

## THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH

**W**e have been taught that the Church is the Body of Christ. As a baptized believer, we come together in faith, to work towards a common goal: Heaven. We look after our fellow brothers and sisters, using our resources for the care of each other. Nowhere in the New Testament is this expressed clearer than by Apostle Paul in his Epistle to the Ephesians.

His instructions begin by reminding us that the Church is **ONE**. The Church is like an organism; All grow as each grows. **UNITY** is the key and vital for us to be effective. Power flows through a united Church while grace enables us to forgive those who have wronged us. Put away your differences. Always remember that there is one God and one doctrine.

The Church is made up of **PEOPLE**, men and women energized by the Holy Spirit. Although we are not all blessed with the same gifts, working together we are able to accomplish God's will.

But most of all, we must focus on **JESUS** as He is the head of the Church. It is He "from whom the whole body is joined and knit together." (Eph. 4:16). People may fail us but Christ never does. He is the perfect One, leading us up to a higher ground. Focus on our Lord's teachings on truth and love. They make a dynamic combination. The Gospel is the truth and presenting it in love brings sinners to Jesus. New converts are the result, which help build up a church and bring it new life.

Lord, carry us beyond our petty and worldly personal concerns. Stretch our vision to the eternal as we ascend **TOGETHER** and experience a "**ONENESS**" with Jesus Christ.

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**ST.DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**NORTH WILDWOOD, NEW JERSEY**

**September 3, 2023**

**13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew**

**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:**

During the summer, The Ladies Philoptochos Society will not be sponsoring any coffee hours. 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.

**LITURGICAL PROGRAM FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER:**

**Friday September 1st-We would like to wish everyone in the parish: A**

**Happy Ecclesiastical New Year!**

**Sunday September 3rd-13th Sunday of Matthew**

**Orthos-8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am**

**Monday September 4<sup>th</sup>-Happy Labor Day to Everyone in the Parish!**

**Sunday September 10th –Sunday Before Holy Cross**

**Orthos-8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am**

**Thursday September 14th-The Elevation of the Holy Cross**

**Orthos-8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am**

**Sunday September 17-Sunday After the Holy Cross**

**Orthos-8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am**

**Sunday September 24, 1st Sunday of Luke**

**Orthos-8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am**

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**Enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey-Saturday, September 16, 10:30 am (Tenafly, NJ)**

**Parish Life Committee Meeting- Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm**

**Youth Group- Saturday, September 23, 11:00 am**

**Philoptochos Meeting-Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> after Divine Liturgy**

**Parish Council Meeting-Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 pm**

**General Assembly Meeting-Sunday, October 15, 12:00 pm**

**Annual St. Demetrios Glendi-Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 pm**

**Great Vesper Service-Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm**

**Celebration of the Feast Day of St. Demetrios- Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:45 am-**

**Orthos 9:30 am Divine Liturgy**

**KOINONIA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER:**

We have established our (NEW MONTHLY NEWSLETTER) which is named "KOINONIA". This newsletter was distributed via email. Going forward, please send all Church event related pictures via email to the Church Secretary, Julie Reeb, at [frmichaelstdemetrios@gmail.com](mailto:frmichaelstdemetrios@gmail.com) Most importantly, in order for our parishioners to be able to read the Newsletter, you must submit your E-mails so we can send the newsletter out to your computers. You can submit these to the email listed above or you can give this information to our Parish Council Secretary, William Mitchell. We will also have a few newsletters printed for those who have no computers or smart phones.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED:**

Fr. Michael is looking for a few Sunday school teachers that would offer their time and talents to the children of the parish. If anyone is interested please contact Fr. Michael 609-522-0152 ext 101 or cell 667-328-1083.

**Απολυτίκιον Αναστάσιμον.**

**Ἦχος δ'.**

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα,  
ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου  
Μαθήτριάι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν  
ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι  
ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἡγέρθη  
Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ  
μέγα ἔλεος.

**Τοῦ Ἱερομάρτορος.**

Τοῦ Ὡρολογίου ---

**Ἦχος δ'.**

Καὶ τρόπων μέτοχος, καὶ θρόνων  
διάδοχος, τῶν Ἀποστόλων γενόμενος, τὴν  
πρᾶξιν εὗρες Θεόπνευστε, εἰς θεωρίας  
ἐπίβασιν· διὰ τοῦτο τὸν λόγον τῆς ἀληθείας  
ὀρθοτομῶν, καὶ τῇ πίστει ἐνήθλησας μέχρις  
αἵματος, Ἱερομάρτυς Ἀνθιμ· πρέσβευε  
Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

**Τοῦ Ὁσίου.**

Τοῦ Ὡρολογίου ---

**Ἦχος πλ. δ'.**

Ταῖς τῶν δακρύων σου ῥοαῖς, τῆς  
ἐρήμου τὸ ἄγονον ἐγεώργησας, καὶ τοῖς ἐκ  
βάθους στεναγμοῖς, εἰς ἑκατὸν τοὺς πόνους  
ἐκαρποφόρησας, καὶ γέγονας φωστήρ τῇ  
οἰκουμένῃ, λάμπων τοῖς θαύμασιν, Θεόκτιστε  
Πατήρ ἡμῶν ὅσιε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ,  
σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

**Resurrectional Apolytikion.**

**Mode 4.**

When the women disciples of the Lord  
heard the Angel joyously proclaim the  
resurrection, they cast aside the ancestral  
verdict, and boasting in glory they said to the  
Apostles, "Death has been despoiled! Christ  
God has risen, granting the great mercy to the  
world!" [GOASD]

**For the Hieromartyr.**

From Horologion ---

**Mode 4.**

Becoming a partner with the Apostles  
in way of life and successor to their thrones,  
O God-inspired Saint, in the active life you  
found an entrance to contemplation. Hence you  
rightly expounded the word of truth, and you  
shed your blood in struggling for the faith, O  
Hieromartyr Anthimos. Intercede with Christ  
our God, beseeching Him to save our souls. [SD]

**For the Devout Man.**

From Horologion ---

**Mode pl. 4.**

With the rivers of your tears you made the  
barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from  
deep within, you made your labors bear their  
fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star,  
illuminating the world by your miracles, O  
Theoktistos our devout father. Intercede with  
Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

**Απολυτίκιον Αγίου Δημητρίου**

Μέγαν εύρατο εν τρις κινδύνοις, σέ  
υπέρμαχον η οικουμένη, αθλοφόρε τὰ ἔθνη,  
τροποῦμενον. Ως οὖν Λυαίου καθείλες τὴν  
επαρσιν, εν τῷ σταδίῳ θαρρύνας τὸν  
Νέστορα, οὕτως ἅγιε μεγαλομάρτυς  
Δημήτριε, Χριστὸν τὸν Θεὸν ἱκέτευε,  
δωρήσασθαι ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**Apolytikion/Dismissal Hymn**

The world has found in you a great champion in time of peril, as you  
emerged the victor in routing the barbarians. For as you brought to  
naught the boasts of Lyaios, imparting courage to Nestor in the  
stadium, in like manner, Holy one, great Martyr Demetrios, invoke  
Christ God for us, that He may grant us His great mercy.

**Κοντάκιον.**

**Ἦχος δ'.**

Ἰωακεὶμ καὶ Ἄννα ὄνειδισμοῦ ἀτεκνίας,  
καὶ Ἀδὰμ καὶ Εὐά, ἐκ τῆς φθορᾶς τοῦ θανάτου,  
ἠλευθερώθησαν, Ἀχραντε, ἐν τῇ ἁγίᾳ γεννήσει  
σου· αὐτὴν ἑορτάζει καὶ ὁ λαός σου, ἐνοχῆς  
τῶν πταισμάτων, λυτρωθεὶς ἐν τῷ κράζειν σοι·

**Kontakion.**

**Mode 4.**

Both Joachim and Anna from their  
sterility's stigma, and Adam and Eve from  
their mortality's ruin have been set free, O  
immaculate Maid, by your holy nativity. For  
this do your people hold celebration, redeemed  
from the guilt of transgression as they cry to

Πρὸς Κορινθίους Α΄ Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου  
τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

ΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΣ

Πρόσχωμεν.

ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΤΗΣ

1Κορ 16:13-24

Ἀδελφοί, γρηγορεῖτε, στήκετε ἐν τῇ πίστει, ἀνδρίζεσθε, κραταιοῦσθε· πάντα ὑμῶν ἐν ἀγάπῃ γενέσθω. Παρακαλῶ δὲ ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί· οἴδατε τὴν οἰκίαν Στεφανᾶ, ὅτι ἐστὶν ἀπαρχὴ τῆς Ἀχαΐας καὶ εἰς διακονίαν τοῖς ἁγίοις ἔταξαν ἑαυτούς· ἵνα καὶ ὑμεῖς ὑποτάσσησθε τοῖς τοιούτοις καὶ παντὶ τῷ συνεργοῦντι καὶ κοπῶντι. Χαίρω δὲ ἐπὶ τῇ παρουσίᾳ Στεφανᾶ καὶ Φορτουνάτου καὶ Ἀχαΐκου, ὅτι τὸ ὑμέτερον ὑστέρημα οὗτοι ἀνεπλήρωσαν· ἀνέπαυσαν γὰρ τὸ ἐμὸν πνεῦμα καὶ τὸ ὑμῶν. ἐπαγινώσκετε οὖν τοὺς τοιούτους. Ἀσπάζονται ὑμᾶς αἱ ἐκκλησίαι τῆς Ἀσίας. ἀσπάζεται ὑμᾶς ἐν Κυρίῳ πολλὰ Ἀκύλας καὶ Πρίσκιλλα σὺν τῇ κατ' οἶκον αὐτῶν ἐκκλησίᾳ. Ἀσπάζονται ὑμᾶς οἱ ἀδελφοὶ πάντες. Ἀσπάσασθε ἀλλήλους ἐν φιλήματι ἁγίῳ. Ὁ ἀσπασμὸς τῇ ἐμῇ χειρὶ Παύλου. Εἴ τις οὐ φιλεῖ τὸν Κύριον ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν, ἦτω ἀνάθεμα μαρὰν αθά. Ἡ χάρις τοῦ Κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ μεθ' ὑμῶν. Ἡ ἀγάπη μου μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ. Ἀμήν.

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

DEACON

Let us be attentive.

READER

1 Cor. 16:13-24

Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicos, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen. [RSV]

ΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΣ

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου  
τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

ΙΕΡΕΥΣ

Πρόσχωμεν.

( Δόξα σοι, Κύριε, δόξα σοι. )

ΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΣ

Ματ κα' 33 - 42

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· ἄνθρωπος τις ἦν οἰκοδεσπότης, ὅστις ἐφύτευσεν ἀμπελῶνα καὶ φραγμὸν αὐτῷ περιέθηκε καὶ ὥρυξεν ἐν αὐτῷ ληνὸν καὶ ῥοκδόμησεν πύργον, καὶ ἐξέδοτο αὐτὸν γεωργοῖς, καὶ ἀπεδήμησεν. ὅτε δὲ ἤγγισεν ὁ καιρὸς τῶν καρπῶν, ἀπέστειλε τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ πρὸς τοὺς γεωργοὺς λαβεῖν τοὺς καρποὺς αὐτοῦ. καὶ λαβόντες οἱ γεωργοὶ τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ ὃν μὲν ἔδειραν, ὃν δὲ ἀπέκτειναν, ὃν δὲ ἐλιθοβόλησάν. πάλιν ἀπέστειλεν ἄλλους δούλους πλείονας τῶν πρώτων, καὶ ἐποίησαν αὐτοῖς ὡσαύτως. ὕστερον δὲ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς αὐτοὺς τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ λέγων· ἐντραπήσονται τὸν υἱὸν μου. οἱ δὲ γεωργοὶ ἰδόντες τὸν υἱὸν εἶπον ἐν ἑαυτοῖς· οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ κληρονόμος· δεῦτε ἀποκτείνωμεν αὐτὸν καὶ κατὰσχωμεν τὴν κληρονομίαν αὐτοῦ. καὶ λαβόντες αὐτὸν ἐξέβαλον ἔξω τοῦ ἀμπελῶνος καὶ ἀπέκτειναν. ὅταν οὖν ἔλθῃ ὁ κύριος τοῦ ἀμπελῶνος, τί ποιήσει τοῖς γεωργοῖς ἐκεῖνοις; λέγουσιν αὐτῷ· Κακοὺς κακῶς ἀπολέσει αὐτούς, καὶ τὸν ἀμπελῶνα ἐκδώσεται ἄλλοις γεωργοῖς, οἵτινες ἀποδώσουσιν αὐτῷ τοὺς καρποὺς ἐν τοῖς καιροῖς αὐτῶν. λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Οὐδέποτε ἀνέγνωτε ἐν ταῖς γραφαῖς, λίθον ὃν ἀπεδοκίμασαν οἱ οἰκοδομοῦντες, οὗτος ἐγενήθη εἰς κεφαλὴν γωνίας· παρὰ Κυρίου ἐγένετο αὕτη, καὶ ἔστι θαυμαστή ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς ἡμῶν;

DEACON

The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

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

DEACON

Mt. 21:33-42

The Lord said this parable, "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it was marvelous in our eyes?'" [RSV]