

A PRAYER TO ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

O Holy Father John Chrysostom, you served the Church with dignity and piety throughout your life. You fearlessly preached the Gospel of Christ from your Ecumenical Throne in Constantinople, as grace shone forth from your "golden mouth" like beacons of light, enlightening the entire universe. Living in an era of opulence, you shunned the wealth of the world and showed us that true riches can be found in sincerely, humbly and obediently following an ascetic life of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Truly you 'practiced what you preached,' feeding the hungry and caring for the sick with your own financial means as you deprived yourself of physical comforts. O venerable John Chrysostom, you provided us with the liturgical structure of worshipping the One True God by giving us the Divine Liturgy that still bears your name, causing us to realize the necessity of seeking frequent communion with our Creator. Through your own moral example, you taught us the importance of standing firm in our Orthodox Christian beliefs, no matter what trials and tribulations we may face. We implore you to intercede for us before God the Word. May we continue to find wisdom in the words of your teachings and in the messages of your sermons. And may your final words - uttered at a time of great personal persecution as you traveled the road to your exile and ultimate death - be the words that guide and inspire us along each step of our own earthly journey: GLORY TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS!

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ST.DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
NORTH WILDWOOD, NEW JERSEY
November 12, 2023

8TH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE

WELCOME ALL VISITORS:

On behalf of the Parish Council, Fr. Michael, and the entire family of St. Demetrios, we would like to welcome our Visitors for joining us today in our sacred worship service. If you need any assistance please notify any of the Parish Council members. God Bless our Visitors and may your stay here be pleasant and memorable. Please don't hesitate to come again.

SPONSORING COFFEE HOUR:

If anyone is interested in sponsoring the coffee hour please contact the Church office – Monday-Wednesday-Friday (609) 522-0152 or contact Parish Council President Nick Konides (609) 425-0179.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS:

All our local and seasonal members and visitors are invited to register and enroll in our parish for the 2023 membership and join in weekly worship and to support of our parish "Stewardship Program" and ministries. The annual minimum enrollment offering is \$750 per family, and \$500 for single people. Please complete the parish membership registry forms that are available in the Narthex. Families that are in arrears are invited to reinstate their membership and participation in our parish life and ministries.

GREEK SCHOOL: Classes are every Friday night 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: On behalf of the Parish Council, Fr. Michael, and the entire family of St. Demetrios, we would like to notify parents that Sunday school starts **TODAY!** We would like all parents to have their children at the church by 9:45 am. Every Sunday after the Gospel reading the children will go to their Sunday school classroom and then come back to receive their Holy Communion.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS:

Fr. Michael would like to meet with the Youth of the Parish on Saturday, November the 11th at 11:00 am. The topic of the Discussion will be on the Christmas Nativity Lenten Period.

OUR NEW ST DEMETRIOS WEBSITE: Attention everyone: We have a new website! Please add www.stdemetriosnewjersey.com as a favorite on your devices. Be advised that the new website is now LIVE. Please review and enjoy. Donations are able to be processed on our website via the DONATIONS tab where you will find the VANCO QR Code (shown below).

LITURGICAL PROGRAM FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER:

WINTER SCHEDULE

(For Sunday Hours -9:00 am Orthos and 10:00 am Divine Liturgy)

(For Weekday Services -9:00 am Orthos and 9:30 am Divine Liturgy)

(For Vesper Services-6:00 pm)

Sunday, October 29th, 7th Sunday of Luke-Orthos 9:00 am -Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

LITURGICAL PROGRAM FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:

Wednesday, November 15th: Christmas Nativity Fast Begins: From the 15th of November until the 12th of December the Church permits us to eat fish on the days prescribed. On Wednesdays, and Fridays, fish is not permitted. From the 12th of December until Christmas Day we must follow a strict fast, meaning no consumption of any meats or dairy products. Have a blessed Christmas Nativity Fast.

HOLY METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY FEAST DAY CELEBRATION:

Monday, November 13: The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey will celebrate the Feast Day of St. John Chrysostom Archbishop of Constantinople on Monday, November 13th. Orthos and Divine Liturgy will begin at 9:00 am followed by a small reception. This service will be held at our Holy Metropolis Chapel. Address: 215 East Grove St. Westfield, New Jersey. Everyone is invited to attend.

Sunday, November 19th: The 9th Sunday of St. Luke: Orthos 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am

Thursday, November 23: On behalf of the entire Community we would like to wish our St. Demetrios families a Happy and Blessed "THANKSGIVING DAY".

Sunday, November 26th: The 13th Sunday of St. Luke: Orthos 9 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 Month of November:

VETERANS DAY MEMORIAL:

We must always remember on this Veterans Day Memorial, our brave Men and Women who fought for the freedom of our country and all wars. May their souls rest in peace and may their memory be eternal.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY:

The Stewardship Committee has designated Sunday November 26th as "Stewardship Sunday". A small presentation will take place during the Coffee Hour. This is the day that we bring in our Stewardship Pledge Cards and present them to Fr. Michael for a special blessing. This is our Annual St. Demetrios Stewardship Pledge Drive. Everyone by now should have taken care of their Financial responsibilities to the Church and make their (New Pledge) for the New Year 2024. May the Lord continue to bless our wonderful Stewards who every year fills out their Pledge Card and sends it in to the Church office. The Parish Council along with Fr. Michael and the church staff would like to thank all our Stewards for their continued support to the Stewardship program.

ΕΚ ΤΟΥ ΚΑΤΑ ΛΟΥΚΑΝ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΥ ΤΟ ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΜΑ.

ΙΕΡΕΥΣ

Πρόσχωμεν.

(Δόξα σοι, Κύριε, δόξα σοι.)

ΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΣ

Λουκ' 25 - 37

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκεῖνῳ, νομικός τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ πειράζων αὐτὸν καὶ λέγων· Διδάσκαλε, τί ποιήσας ζωὴν αἰώνιον κληρονομήσω; ὁ δὲ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτόν· Ἐν τῷ νόμῳ τί γέγραπται; πῶς ἀναγινώσκεις; ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπεν· Ἀγαπήσεις Κύριον τὸν Θεόν σου ἐξ ὅλης τῆς καρδίας σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ψυχῆς σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ἰσχύος σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς διανοίας σου, καὶ τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν· εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ· Ὅρθῶς ἀπεκρίθης· τοῦτο ποιεῖ καὶ ζήσῃ. ὁ δὲ θέλων δικαιοῦν ἑαυτὸν εἶπε πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν· Καὶ τίς ἐστί μου πλησίον; ὑπολαβὼν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν· Ἄνθρωπός τις κατέβαινεν ἀπὸ Ἱερουσαλὴμ εἰς Ἱεριχῶ, καὶ λησταῖς περιέπεσεν· οἱ καὶ ἐκδύσαντες αὐτὸν καὶ πληγὰς ἐπιθέντες ἀπῆλθον ἀφέντες ἡμιθανῆ τυγχάνοντα. κατὰ συγκυρίαν δὲ ἱερεὺς τις κατέβαινεν ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ ἐκεῖνῃ, καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν ἀντιπαρῆλθεν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ Λευῖτης γενόμενος κατὰ τὸν τόπον, ἐλθὼν καὶ ἰδὼν ἀντιπαρῆλθε. Σαμαρείτης δὲ τις ὁδεύων ἦλθε κατ' αὐτόν, καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν ἐσπλαγχνίσθη, καὶ προσελθὼν κατέδησε τὰ τραύματα αὐτοῦ ἐπιχέων ἔλαιον καὶ οἶνον, ἐπιβιάσας δὲ αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τὸ ἴδιον κτῆνος ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς πανδοχεῖον καὶ ἐπεμελήθη αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν αὔριον ἐξελθὼν,

ἐκβαλὼν δύο δηνάρια ἔδωκε τῷ πανδοχεῖ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἐπιμελήθητι αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὁ, τι ἂν προσδαπανήσης, ἐγὼ ἐν τῷ ἐπανέρχεσθαί με ἀποδώσω σοι. τίς οὖν τούτων τῶν τριῶν πλησίον δοκεῖ σοι γεγονέναι τοῦ ἐμπεσόντος εἰς τοὺς ληστές; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν· Ὁ ποιήσας τὸ ἔλεος μετ' αὐτοῦ. εἶπεν οὖν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Πορεύου καὶ σὺ ποιεῖ ὁμοίως.

The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

(*Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.*)

DEACON

Lk. 10:25-37

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that

road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, "Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back." Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise." [RSV]

When we read these parables or stories in the Bible, we know that they're not just for our entertainment. They have other meanings too, don't they? Of course, we know we should be like the Good Samaritan, the stranger who helped the poor, sick man. But some people explain the story in other ways too. Saint John Chrysostom (who wrote many, many sermons) tells us that the church is our hospital. We go there to be healed. We go there to get medicine (Holy Communion). We go to church to try to get better, and to grow closer to the best Doctor, Christ Himself. He's the one who takes care of us, just like the stranger did in the parable today!

The Children's Word


"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

Sunday, November 12, 2023 Volume 11, Issue 46 A Ministry of the Orthodox Christian Network

The Church is a hospital!

Have you ever been to a hospital? Well, probably you have, as a newborn baby. But maybe you broke your arm or maybe you were sick another time. When you're very sick and need help, you know that the hospital is the best place for you.



Today we hear in the Gospel a story you probably learned when you were very small. It's the story of the Good Samaritan. You remember how a man was beaten up and left on the side of the road. You remember how nobody would help him, until a stranger came and took him to an inn. This stranger took care of him, and promised to come back and check on him.



WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Can you see the difference between these two saints named Saint John?

The one of the left is Saint John the Merciful. The one on the right is Saint John Chrysostom. We celebrate his feastday tomorrow!



Ἀπολυτικὸν Ἀναστάσιμον.

Ἦχος πλ. β'.

Ἀγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμα σου,
καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν· καὶ
ἵστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ
ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν ἄδην,
μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ· ὑπήντησας τῇ
Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωὴν. Ὁ ἀναστὰς
ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Τοῦ Ἀγ. Ἰωάννου.

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

Ἦχος πλ. δ'.

Ἐν τῇ ὑπομονῇ σου ἐκτίσω τὸν
μισθόν σου Πάτερ, Ὅσιε, ταῖς προσευχαῖς
ἀδιαλείπτως ἐγκαρτερήσας, τοὺς πτωχοὺς
ἀγαπήσας, καὶ τούτοις ἐπαρκέσας· Ἀλλὰ
πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, Ἰωάννη Ἐλεῆμον
μακάριε, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Κοντάκιον.

Ἦχος δ'. Ὁ ὑψωθείς ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ.

Ὁ καθάρωτατος ναὸς τοῦ Σωτῆρος, ἡ
πολυτίμητος παστὰς καὶ Παρθένος, τὸ ἱερὸν
θησαύρισμα τῆς δόξης τοῦ Θεοῦ, σήμερον
εἰσάγεται, ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ Κυρίου, τὴν χάριν
συνεισάγουσα, τὴν ἐν Πνεύματι Θείῳ· ἣν
ἀνυμνοῦσιν Ἄγγελοι Θεοῦ· Αὕτη ὑπάρχει
σκηνὴ ἐπουράνιος.

Resurrectional Apolytikion.

Mode pl. 2.

When the angelic powers appeared at
Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it feared and
became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher
was Mary, who was seeking Your immaculate
body. Unassailed by Hades, You divested it of
spoils. Then You met the Virgin. You granted
life. O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!

For St. John.

From Menaion ---

Mode pl. 4.

By your patience you obtained your
reward, O devout Father. You persevered in
your prayers without ceasing; and the poor you
loved and satisfied. We entreat you, blessed
John the Merciful, intercede with Christ our
God, for the salvation of our souls. ^[SD]

Kontakion.

Mode 4. You who were lifted.

Ὁ ὑψωθείς ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ.

The Savior's most pure and immaculate
temple, the very precious bridal chamber and
Virgin, who is the sacred treasure of the glory
of God, on this day is introduced into the
House of the Lord, and with herself she brings
the grace in the divine Spirit. She is extolled
by the Angels of God. A heavenly tabernacle is
she. ^[SD]

Πρὸς Κορινθίους Β' Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου
τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΤΗΣ

2Κορ 9:6-11

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ σπείρων φειδομένως,
φειδομένως καὶ θερίσει, καὶ ὁ σπείρων ἐπ'
εὐλογίας ἐπ' εὐλογίας καὶ θερίσει. Ἐκαστος
καθὼς προαιρεῖται τῇ καρδίᾳ, μὴ ἐκ λύπης ἢ
ἐξ ἀνάγκης· ἱλαρὸν γὰρ δότιν ἀγαπᾷ ὁ Θεός.
Δυνατὸς δὲ ὁ Θεὸς πᾶσαν χάριν περισσεῦσαι
εἰς ὑμᾶς, ἵνα ἐν παντὶ πάντοτε πᾶσαν
αὐτάρκειαν ἔχοντες περισσεύητε εἰς πᾶν ἔργον
ἀγαθόν, καθὼς γέγραπται· Ἐσκόρπισεν, ἔδωκε
τοῖς πένησιν, ἡ δικαιοσύνη αὐτοῦ μένει εἰς τὸν
αἰῶνα. Ὁ δὲ ἐπιχορηγῶν σπέρμα τῷ σπείροντι
καὶ ἄρτον εἰς βρῶσιν χορηγήσαι καὶ πληθύναι
τὸν σπόρον ὑμῶν καὶ αὐξήσει τὰ γενήματα τῆς
δικαιοσύνης ὑμῶν· ἐν παντὶ πλουτιζόμενοι εἰς
πᾶσαν ἀπλότητα, ἥτις κατεργάζεται δι' ἡμῶν
εὐχαριστίαν τῷ Θεῷ.

Ἦχος γ'. Θείας πίστεως.

Μέγαν εὐρατο ἐν τοῖς
κινδύνοις, σὲ ὑπέρμαχον ἡ
οἰκουμένη, ἀθλοφόρε τὰ
ἔθνη τροποῦμενον. Ὡς οὖν
Λυαίου καθεῖλες τὴν
ἐπαρσιν, ἐν τῷ σταδίῳ
θαρρύνας τὸν Νέστορα,
οὕτως ἅγιε μεγαλομάρτυς
Δημήτριε, Χριστὸν τὸν
Θεὸν ἱκέτευε, δωρήσασθαι
ἡμῖν τό μέγα ἔλεος.

The reading is from Paul's Second Letter
to the Corinthians.

READER

2 Cor. 9:6-11

Brethren, the point is this: he who sows
sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who
sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
Each one must do as he has made up his mind,
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God
loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to
provide you with every blessing in abundance,
so that you may always have enough of
everything and may provide in abundance for
every good work. As it is written, "He scatters
abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness
endures for ever." He who supplies seed to
the sower and bread for food will supply
and multiply your resources and increase the
harvest of your righteousness. You will be
enriched in every way for great generosity,
which through us will produce thanksgiving to
God. ^[RSV]

Third tone

You have proved to be for all
the world the great champion
in time of peril, as the victor
in routing the barbarians.
Thus as you put down the
boasting of Lyaïos, imparting
courage to Nestor in the
stadium, so, O holy One,
great Martyr Demetrios,
beseech Christ our God for
us that we may know the gift
of His great mercy.