas</p>
<p>Dec 7</p> <p>10th Sunday of Luke Epistle: Ephesians 5:8-19 Gospel: Luke 13:10-17 8:15a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 12:30p Catechism: The Teachings of Christ</p> <p>Ambrose, Bishop of Milan</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6a 1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers 6:30a Divine Liturgy 6p Greek Dance 7p Parish Council Seminar 7:30p Glendistades Dance</p> <p>Pataplos the Righteous Sosthenes & Apollo, Apostles</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 11:30a WOCA 5p Akritakia 6:30p Choir Practice</p> <p>Conception of St. Anna</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6a 1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers 6:30a Divine Liturgy 11:30a Yiayia and Friends @ Spiro's Pizza and Pasta 1p Open Confession</p> <p>Menas, Hermogenes & Eustraphos</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6a 1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers 6:30a Divine Liturgy 1:30p Procedure Development Meeting 7p Bible Study in Person and Zoom</p> <p>Sts. Daniel & Luke, the Stylites</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy</p> <p>St. Spyridon</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Lg Hall Bulgarian Christmas Pa... 8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 5p Great Vespers</p> <p>Auxentios, Eugenios & Eustratios</p>
<p>Dec 14</p> <p>11th Sunday of Luke Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11 Gospel: Luke 14:16-24 Sm Hall: HAPPY B DAY JESUS! 8:15a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 11:30a General Assembly and Parish Elections 12:30p Catechism: Salvation - The Passion and Resurrection</p> <p>Thyrsos, Philemon & Apollonios</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 6p Greek Dance 7:30p Glendistades Dance</p> <p>St. Eleutherios</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6a 1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers 6:30a Divine Liturgy 5p Akritakia 6:30p Choir Practice</p> <p>Prophet Haggai</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 1p Open Confession</p> <p>Prophet Daniel St. Dionysios of Zachynthos</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6a 1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers 6:30a Divine Liturgy 7p Bible Study in Person and Zoom</p> <p>Sebastian & Zoe</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Lg Hall Greek School Movie 6a 1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers 6:30a Divine Liturgy</p> <p>Boniface & Ares Eutychios & Thessaloniki</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 11a Baptism 5p Great Vespers</p> <p>St. Ignatios of Antioch St. John of Kronstadt</p>
<p>Dec 21</p> <p>Sunday Before Nativity Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10; 32-... Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25 8:15a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 11:30a Sunday School Christmas Pageant</p> <p>Juliana and Her 500 Companions Themistokles of Myra</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6a 1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers 6:30a Divine Liturgy 6p Greek Dance</p> <p>St. Anastasia, Martyr</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6a 1st Hour & Pre-Communion Prayers 6:30a Divine Liturgy 5p Akritakia 6:30p Parish Council Meeting 6:30p Choir Practice</p> <p>10 Martyrs of Crete</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:30a Royal Hours for the Nativity 6p Vespers Divine Liturgy of the Nativity</p> <p>Eve of the Nativity</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Church Office Closed 8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy</p> <p>Nativity of Christ</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> <p>Synaxis of Theotokos</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 5p Great Vespers</p> <p>St. Stephen, Martyr</p>
<p>Dec 28</p> <p>Sunday After Nativity Epistle: 1Corinthians 4:9-16 Gospel: John 1:35-51 8:15a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy</p> <p>20,000 Martyrs of Nikomedia</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6p Greek Dance</p> <p>14,000 Infants Slain by Herod Markellos the Righteous</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 5p Akritakia 6:30p Choir Practice</p> <p>St. Anyisia, Martyr</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Lg Hall NY Dinner 5p Vespers 6p Orthros 7p Divine Liturgy 8p New Year's Party, by St. Demetrios Parish Council</p> <p>Melania the Righteous Olimpiodora the Martyr</p>	<p>Jan 1</p> <p>Church Office Closed St. Basil the Great</p> <p>Circumcision of Christ New Year's Day</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30a Orthros 9:30a Divine Liturgy 7:30p Capella Romana</p> <p>St. Seraphim of Sarov</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5p Great Vespers</p> <p>Malachi the Prophet</p>

The Orthodox Way (published 12 times a year by)

Saint Demetrios Church Greek Orthodox Church
Permit Number 8048
2100 Boyer Ave East
Seattle, WA 98112

Non-Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA
USPS 8048

-Continued from page 1-

Ultimately, the Nativity Fast teaches every family that Christ seeks to be born not only in Bethlehem, but in the depths of the heart. St. Ephraim the Syrian prays, "O Lord, make my heart a manger for Your birth." This remarkable image captures the essence of Advent preparation: the heart becomes the cave, humility the straw, repentance the cleansing, and love the warmth into which Christ descends.

In a world that encourages frantic holiday consumerism, the Orthodox family is invited into a different rhythm—quiet, prayerful, joyful, expectant. The fast forms a sacred threshold; by passing through it, the household enters the Feast of the Nativity with deeper gratitude and spiritual clarity.

The preparation for Christmas in the Greek Orthodox Tradition is not a burden but a blessing. Through fasting, prayer, almsgiving, participation in worship, and the sanctification of daily life, the family becomes a living icon of the Church journeying toward the birth of the Savior. As we walk these forty days, we echo the hymn of the Church: "Christ is coming from heaven—meet Him!" And when the star shines over the cave and the angels proclaim peace, the family that has prepared faithfully will greet the newborn King with hearts ready, joyful, and filled with the light of the Incarnation.

I wish you and your family a most blessed Advent!

In Christ's love,

+Fr. Photios

Submissions for the Orthodox Way

If you would like to offer a Holy Altar Table Vigil Light or sponsor the Coffee Hour in memory of a beloved family member or friend who has fallen asleep in the Lord, please contact the church office at 206-631-2500.

Please submit announcements for Memorials and Candles to Johanna at jrios@saintdemetrios.com by the 20th of the month to appear in the next months newsletter. Submissions recieved after the 20th will appear in the following newsletter.

All other inserts and announcements can be sent to the Orthodox Way editors at info@saintdemetrios.com.

The above are parishioner contributed announcements to The Orthodox Way

Donations

