

# **St. Demetrios**

## **Greek Orthodox Church**

4970 Mackinaw Rd.  
Saginaw, MI 48603

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989-793-8659  
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989-793-8886

### **Parish Priest**

Fr. Timothy Cook (517) 515-9565

### **Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit**

His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas

### **Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America**

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios

### **Under the Spiritual Jurisdiction of the**

### **Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople**

His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch

Bartholomew I

### **2014/15 Parish Council**

**President** - Megan Rodriguez (2016)

**Vice Pres.** - Dr. David Nichols (2016)

**Treasurer** - Dennis Ostler (2016)

**Secretary** - Marge Paron (2017)

Dr. Thomas Barris (2016)

Dr. Andrew Bazakis (2017)

Bill Delong (2016)

Yvonne Delong (2016)

Soula Economou (2017)

Eleni Morris (2016)

Joanie Porchia (2017)

Eftihios Siradakis (2016)

### **Parish Ministries & Organizations**

#### **Altar Boy Advisor**

Panayiotis Metropoulos

#### **Chanters**

Ted Veremis Andreas Skoutelas

Maria Metropoulos

Dr. Andy Bazakis

#### **Choir**

**Director** - Toula Brown

**Asst. Director** - Elan Nichols

#### **Philo托chos President**

Virginia Ulmer

#### **Sunday School Director**

Tena Mendyk

#### **Sunday School Directors**

Alexia & Evan Houpis

#### **AHEPA President**

George Zaharopoulos

#### **Daughters of Penelope President**

Vicki Clifford

#### **GOYA Advisors**

Dr. Andrew Bazakis

Bessie Bone

#### **Dance Group Directors**

Megan Sarantis-Rodriguez

Alexander Sarantis & Jacob Bone

#### **Diakonia Editor**

Megan Sarantis-Rodriguez

# DIAKONIA

OCTOBER 2016



## The Church as Family

*“Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.”*

– Acts 2:41-47

By: Fr. Timothy Cook

In this day and age, it seems that so many families are separated, especially across generations with parents living far away from their children’s families. We are communal beings, and we are designed to live with the support not only of siblings and parents but of our entire family unit – grandparents, cousins, uncles, and aunts, all living together and supporting each other. We all need our family, and so many people today in all generations are trying to make do without.

On the glorious day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Church, the Good News that God had joined Himself to men to free the world of sin and death was preached in every language. And we read in the book of Acts that after this day the Church, or “all who believed” “were together, and had all things in common.” They continued “daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house.” They were, in short, a family – a family who rejoiced together, wept together, lived together, and cared for each other.

The Church is the living Body of Christ, the communion of Christians with Christ. Quite simply, the Church is a family. When we receive Holy Communion in the Divine Liturgy we are joined not only with Christ, but with each other. Holy Communion creates “togetherness,” it creates a family, a community.

This is why we have our coffee hours, potlucks, Fellowship Nights, and the Glendi for St. Demetrios – to have an opportunity to come together outside of the Liturgy to live this reality of Communion in Christ – to be together as a family. When we come together, inside our outside of church services and projects, we allow the Communion that we receive in Church to enter another part of our lives. We bring Christ into our friendships and our friendships into Christ. Simply to come together as Christians is one of the most important things we can do to enrich our spiritual lives.

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*Father's Message Continued....*

Today it seems that what is missing from so many lives is a simple sense of family, both immediate and extended. People are missing the support and the joy that comes from belonging to and caring for others, and this is exactly what the Church is meant to be. We are a family, and the more we pray together, work together, laugh together, and care for each other, the more we will find Christ not only in Church on Sunday, but everywhere and at all times.

May God guide us all to live closer in harmony, through the prayers of St. Demetrios as we celebrate his feast.  
-Fr. Timothy

**PARISH COUNCIL**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Saginaw, Michigan is to promote the tenets of Orthodox Christianity in the community through ministry, evangelism and spiritual leadership.

**VISION OF OUR PARISH**

To worship God, Fellowship with One Another, and to Serve the World.

*Prosforon & Fellowship Schedule*

- Oct. 2 Prosforon: Fran Rouman  
Fellowship: Dr. Majed & Rheame Sahouri
- Oct. 9 Prosforon: Bev Siradakis  
Fellowship: Vonnie & Bill DeLong
- Oct. 16 Prosforon: Paraskevi Skoutelas  
Fellowship: Soula & Dennis Ostler
- Oct. 23 Prosforon: Leta Povich  
Fellowship: Joni & Tom Billingsley
- Oct. 30 Prosforon: Stephanie Chisolm  
Fellowship: Megan Rodriguez



*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 promptly.*

**ALTAR VIGIL  
CANDLES**



**8/14** - Happy Death for Mrs. Kitakis, by John Tsiros

**8/21** - In Memory of my loving father by Liliane Bakos

**8/28** - In Memory of Same Rouman and Steve Chronis by George & Fran Rouman

**9/4** - Happy Death for Larry Coulouris, by John Tsiros

**9/4-11** - Better Health, for Carrie Ahejew, by Petro & Sandra Ahejew

**9/11** - In Memory of, Gus Paron, by Sophia & Johnathan Bernhart

**9/25** - Better health, for Kathy Huber, by Gabriella & Edward Economous

**9/25** - Better health for, Andreas Skoutelas by Gabriella & Edward Economous

**9/25** - In Loving Memory, for Rev. Gregory Economou, by his family



**St. Demetrios  
Greek School**

**STARTING SOON!**

**Contact Elan Nichols for  
more info. At:  
easnichols@gmail.com**

