History of Salvation in the Names of the Saints
From the desk of Fr. Timothy

I like to think about names, and when I meet someone I like to learn the history of his or her name – because very often our names say something about who we are, and what our parents wanted for us. We see this a lot with Biblical names, when the giving of the name either recalls something from the greater story of the family, or it foretells something about who that person will be, or something that will happen to them. For example, the name “Moses” (meaning, “drawn from the water”) is given because Moses was taken from the water as an infant, but it also foreshadows the saving of the people of Israel out of the Red Sea. Our names become an integral part of who we are, because a name is not just a label or a means of address – it represents not only who we are, but the whole story of where we come from – not only our own lives, but all the lives that have been interwoven with our own.

On December 22nd, the Sunday before Christmas, we commemorate the Forefathers of Christ, and read the genealogy of Christ from the Gospel of Matthew – that is, all the forefathers of Christ from Adam to David to Joseph. At a very basic level, this list of names serves as a simple reminder that Christ is as fully human as we are, even to the point of having physical ancestors and belonging to a family.

At the same time, St. Matthew is reminding us with these names of the many stories that make up the Great Story of God’s revelation of Himself to His Creation. The name “Abraham” recalls the story of a righteous man, called by God from all that he knew and loved to become the father of a new people – the people of Israel – set apart for God and the ultimate perfection of humankind. The name “Moses” recalls the story of a broken man – a murderer and a stammerer – who was called by God to redemption and to lead that same people of Israel from slavery to freedom in the fulfillment of God’s promises. The name “David” recalls the story of a simple shepherd boy who, by faith and the grace of God, defeated the giant, saved his people, and became a king “after God’s own heart.”

Each of these names and accompanying stories tell stories of God working with individuals for their salvation from immediate troubles and their particular struggles with sin and death. All together, however, these names and stories form a Great History of God revealing Himself to His Creation and preparing the way for Christ and His great work of salvation from the cosmic sicknesses of sin and death. As is the way with Biblical names, the names that are given to Christ reveal to us the purpose and meaning of Christ’s coming: “Jesus,” meaning “God saves,” or “God heals;” “Christ,” meaning the “chosen one” or “anointed one” of God; and “Emmanuel,” which means “God with us.”

Father Timothy’s message continued on the last page...
PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Elections
Will be held on Sunday,
December 1st, 2019

Prosforon & Fellowship Schedule

Dec. 1  P: Elan Nichols
        F: Kitty Gavalas

Dec. 8  P: Soula Ostler
        F: Nick & Barbara Christofilopoulos

Dec. 15 P: Matina Ioannides
          F: Megan Rodriguez

Dec. 22 P: Beverly Siradakis
          F: PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH & PARTY

Dec. 29 P: Pres. Catherine Cook
          F: Annie & Andy Bazakis

Many thanks to all the women who prepare the Prosforon each week. It is truly an important offering for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. If you are unable to prepare Prosforon for your scheduled Sunday, please contact the church office.

ALTAR VIGIL CANDLES
10/27 - Happy Name Day James Kokas and Family by Mary Kokas
10/27 - For Special Purposes, for family, by Petro & Sandra Ahejew
10/27 - In Memory of, James & Peggy Dadaou by Nick & Grace Makrianis
11/3 - In Memory of James & Demetrios by Alexia
11/3 - For Special Purposes by Sandra Ahejew
11/3 - By Joan & Tom Billingsley
   *Better Health for Tom Billingsley & John Nagel
   *Successful Operation for Mike Hamilton
   *In Memory of Ed Billingsley

PHILOPTOCHOS CORNER

Warm wishes for a joyous Christmas to the ladies of Philoptochos and to all our St. Demetrios family.

Philoptochos has been working nonstop since September on the Holiday Bake sale. Once again our work will benefit various charity donations. Many Thanks to all that make this possible!

Our next project will be to host the St. Demetrios Children's Christmas party.

Joni Porchia
President

2019 St. Demetrios Parish Picture
Christmas Services

December 24th, Christmas Eve
Royal Hours of Christmas Eve - 9:00 am
Vesperal Liturgy - 5:00 pm

December 25th, Christmas Day
Orthros of Christmas Day - 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am

Christ is born! Glorify Him!
Χριστὸς γεννᾶται! Δοξάσατε!
Христос рождается! Славимо Його!
مود جم! دلو حيضم!

Christmas Eve Parish Family Dinner after services.
Chen’s Mongolian Grill on Bay Rd. by the Mall
Please sign up, at the Pangari, so we can reserve space.
Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
2019 Stewardship Commitment Form

“When we believe, stewardship follows. Stewardship is faith in action; action motivated by humble gratitude to God for his blessings in our life.”

**ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO THE ONE WHO BELIEVES IN CHRIST.**

Please bring this form to the Church or mail it to the Church Office at 4970 Mackinaw Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603

Name: ____________________________
Street Address: ____________________________ City: ____________________________ State: ___ Zip Code: ___________

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<tr>
<th>Individual or Family</th>
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In gratitude for God’s blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ’s work at St. Demetrios Church for 2019.

$ ______ weekly $ ______ monthly $ ______ quarterly $ ______ semi-annually $ ______ annually

Our goal as a parish family is 3% of our individual incomes.
However, stewardship is a spiritual discipline that should be discussed with your spiritual father.

Please indicate areas of expertise or interest where you would like to serve:
(Individuals should provide a check mark and families provide "H" for husband, "W" for wife and "C" for children)

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<tr>
<th>ADMINISTRATION</th>
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<th>FAMILY MINISTRY</th>
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<td>___ Audit Committee</td>
<td>___ Website / Email</td>
<td>___ Adult Education</td>
<td>___ Altar Service</td>
<td>___ Family Ministry</td>
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<td>___ Election Committee</td>
<td>___ Bookstore / Library</td>
<td>___ Intro to Orthodoxy</td>
<td>___ Music Ministries</td>
<td>___ Hospitality / Welcome Ministry</td>
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<td>___ Finance Committee</td>
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<td>___ Garden &amp; Landscape</td>
<td>___ Computer / Technical</td>
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<td>___ Iconography / Beautification</td>
<td>___ ___</td>
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<td>___ Property Maintenance</td>
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<th>YOUTH</th>
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<td>___ Church School Teacher</td>
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<td>___ Church School Administration</td>
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<td>___ GOYA Advisor</td>
<td>___ ___</td>
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I/we would like to receive notifications from St. Demetrios by: ___ email ___ paper mail

You can also submit your stewardship card and your contributions online at www.stdemetrios.mi.goarch.org/stewardship

CONFIDENTIAL: For Authorized Parish Personnel Only
St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
2020 Stewardship Commitment Form

“Teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.”
Psalm 90:12

A TIME FOR EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN

Please bring this form to the Church or mail it to the Church Office at 4970 Mackinaw Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603

Name:__________________________________________

Street Address: ___________________________ City: ___________ State: ____ Zip Code: ________

Individual or Family Spouse (if applicable) Children (if applicable)

Name: ________________________________ Name: __________________________ Name: __________________________

Home Tel: ___________________________ Mobile Tel: __________________________

Work Tel: ___________________________ Email: __________________________

Occupation: ___________________________ (Last, current)

In gratitude for God’s blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ’s work at St. Demetrios Church for 2020.

$ _______ weekly $ _______ monthly $ _______ quarterly $ _______ semi-annually $ _______ annually

Our goal as a parish family is to raise our stewardship by $20/month for the 2020 calendar year. However, stewardship is a spiritual discipline that should be discussed with your spiritual father.

Please indicate areas of expertise or interest where you would like to serve:
(Individuals should provide a check mark and families provide "H" for husband, "W" for wife and "C" for children)

ADMINISTRATION
___ Audit Committee
___ Election Committee
___ Office help

BUILDING & GROUNDS
___ Property Maintenance
___ Garden & Landscape
___ Iconography / Beautification

COMMUNICATIONS
___ Computer / Technical

EDUCATION
___ Adult Education

LITURGICAL
___ Baking Phosphora
___ Music Ministries
___ Sanctuary & Altar Care

MINISTRIES
___ Coffee Hour

___ Newsletter / Publications
___ Website / Email

Family Ministry
___ Hospitality / Welcome Ministry
___ Visitation (Sick / Shut-ins)
___ Outreach

YOUTH
___ Church School Teacher
___ Church School Administration
___ GOYA Advisor

OTHER

I/we would like to receive notifications from St. Demetrios by: ___ email ___ paper mail

You can also submit your stewardship card and your contributions online at www.stdemetrios.mi.goarch.org/stewardship

CONFIDENTIAL: For Authorized Parish Personnel Only
When you support the Friends of the Metropolis campaign, you are part of a greater outreach that proclaims with one universal voice that God is truly our hope and our rock of salvation. Because of your devotion to the Friends program, ministries and programs are implemented on a Metropolis-wide basis which strengthen and enhance our faith and our joint ministry of service. I would like to invite you to join forces with the faithful throughout the Metropolis of Detroit in support of the ministries which are part of the Office of the Metropolitan.

Thanking you for your kind and generous response, I remain, with paternal blessings and prayers,

+NICHOLAS
Metropolitan of Detroit

MORE INFO AT:
WWW.DETROIT.GOARCH.ORG/FRIENDS

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<th>GENERAL SUPPORT</th>
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<td>Fully fund the general expenses of the Metropolis office, including programs and travels.</td>
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<th>CLERGY/PARISH SUPPORT</th>
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<td>Develop and provide instructional seminars and services for clergy and parishes.</td>
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<th>OUTREACH/MISSIONS</th>
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<td>Create opportunities to introduce our faith to society. Participate in inter-Christian and interfaith activities. Provide quick responses to national and international disasters.</td>
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<th>EDUCATION</th>
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<td>Enhance various scholarship opportunities, adult education programs, and support Metropolis students at Hellenic College/Holy Cross.</td>
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<th>HELLENISM</th>
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<td>Develop programs for Hellenic Cultural Outreach, including language, history, and arts.</td>
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<th>LEADERSHIP</th>
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<td>Organize Clergy-Laity Conferences, Oratorical Festivals, Youth Worker and Religious Education Training, and Adult Education Seminars.</td>
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<th>SPECIAL PROGRAMS</th>
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<td>Continued website development, hospitality to visiting dignitaries, charity and philanthropy.</td>
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Name

Address

City State Zip

Email

Mobile No.

Parish Name City/State

Credit Card ○ Check ○ Money Order

Credit Card No.

Exp. Date CVC No.

Total in $

Signature

Make checks payable to Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit. Fill out this card and send it with payment to Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit 2560 Crooks Road Troy, MI 48084
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Father Timothy’s Message: 
As we prepare to celebrate the feast of Christmas, gathering around our tables with our friends and family, take a moment – not only to reflect on the names and history of Christ’s family, and the great story of salvation – but also on the names and the history of your own family, and the ways in which God has worked in your lives to bring about your salvation and the salvation of the world.

As part of our outreach effort this season, our Parish will be making food baskets and delivering them to needy families. Join us as we celebrate our Lord’s Nativity by sharing the love He came to show the world.

(1) If you would like to help support this ministry, please fill out the form below.
(2) Take an tag from the Giving Tree in the Narthex and follow the instructions. We will deliver the gifts at the same time as we deliver the baskets.
(3) Sign up at the pangari or contact Andrea to help: (1) assemble the baskets on Friday, December 20th at 10:00 am, and (2) deliver the baskets on Saturday the 21st at 8:00 am.

If you have questions, please speak to Andrea Ferris.

Name: ___________________________________________________________  
Cash □

Amount: _________________________________________________________  
Check □

Please make checks out to St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, with "Food Baskets" in the memo line.

"Feeding the hungry is a greater work than raising the dead." - St. John Chrysostom