Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

1400 N. O'Plaine Road, Libertyville, IL 60048 - Tel (224) 513-5530

www.saintdemetrioslibertyville.com

The Arena

May - 2018

CLERGY: Fr. Cosmas Halekakis
Fr. John Sardis (Retired)

SUNDAY SERVICES: 8:30am Matins
9:30am Liturgy

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday-Friday, 9a.m.-1p.m.

OFFICE MANAGER: Jackie Vatistas

CHANTER: Yanni Halekakis

ALTAR BOYS: Michael Halekakis
Louis Karagiannes

PARISH COUNCIL:
Pres. – Connie Jelatis Hoke
V.P. – Kathy Leoris
Treas. – Billy Marinakos
Rec. Sec. – Cathy Pasinski
Corr. Sec. – Donna Krissek
Daniel Alvarez
Georgia Aralles-Vlahos
Panagiotis Danos
John Iskalis
Jim Karagiannes
Mary Nunchuck
Maria Sakas
Patty Stianos
Gus Tziavaras
John Zouras

SUNDAY SCHOOL:
Maria Earth

GREEK SCHOOL:
Rena Paros / Jackie Vatistas

FAMILY NIGHT:
Rae Anne Alvarez / Nectaria Zouras

GOYA :
Demetra Utter / John Zouras

PHILOPTOCHOS :
Niki Tziavaras

AHEPA:
John Papanos

BOOKSTORE / BOOKCLUB:
Dr. Mary Nunchuck

COUPLES GROUP:
Fr. Cosmas Halekakis

ATHLETICS:
Petros Macheras

True Vision for the Future of our Church!

How much time do you actually spend thinking about the future? When we're young, the future seems to occupy a great deal of our thought and hope. We can't wait: until we can drive, until we graduate school, until we buy our own home, until we get married, etc., etc. Then all of those things seem to wondrously happen very quickly, and our thoughts of the future don't seem to extend past waiting until we can get through the week! We carve out very set routines, and we rarely look ahead except, perhaps, in anticipation of our vacation time. Rather than swimming toward our goals, we begin to just tread water and try not to drown! Unfortunately, we fall into the same trap in our Church.

We can find our Church life simply "stuck" in routine, wherein we simply move from month to month, checking off the calendar events that we have scheduled and celebrated the same way for decades. We move from fundraiser to fundraiser, committee meeting to committee meeting, youth gathering to youth gathering, rarely looking up and wondering where we are heading? Hardly ever questioning the value of what we are spending all of our time doing. Rarely considering the future of our Church, and perhaps never planning how to sustain Church life past one generation. Do we have a vision and a plan for the future of the Church? Do we even need to worry about that? *"Where there is no vision, the people perish"* (Proverbs 29:18)…so apparently we do need to consider our vision for the future.

How do we have vision for the future of our Church! We have to begin by thinking in terms of generations, not months. "Planning ahead" has to mean more than picking festival dates for next year! Or picking a distant day for our next Dinner Dance! Having vision means, planning ahead for the next generation or two. Having vision within the Church means thinking about how to address the needs of our children and grandchildren. How do we keep them active and engaged in Church life?

We can't only consider their needs *after* our own; we must put the needs of the youth *before* our own needs! Some will ask, "Why…if the kids aren't coming as much as we are?" And they will have asked, *and answered,* their own question! Do we care about the Church beyond our own demands and preferences? Having vision, caring about the future of the Church, means that we must put what is necessary for the Church to thrive and flourish into the future ahead of our own personal agendas. It's not about us! It's about the people that will be sitting in our seats in the pews one hundred years from now. Our children are leaving the Church in record number! The number of weddings and baptisms are almost half of what they were just one generation ago! Most Sundays you have a better chance of spotting a unicorn in Church than a young adult! We have to begin thinking less about ourselves, and more about those that will carry on our Faith long after we are gone. Are those people only allowed to be our children and grandchildren?

Of course not! Having vision means that we lift up our eyes from the mundane and banal, and look to the future, to the horizon. If we lift up our eyes, what will we see? Christ tells us…*"Behold, I tell you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields! They are already white for harvest!"*(John 4:35). The fields indeed are white for harvest. Meaning that there are people all around us who are ready and waiting to hear the truth of the Gospel and join us! People waiting to sit in our seats after we are gone. People waiting to help us carry on the Faith that we pass on to them. Are we thinking about them? Does our vision for the future include them? How can it not? Let's work together with true vision for the future, considering our youth and outreach, so that, *"This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord"*(Psalm 101:18).

- Fr. Cosmas

Parish Announcements

Graduation Recognition

On Sunday, June 10th we will be recognizing the High School and College Graduates in our community. Please email Maria Earth (earthmg1@yahoo.com) by May 20th with your graduation information.

Sunday School

It has been a wonderful year in Sunday School as we have watched all our students grow closer to Christ. We will continue to have class until June 10th when we have our graduation. Please keep in mind that we will have Vacation Church School the week of August 6th.

AHEPA

Thanks to all who purchased a smoker raffle ticket. Good luck to all AHEPA 2018 Chapter, District, and National Scholarships applicants. AHEPA 51st Annual Sports Award Banquet will be held Friday June 1. All high school and college athletes are eligible to receive an award. Apply for an athletics' scholarship as well. AHEPA Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday Jun 9. Next meeting is Tuesday May 15 6:30pm at GoJo's Cafe. For more information on the Sports Award Banquet, Dinner Dance or AHEPA Little Fort Chapter 218 charitable activities please visit us at AHEPA218.ORG or email us at LITTLEFORT@AHEPA218.ORG.

Men's Basketball Team

The men's basketball team (seen left) had an excellent showing at the GMMT (George Mougolias Memorial Tournament) the weekend of April 20th. They played various teams on Friday night and all day Saturday. This tournament completes their season.

BOOK CLUB & BOOK STORE

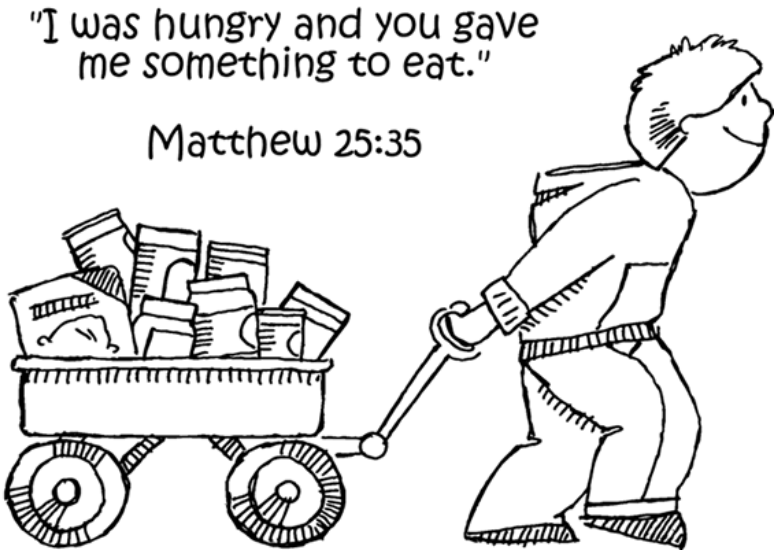
With graduations, Mother's Day and Father's Day approaching please don't forget to check out our Parish bookstore. If we don't have what you want in our selection we probably can order it for you. By requests, we will be taking orders for the Greek Fest Peace tie-dye shirt, and the Keep Calm and Pray on tee shirt. We are in the process of working out the details with American Outfitters. We will be taking orders during the month of June during coffee hour. Fest shirts will not be offered during Greek Fest due to the expense.

Are you aware the you can listen to radio programs about our Orthodox faith at home, work or anywhere of your choosing? Check it out by signing on to Ancient Faith Radio through your computer, asking Alexa to play it on your Amazon ECHO or the electronic device of you choosing.

Our book club is reading and discussing A SECOND LOOK at the SECOND COMING: SORTING THROUGH the SPECULATIONS by TL Frazier. We will be discussing chapters 6 through 12 on Wednesday, May 16 from noon to 1:15 PM. We will be meeting at Giordano's Pizza 7105 Grand Avenue in Gurnee for lunch and discussion. Please consider joining our book club for stimulating discussion and fellowship. All are welcome. The book is available in our bookstore.

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

Feed 6 Event!



Saturday,
May 19th

Church Hall
11am - 1:30pm

We'll be providing more than 25,000 meals for those in need in our own Lake County!

Volunteer and Donate Today!

For more info please contact Pres. Michelle At mmh927@hotmail.com

Thank You to our 2018 Stewards!

Fr. Cosmas & Pres. Michelle Halekakis
Eleftherios & Joanne Adamopoulos
Paul & Toula Alatzakis
Lisa Alexakos
Elaine Alexander
Daniel & Rae Anne Alvarez
Markos Andrews
James & Katherine Androus
John Androus
Peter & Lisa Androus
Antonia Androutsopoulos
Christine Androutsopoulos
Bill & Celeste Anest
Peter & Thalia Anest
Cynthia Angelos-Williams
Catherine Attiah
Demetrios & Olga Axarlis
Jo Ann Baldwin
Dupree & Allena Barbato
Juliane Berbas Ginakakis
John & Peggy Bertsos
Jeffrey & Mary Block
James & Irene Booras
Evange & Maria Bozinis
John & Heather Bratsakis
Kassandra Cadman
Julie Camacaris
Sandra Camacaris
William & Sharon Camacaris
Joe & Tina Cantore
Michael & Sophia Carreon
James Chagdes
Ken & Jennie Chalifoux
Kenneth Chess
John & Helen Chiapetta
Patricia Chresanthakes
Rosalie Christofidis
Donald & Yvonne Cichon
Theodore & Sophia Colombus
George & Donna Conopeotis
James & Antoinette Corelis
John & Jan Coroneos
Steven & Brenda Costopoulos
George & Demetra Couvall
George & Jacqueline Couvall
James & Janet Couvall
Loverne Couvall
Effie Crambes
Anastasia Csahiouni
Basil & Maria Danos
Panayotis & Elizabeth Danos
Spiro & Maria Deligiannis
Effie Demitropoulos
Anthony & Cathy DeMoon
Pasquale & Paraskevi Dinatale
James & Dina Dowmon
William & Coula Dracos
Tom & Maria Earth
Liberato & Betty Ebarle
Megan Ebarle
Trent & Erin Ethington
Helen Exarhakos
Steve & Metaxia Exarhakos
George & Carol Fanuda
Demitri & Pamela Fardelos
Margaret Flatray
Ted & Denise Galatsianos
David & Denise Gaulin
Maria Georgas
Beatrice Gountanis
George & Diana Gountanis
Chris Gramatis
Sophia Grassa
Daniel & Mary Haggerty
Yanni Halekakis
Michael Halekakis
James & Denise Haritos
Emmanuel & Flora Hatzis
James & Carol Hauri
Steve Hayward & Georgene Sardis
Brian Hill
David & Tessie Hill
Matthew & Katherine Holt
Paul & Maria Hristoforatos
John & Elena Hughes
Jeremy & Tina Inman
John & Dana Iskalis
Tom & Doris Iskalis
Gordon & Constance Jelatis Hoke
Olga Kalegina
Bessie Kalkanis
Tim & Voula Kalkanis
Dino & Elaine Kallianis
George & Jenna Kallianis
Spiros & Theodora Kalleris
Edward & Koula Kanne
Spyros & Stella Kapsalis
Kostandinos & Notah Karabatsos
Betty Karagiannes
James and Niki Karagiannes
Louis Karagiannes
George & Karen Karas
Bassem Kardoush
Fofi Karigiannis
Andrew & Elaina Karigan
Theresa Karigan
James Kastanis
Kristin-Marie Kastanis
Chris & Nicoletta Katris
Elaine Katris
Roman Keating
Jason & Irene Keeling
Stephanie Kokinis
William & Demetra Kokinis
William Kokinis Jr.
Thomas & Tonia Korellis
Gus & Marie Kotsiovos
Michael Kouimelis
Nick & Michelle Koularmanis
George Koulogeorge
John & Tasia Koulogeorge
Athanasios Kourliouros
Chris & Donna Kournetas
John & Vicky Kournetas
Angela Kousiantas
Evan & Vasiliki Kouvaras
Michael & Christine Kouvelis
Thomas & Donna Krissek
Emmanuel & Bessie Kritikos
Michael & Mary Lannan
Allen & Cecelia Lelo
James & Kathy Leoris
Dino & Marie Leventis
Spiros & Fotini Liarakos
Sophia Liarakos
Demetrios & Marianthe Logothetis
Eugenia Loucas
Arthur & Mary Lundy
Renee Maggos
Keith & Jennifer Marhefka
Billy & Vicky Marinakos
Joyce Markoutsis
Nick Markoutsis
Stanley & Flora Markoutsis
Timothy & Ellen Mauer
Demetri & Stella Mentzelopoulos
Jenny Merelos
Martha Merilos
Christopher Metropoulos
Karen Ann Metropoulos
Cliff & Sophia Mitchell
Bret & Zacho Moberg
Bertha Nastos
Joseph Nicholas
Peter & Triantafylli Nicolaou
Nicholas Nikitas & Maria Mavromati
Robert & Maria Opal
George & Nancy Paganis
Richard & Christine Palmer
Nikos Panacos
John & Peggy Pann
Nick & Angela Pann
George & Yiota Pantelopoulos
John & Kathy Pantelopoulos
Patricia & Maria Papadakis
Stavros & Lilibeth Papadakis
George Papagiannes & Elaine George
Cynthia Papasotiriou
Paschalis & Tava Paschos
Catherine Pasinski
Theofane Patterson
William Patterson
John & Ida Pavlos
Melissa Pavlos
Alexander & Evanthia Perizes
Peter J. Petropoulos
Nicholas & Tess Petropoulos
Dick & Niki Phillips
James & Ruby Phillips
Steven Phillips
Therapon & Luvy Pipinis
Milton & Helen Pissios
Spyros & Betty Polydoros
Beth Anne Popp
James & Anna Poulos
John & Jamelyn Poulos
Helen Psihos
Nikolaos & Sonia Pylarinos
Juan Ramirez & Sofia Mantzoukis
Olga Rodis
Manuel Rodis
Konstantinos & Peggy Roupas
James & Susan Rizzi
George & Maria Sakas
Daniel & Maria Salazar
Donald & Stavroula Saunders
Maria Saranthankes
Donald & Stavroula Saunders
Natalie Savich
Donald Scheef & Mary Nunchuck
Carole Scheve
Allen & Nina Schwab
Nicholas & Elizabeth Serelis
Faya Shiu
George & Jean Simopoulos
Bessie Skaramagos
Tim & Soula Sloth
Irene Snavely
Kostas & Antonia Sokorelis
Todd & Heather Soulias
Areti Stamayannos
Demetre & Tina Stergiou
Nick & Patty Stianos
Michael & Frieda Strzyzewski
Dominic & Maria Tabrizi
Gus & Diane Touloufis
Ed & Helen Trage
Zoe Tritsis
Dimitrios & Aphroditi Tsakos
Dimitrios Tsarouhtsis
Theodora Tsarouhtsis
Ethel Tsausis
Eleanna Tselos
Kostas & Jenny Tselos
Gus & Diane Tsouloufis
Angelo & Popi Tzavaras
Constantine & Nikoletta Tziavaras
Demetrios & Jackie Vatistas
Georgia Vatistas
Maria Vervilos
Dino & Sofia Vlahakis
Gus Vlahos & Georgia Aralles-Vlahos
Spyros & Maria Vlahos
Chrisavgi Wade
Martin Wilber
Eva Woosley
John & Virgina Xanthopoulos
Gus & Marge Xenos
Peter & Georgann Yonke
Robert & Irini Zanze
Gus & Ioulia Zografos
John & Nectaria Zouras
John & Effie Zygokostas

SUMMARY:
245 Families pledged
$320,000 in total pledges
$1,300 average pledge

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

GOYA Mother's Day BAKE SALE

Sunday, May 13th After Church

Pick-up Some Goodies for Mom!

All Proceeds To Benefit Our Feed 6 Event!

For Any More Info or Questions Please Contact Demetra Utter at demetrautter@yahoo.com

Parish Council President's Report

We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.

There is a church camp/retreat song we used to sing. *"We are one in the spirit. We are one in the Lord. And we pray that our unity will one day be restored. And they'll know we are Christians by our love."* I think of this often: how we are all the body of Christ, how Christ calls each of us to love and care for each other, how there is no room for divisiveness and exclusion in Christ's kingdom. The downtrodden, the lost, the unbelievers, the strugglers, the unkempt and unloved…Jesus welcomes us all equally. Do we do the same?

Do we invite and welcome strangers to sit with us in church and at coffee fellowship? Or, do we sit with the same people all the time: those we know and love and feel comfortable with? It is so much easier to be with and relate to people who share our same experiences, our same stature in life, our same belief system. Most of us tend to seek out those who think and feel as we do. But the only way we grow is to reach out to those who are different from us: someone from another place, someone who speaks a language other than ours, someone with different interests from our own, someone who looks different, or sounds different, or whose abilities and talents are different. When we reach out to the "other" or "xeni", we are truly doing the work of Christ, who not only welcomed, but sought out, those people shunned by society: the outcasts, the untouchables, the unbelievers.

The song continues: *"We will work with each other. We will work side by side. And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride."* Christ reached out to help and heal, and He calls us to do the same. But something else happens when we do this. We grow. We learn. We become better human beings.

I was just visiting my cousin who moved to Minnesota for 5 years and is now leaving. She talked about how hard it was to make friends. (Remember, that's the land of "Minnesota nice".) Why? Because everyone already has their community and doesn't have space in their lives for anyone else. Are we, in the church, like that? Do we have room in our hearts and in our church for new people, for "xenia"? If we don't, we cannot grow in numbers or in compassion, knowledge or spirituality. Because the church is more than our beautiful building. We, the people, are the church. When a stranger comes to us, does that person know we are Christians by our love?

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." (Hebrews 13:2)

In Christ,
Connie Jelatis Hoke

Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

Spring GREEK FEST

May 4th, 5th, & 6th

St. Demetrios Church Hall

1400 N. O'Plaine Rd. (Between 137 & 120)

FREE PARKING & FREE ADMISSION!
ALL INDOORS!

Traditional Greek Cuisine!

Homemade Greek Pastries!

Raffle tickets $5 each or 5 for $20 - Great Prizes!

AHEPA Chapter 218
Annual Dinner Dance

Hosted at The Shanty Reception Hall
Saturday June 9
6pm Hors D'oeuvres
7pm Dinner
Adults $75, Kids: $30

Music: Apollos Sounds Band
Wine Bar Available
Complementary Valet Parking
Raffle Prizes

Join us on warm summer evening at The Shanty in their brand new reception hall as we celebrate another successful year of giving. We will dance, laugh, and cheer the evening away as we enjoy our accomplishments during this joyous occasion. We will present the AHEPAN of the Year award to Evange Bozinis and award the winners of our scholarship program.

For tickets contact a chapter member or at AHEPA218.org

May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 *Fr. Cosmas at Clergy Retreat*	2 *Fr. Cosmas at Clergy Retreat* *FISH ALLOWED*	3 *Fr. Cosmas at Clergy Retreat* 5pm Greek School	4 ***SPRING FEST 11am – 8pm*** *FAST DAY*	5 ***SPRING FEST 11am – 8pm***
6 **Sunday of the Samaritan Woman** 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Liturgy ***SPRING FEST 11am – 6pm***	7	8	9 *FAST DAY*	10 Fr Cosma at HAA 5pm Greek School 7pm Philoptochos	11 10am Mom's Group *FAST DAY*	12
13 **Sunday of the Blind Man** 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Liturgy *Mother's Day* *GOYA Bake sale*	14	15 6:30pm AHEPA at GOJO's Cafe	16 12pm Book Club at Giordano's in Gurnee *FAST DAY*	17 Holy Ascension 9am Services in Glenview 5pm Greek School	18 *FAST DAY*	19 **FEED 6 EVENT** ***11am – 1:30pm***
20 **Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council** 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Liturgy *General Assembly*	21 8:30am Services for Saints Constantine & Helen	22	23 *FAST DAY*	24 Fr Cosma at HAA	25 *FAST DAY*	26 8:30am Services for Saturday of the Souls *Junior Olympics In Palos Hills*
27 **HOLY PENTECOST** 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Liturgy	28 8am Services Mon. Of The Holy Spirit **MEMORIAL DAY** Fr. Cosmas at Cemeteries: 9:30am at Rt. 131 10:30am at Rt. 45	29	30 *NO FASTING*	31 Fr Cosma at HAA		

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1400 N. O'Plaine Road
Libertyville, Illinois 60048

Return Service Requested

2018 GREEK FEST

JULY 13, 14 & 15

As you are making your Summer Plans
Please Save the Date for our
2018 Lake County Greek Fest!