



# THE ORATOR

## Presiding Priest:

Fr. Nicholas Hadzellis

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## Parish Council:

Chris Kime, President

Christine Panagopoulos,

V. President

Paul Adamopoulos,

Treasurer

Jenna Copeland, Secretary

Gus Galanis

Phil Hieger

Stephan Papadopoulos

Timothy Strong

Tigist Yemenu

## Office email:

admin@stdemetrios.net

## Orator:

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Web: [www.stdemetrios.net](http://www.stdemetrios.net)

## Parish Office Hours:

Tues.Thurs. Fri.

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May the Lord's blessing strengthen you all.

These are historic days in the life of our beloved St. Demetrios Parish. By God's grace, the holy intercessions of St. Demetrios the Great Martyr, and your faithful commitment we have advanced the efforts of our forefathers who founded our church in 1910.

Our church home is established for the worship of the Lord, for the preaching of the Gospel and the sacred administration of the Holy Sacraments. It is here we cultivate the Christian life in ourselves and our posterity. We have offered and continue to offer the sacrifice needed to accomplish this task, and we do so with our children and grandchildren in mind, and with a deep concern for the salvation of our neighbors in and around our parish.

The crowning moment of our holy work of church building is the Divine Service of Consecration. This sacrament, the Holy Mystery, celebrated only by the Orthodox episcopate, is scheduled for Saturday, October 27, 2018. It is the culmination of our parish's history thus far and will be the pinnacle of all our efforts for the last one hundred and eight years. Glory to God!

The Divine Service of Holy Consecration for our St. Demetrios Church is a Pentecostal event. It is an incursion into this fallen world of the Kingdom of God, a descent of the Holy Spirit to abide upon the church. Our beautiful church will become, by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the descent of the glory of the Almighty; a beacon on earth of Heaven itself. Our church will become a sacred house, the house of the Lord, and a consecrated holy place. An angel of the Lord will guard the holy altar, and the grace and glory of the Lord will fill its interior.

Here, untold numbers of people will be united to the Lord Jesus Christ in Holy Baptism. They will hear words of life preached, chanted and sung. As they grow into maturity in Christ and a holiness through active participation in authentic spiritual life, they will embrace repentance and have their sins washed away through Holy Confession. Couples will be crowned into one flesh in Holy Matrimony. And the sick will be healed of diseases of body and soul. With the grace of God, some will be ordained to the Holy Offices of Diaconate and Priesthood. And finally, they will be escorted to the heavens at the time of death where they will find Christ waiting for them.

The founders of St. Demetrios Church are all those who from the first

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generation of Greek immigrants until now who are members at the time of the consecration of the church temple. During the Holy Consecration, a list of the names of the founders and loved ones will be deposited by the Metropolitan into the interior of our Sacred Altar where it will remain. These founders will be blessed by future generations for their sacrifice and investment and will be commemorated in the divine services in our church until the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

“Again, we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church, and all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord” (Ektenia in Vespers). We who consecrate the church are (and hope to be worthy of being) these “blessed and ever-memorable founders” commemorated for the time which is to come.

I call upon every St. Demetrios parishioner to press this most important day in the history of our St. Demetrios Church into your heart and onto the pages of your calendar now, this very day, if it has not already become a serious matter of planning and discussion in your home. Arrange to take time off work for the services and festivities surrounding the Holy Consecration and do the same as you can in order to work in preparation for these holy days.

Nothing is more important to us than the Lord Jesus Christ and His Holy Church, and nothing is more important in the life of a parish than the Holy Consecration of its church edifice. It is the magnificent baptism of the church, and it will only happen for us once. Glory to God! We have been blessed with this opportunity.

With a heart full of gratitude to our gracious Lord and God, I encourage you all to join actively in the preparations for this most significant day in the history of our St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church.

Together in Christ for ages and ages,

Father Nicholas Hadzellis

## *Consecration Schedule of Events*

### Thursday, October Twenty-Fifth

6pm Great Vespers

### Friday, October Twenty-Sixth

8am Orthros

9am Feast Day Liturgy

5:45pm Arrival of the Relics

6pm Consecration Vespers

7pm Lenten Dinner Reception

### Saturday, October Twenty-Seventh

8am Orthros

9am Divine Service of Consecration

11am Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

1pm Consecration Luncheon

*The Worthington Renaissance Fort Worth*

6:30pm Grand Banquet Reception

7pm Grand Banquet

## Sunday, October Twenty-Eighth

8am Orthros

9am Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

11am Consecration Brunch

### GODPARENT GIFTS

If you would like to make a general fund contribution, please contact Fr. Nicholas at [frnicholas@stdemetrios.net](mailto:frnicholas@stdemetrios.net) or 617-530-0885.

### AUGUST SERVICES

On August 1, we enter the fasting period for the Dormition of the Theotokos (August 15). This is an appropriate time to explore the virtue of compassion exemplified by the “Panagia,” the Mother of our God. Add the following troparion from the Small Paraklesis service to your family’s prayer time this week. If you’re able, learn to chant it: <https://www.goarch.org/-/learn-to-chant-paraklesis>.

### FALLING ASLEEP OF THE VIRGIN MARY

*Fast from August 1-14; Feast day August 15<sup>th</sup>*

One of the four major fasting periods for the Orthodox Church occurs from August 1 - 14, in preparation for the Great Feast of the Falling Asleep of the Virgin Mary on August 15. During this time, Orthodox Christians are asked to increase their spiritual struggle by praying more often, attending the Supplication Services (Paraklesis) to the Virgin Mary, generously offering alms to those in need, and fasting from meat and dairy products as a spiritual discipline to draw closer to God. May we all use this period for our spiritual edification and growth!

Please email Fr. Nicholas at [frnicholas@stdemetrios.net](mailto:frnicholas@stdemetrios.net) with the names of anyone you want us to pray for during this holy season. *See calendar below for service times.*



### OUR TRANSFIGURATION

*The Feast of our Lord's Transfiguration Aug 6<sup>th</sup>*



Why do we come to Church each week? What are we seeking from our Christian faith? What is our ultimate goal for this brief life here on planet earth? The Feast of Our Lord’s Transfiguration (Aug 6) clearly teaches us that our goal in life should be nothing less than TRANSFIGURATION! To be transfigured, to be transformed, to be lifted up out of the superficialities of the world and to become “a new creation” in Christ, one united with our Lord & filled with His Divine light and energies! Contrary to our fallen human nature, the Transfiguration of Jesus raises our eyes up to our original destiny, which St. Peter affirmed: “[Our Lord’s] divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness... and through his great and precious

promises, [we] may be partakers of the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world.” (2 Pet 1:3,4) Jesus confirmed this teaching throughout his ministry when He invited everyone to fulfill their divine potential. He wants you and me to become one with Him. Thus, the feast of the Transfiguration not only reaffirms the divine identity of our Lord, but also reveals to each one of us our true nature; we see our destiny in divine

transfiguration! Human life is not about petty, mundane, superficial pursuits of pleasure, comfort, power, and worldly success, but instead is about a greater call, a return to our original and divine destiny! Life is about transfiguration into the life of Christ! *See calendar below for service times.*

## SERVICE TO OUR CHURCH

| Date    | Member(s)  | Service  |
|---------|--|--|
| 7/5/18  | Jenna Copeland & Paul Adamopoulos<br>OPEN<br>Marina Beasley                              | Parish Council<br>Fellowship Hour<br>Prosfora                      |
| 7/12/18 | Stephan Papadopoulos & Gus Galanis<br>Hieger, Pool, Sexton Families<br>Hadzellis Family  | Parish Council<br>Fellowship Hour<br>Prosfora                      |
| 7/19/18 | Phil Hieger & Ash Azer<br>Dormition Luncheon<br>Safety Team Ministry<br>Hadzellis Family | Parish Council<br>Fellowship Hour<br>Cleaning Ministry<br>Prosfora |
| 7/26/18 | Christine Panagopoulos & Tigist Yemenu<br>OPEN<br>Dimitra Bakintas                       | Parish Council<br>Fellowship Hour<br>Prosfora                      |

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR

**Consider making a \$75 Donation  
for Fellowship Hour  
In Honor of Some Special Event/Person or  
In Memory of a Loved One.  
Contact LeeAnn Hieger for details:  
Mritech56@yahoo.com**

## ALPHA OMEGA

Please come join us at Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen on Tuesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon

2708 West Freeway Fort Worth, TX 76102 See you there!!!! Mary Galanis

## IT'S TIME TO GET MOVIN'

**IT'S TIME!!!! AND WE NEED YOU AND YOU AND YOU!!!!**

TENATIVE Saturday, August 11th at 9:00am we will begin moving items in the Church.

We need LOTS OF HELP!

## PHILOPTOCHOS

This past July I had the opportunity to attend the National Philoptochos Convention in conjunction with Clergy/Laity in Boston, MA. There were 367 Philoptochos delegates at this year's convention gathered together to share our ideas, united by our common bond of Orthodoxy and our desire to serve God by helping those in need. And as National Philoptochos President Maria Logus stated: **"When galvanized by unpredictable and unanticipated events, we respond, steadfast and strong in our resolve to offer comfort and solace to all those in need."**

I witnessed how true this statement was in listening to guest speakers who have either been assisted by Philoptochos through grants or plain, simple acts of kindness. I left this year's conference beyond excited at what I have learned and am anxious to share these things with you and put some new ideas into action for the upcoming Ecclesiastical year. One of the main concerns expressed by Chapter President's at this year's convention was how to entice our younger parishioners to become members of Philoptochos. Having said this, I invite all of you to please attend our first Philoptochos meeting on Sunday, September 9, after coffee hour and to please bring your daughter's so they can witness the service we do for others and the satisfaction it brings us.

*"She extends her hand to the poor, yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy." Proverbs 31:20*

In His Love and Service,  
Georgia Sparto, Philoptochos President

## SAFETY MINISTRY

OUR MISSION: *"To serve the community of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church by upholding and contributing to a safe worship experience through observation, deterrence, and response."*

Interested parishioners must be members in good standing for no less than 12 months, must be willing to submit



to a background investigation, and must be willing to commit to a minimum of one day of service per month.

This voluntary position requires the ability to stand for long periods of time and be exposed to the elements. Prior law enforcement, private security, and/or military experience is welcome but not required.

**THANK YOU  
SAFETY TEAM!!!!!!!**

## DAILY BREAD MINISTRY

**\*\*\*CLEMINTINES NEEDED: Please bring them to church with you Sunday, AUGUST 19<sup>TH</sup>** to be delivered on Wednesday to the Presv. Night Shelter. **THANK YOU!!!\*\*\***

Mission: To Spread Our Faith Through Good Works and Fighting Hunger in Our Local Community.

**AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>ND</sup>      5:20PM – 6:30PM      Presbyterian Night Shelter\***

Please contact John Sempeles (682-215-3151, dfwgrimlock@yahoo.com) if interested.

## DAILY BREAD MINISTRY : REPORT ON FORT WORTH'S HOMELESSNESS

On June 30th, members of the St. Demetrios Daily Bread ministry attended the Fort Worth Community Conference on Homelessness at the University Christian Church on the Fort Worth TCU campus. The conference was hosted by the City of the Fort Worth and the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition (TCHC). It brought together various community leaders, churches, non-profits, charities, and city and county officials to talk about homelessness and start a dialogue on community solutions. There were also various tables at the event with organizations working on the homelessness issues such as Catholic Charities, Presbyterian Night Shelter, Union Gospel Mission, Salvation Army, and so on to provide teaming options. The conference was organized around two panels: the first discussing giving opportunities and the second discussing housing opportunities.

The TCHC director opened the conference with some statistics in Fort Worth. Every day there are approximately 2,015 individuals (57% men and 38% women) experiencing homelessness-159 of those are veterans, 280 are children under 18, 1337 people sleeping inside, 678 sleeping outside. Last year 7,500 experienced homelessness, which is a 5 % increase from 2016. In Tarrant County, there are approximately 98 programs addressing homelessness, with about 4,447 beds available. Part of the problem is the high average rent in the city of Fort Worth-typically the average rent is \$838/month where social security payments are only around \$700/month. Many of the speakers mentioned this problem as well social mobility issues.

The first panel included speakers from Tarrant Churches Together, Catholic Charities, TCHC, DRC Solutions (a data research group), and a group called

When We Love. The panel had many anecdotal conversations about things that groups were doing to combat homelessness. Its central message was that this should be the first of many conversations needed to work on long term solutions to homelessness. Much of the homeless services in Fort Worth are located near Lancaster and many felt that services needed to expand to other areas. A lot of opportunities to help were still available and this conference was one opportunity to increase awareness.

The second panel focused on low income housing in Fort Worth and included speakers from the Fort Worth city council, Directors Home Program, Broadway Baptist Church, Salvation Army, Highland Hills Neighborhood Association, and Trinity Habitat for Humanity. Takeaways included that there were no affordable housing options because of the rental rates in the area. There are plans to increase the housing units to 1450 units over the next ten years. One key comment made by the local Habitat rep is that money isn't the problem, it's the NIMBY or "Not In My Back Yard" mentality. If afforded the opportunity, the City council could rezone districts to provide low-income housing; however, they regularly run into resistance from local home owners associations (HOAs). It is the community leaders in these HOA's and Churches that need to stand up and support these initiatives and provide city officials the political cover to enact these low-income housing projects. The speaker for one of the HOAs said that many in the community view homelessness as a stigma and we need to overcome that stigma through outreach and education, that homelessness is not some personal failing, but many times based on unfortunate circumstances.

Daily Bread made some contacts during this wonderful conference and we plan to invite speakers from the conference to St. Demetrios in late November to discuss where we, as the Orthodox Church in Fort Worth, can help and reach out to those less fortunate than ourselves. We will greatly look forward to your attendance as we get closer to that date. Lets see how we can all be part of the solution and try to not only deal with homelessness but also attempt to eliminate it.

## FESTIVAL

### CHARITY

At the Dormition Luncheon we will vote once again on a Fort Worth Charity to give a portion of our net proceeds. Please consider one of the following:

**Trinity Habitat for Humanity:** <https://trinityhabitat.org/>

Trinity Habitat partners with people in our community to help them build or improve a place they call home.

**Beautiful Feet:** <http://thefeet.org/>

Provides Fort Worth's Homeless with ministries specializing in: Dental, Medical, SoupKitchen, Clothing and more.

**Northside High School:** <https://www.fwisd.org/NorthSide>

For years, St. Demetrios has benefited from the usage of the North Side High School parking lot.



### DANCERS

Senior Dance Practice begins

Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

and

All Levels, September 2<sup>nd</sup> during Fellowship Hour after any meetings.

Dance takes place each Sunday until the Festival unless otherwise announced.

### BAKING DATES

#### August

|       |                         |               |
|-------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 4/5/6 | Spanakopita             | 9:00am        |
| 24    | Pastitsio Meat Browning | 9:00am        |
| 26    | Pastitsio               | After Liturgy |

#### September

|          |          |                    |
|----------|----------|--------------------|
| 24       | Rolls    | 9:00am * NEW DATE* |
| 15/16    | Tyropita | 9:00am             |
| 28/29/30 | Moussaka | 9:00am             |

#### October

|       |              |        |
|-------|--------------|--------|
| 9     | NutChopping  | 9:00am |
| 16    | Kourambietes | 9:00am |
| 20/21 | Baklava      | 9:00am |
| 31    | Melo Dipping | 9:00am |

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## November

|   |                        |               |
|---|------------------------|---------------|
| 2 | Triogina               | 9:00am        |
| 3 | Karithopita & Ekmek    | 9:00am        |
| 4 | Assortments            | After Liturgy |
| 6 | Bread                  | 9:00am        |
| 7 | Souvlaki Prep          | 6:30pm        |
| 8 | Shrimp & Saganaki Prep | Anytime       |

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\*\*\*If you or a loved ones name is not on this list, please contact the office at [admin@stdemetrios.net](mailto:admin@stdemetrios.net) and we will promptly add your name to our system. Names are not left off the list intentionally. Please bear with us as we get everyone added.\*\*\*

| First Name | Last Name    | Day of Birth |
|------------|--------------|--------------|
| Nancy      | Ward         | 1            |
| Irene      | Cline        | 5            |
| Evagelia   | Hernandez    | 5            |
| George     | Haratsis     | 7            |
| Zoe        | Sempeles     | 7            |
| Steven     | Stearns      | 8            |
| Anna       | Stearns      | 9            |
| Layla      | Hadad        | 12           |
| Georgia    | Sparto       | 12           |
| Megan      | Pagoulatos   | 13           |
| Samuel     | Sexton       | 13           |
| Lydia      | Bleriot      | 14           |
| Anastasios | Panagopoulos | 14           |
| Christine  | Panagopoulos | 16           |
| Elizabeth  | Haratsis     | 18           |
| Kimiko     | Greene       | 19           |
| James      | Cudd         | 20           |
| Philemon   | Waktola      | 21           |
| Chelsey    | Papadopoulos | 23           |
| Tina       | DeRobertis   | 25           |
| Elyse      | Pool         | 28           |
| Lemonia    | Shaw         | 28           |
| Jacob      | Johnson      | 31           |

# AUGUST

# 2018

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday  |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| Fasting Guidelines:<br>Allowed    |   |  |  <sup>1</sup>  | <sup>2</sup>  |  <sup>3</sup>  |  <sup>4</sup><br>9am SPANA |
| <sup>5</sup><br><b>8am Orthros</b><br><b>9am Divine Liturgy</b><br>9am SPANA<br>5pm Great Vespers  | <sup>6</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels<br>8am Orthros<br>9am Transfiguration Liturgy<br>Blessing of the Grapes | <sup>7</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels<br>5pm Paraklesis Service<br>6:30pm Parish Council                 |  <sup>8</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels<br>11am Paraklesis Service            | <sup>9</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels<br>6pm Paraklesis Service |  <sup>10</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels<br>11am Paraklesis Service | <sup>11</sup><br><b>9am TENTATIVE:<br/>           Church Refurnishing</b>                                     |
| <sup>12</sup><br><b>8am Orthros</b><br><b>9am Divine Liturgy</b><br>Blessing of the Backpacks<br>40 Day Memorial: Richard Lewis<br>Festival Practice: Senior   | <sup>13</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels<br>11am Paraklesis Service   | <sup>14</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels<br>11am Ppappadeaux Seafood<br>2708 West Fwy<br>6pm Great Vespers |  <sup>15</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels<br>8am Orthros<br>9am Liturgy        | <sup>16</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels                          |  <sup>17</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels                            | <sup>18</sup>   |
| <sup>19</sup><br><b>8am Orthros</b><br><b>9am Divine Liturgy</b><br>Dormition Luncheon<br>Cleaning Ministry<br>Festival Practice: Senior   | <sup>20</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels  | <sup>21</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels   |  <sup>22</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels<br>5:20 Presbyterian Night Shelter | <sup>23</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels                          |  <sup>24</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels<br>9am Pastitsio         | <sup>25</sup>   |
| <sup>26</sup><br><b>8am Orthros</b><br><b>9am Divine Liturgy</b><br>following Pastitsio<br>Festival Practice: Senior   | <sup>27</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels  | <sup>28</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels   | <sup>29</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels  | <sup>30</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels                          | <sup>31</sup><br>9am Meals on Wheels  |  Strict Fast             |

## STAY WITH ME LORD...

*Stay with me, Lord, for it is necessary to have You present so that I don't forget You.*

*Stay with me, Lord, because I am weak and I need Your strength, that I may not fall so often.*

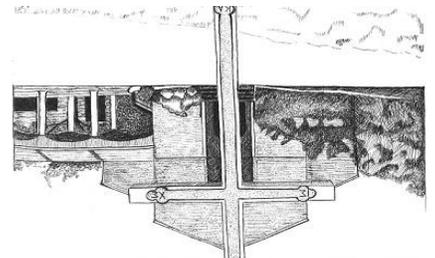
*Stay with me, Lord, for You are my life, and without You, I am without fervor.*

*Stay with me, Lord, for You are my light, and without You, I am in darkness.*

*Stay with me, Lord, so that I hear Your voice and follow You.*

*Stay with me, Lord, if You wish me to be faithful to You.*

*Stay with me, Lord, for it is You alone I look for, because I love You and ask no other reward but to love You more.*



**Saint Demetrios  
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