



ΙΕΡΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ
SAINT DEMETRIOS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH + UPPER DARBY, PA



METROPOLIS OF
NEW JERSEY

REV. GREGORY GILBERT · PRESIDING PRIEST
FRGRIGORIS@GMAIL.COM

229 POWELL LANE · UPPER DARBY, PA 19082
TELEPHONE: 610.352.7212

16 ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ · SEPTEMBER 2018

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΜΕΤΑ ΤΗΝ ΥΨΩΣΙΝ · SUNDAY AFTER THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS
ΤΗΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ ΕΥΦΗΜΙΑΣ · HOLY GREAT MARTYR EUPHEMIA

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ · SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

ΑΓΙΩΝ ΜΑΡΤΥΡΩΝ ΣΟΦΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΥΓΑΤΕΡΩΝ ΠΙΣΤΕΩΣ, ΕΛΠΙΔΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΑΓΑΠΗΣ ·
HOLY MARTYR SOPHIA & HER DAUGHTERS FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE

Κυριακή, 17 Σεπτεμβρίου Έσπερινός 7.00 μ.μ.***
Sunday, 17 September Vespers 7.00 p.m.***

Δευτέρα, 14 Σεπτεμβρίου Όρθρος 9.00 π.μ. · Θεία Λειτουργία 10.00 π.μ.***
Monday, 14 September Orthros 9.00 a.m. · Divine Liturgy 10.00 a.m.***

Ακολουθία εις τὸν Ἱ. Ν. Ἀγίων Σοφίας, Πίστεως, Ἐλπίδος καὶ Ἀγάπης, Jeffersonville, PA
Services held at Sts. Sophia, Faith, Hope, and Love, in Jeffersonville, PA.

Α΄ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΛΟΥΚΑ · FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE

Κυριακή, 23 Σεπτεμβρίου Όρθρος 8.45 π.μ. · Θεία Λειτουργία 10.00 π.μ.
Sunday, 23 September Orthros 8.45 a.m. · Divine Liturgy 10.00 a.m.

THE ANTIPHONS OF THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

ΑΝΤΙΦΩΝΟΝ Α΄. ΗΧΟΣ Β΄

Στίχ. α΄. Ὁ Θεός, ὁ Θεός μου, πρόσχες
μοι ἵνα τί ἐγκατέλιπές με;
Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου,
Σῶτερ, σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. β΄. Μακρὰν ἀπὸ τῆς σωτηρίας μου
οἱ λόγοι τῶν παραπτωμάτων μου.
Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου...

Στίχ. γ΄. Ὁ Θεός μου, κεκράζομαι
ἡμέρας, καὶ οὐκ εἰσακούσῃ, καὶ
νυκτός, καὶ οὐκ εἰς ἄνοιαν ἐμοί.
Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου...

Στίχ. δ΄. Σὺ δὲ ἐν ἀγίῳ κατοικεῖς, ὁ
ἔπαινος τοῦ Ἰσραήλ.
Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου...

Δόξα Πατρὶ... Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ...
Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου...

ΑΝΤΙΦΩΝΟΝ Β΄. ΗΧΟΣ Β΄

Στίχ. α΄. Ἰνατί, ὁ Θεός, ἀπώσω εἰς
τέλος; ὠργίσθη ὁ θυμός σου ἐπὶ
πρόβατα νομῆς σου;
Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ σαρκὶ
σταυρωθεὶς, ψάλλοντάς σοι,
Ἀλληλούϊα.

Στίχ. β΄. Μνήσθητι τῆς συναγωγῆς σου,
ἧς ἐκτήσω ἀπ' ἀρχῆς.
Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ σαρκὶ
σταυρωθεὶς...

Στίχ. γ΄. Ἐλυτρώσω ράβδον
κληρονομίας σου, ὄρος Σιών τοῦτο, ὃ
κατεσκήνωσας ἐν αὐτῷ.
Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ σαρκὶ
σταυρωθεὶς...

Antiphon I. Mode II

Vs. 1: O God, my God, hear me; why have
You forsaken me?
Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Vs. 2: The words of my transgressions are
far from my salvation.
Through the intercessions...

Vs. 3: O my God, I will cry out by day, but
You will not hear me; and by night, but
not for a lack of understanding in me.
Through the intercessions...

Vs. 4: But You dwell among the saints, O
praise of Israel.
Through the intercessions...
Glory to the Father... Both now and ever...
Through the intercessions...

Antiphon II. Mode II

Vs. 1: O God, why have You rejected us to
the end? Why has Your anger raged
against the sheep of Your pasture?
Save us, O Son of God, who were
crucified in the flesh. We sing to
You, Alleluia.

Vs. 2: Remember Your congregation You
acquired from the beginning.
Save us, O Son of God, who were
crucified...

Vs. 3: That You redeemed the rod of Your
inheritance, this Mount Zion, where
You encamped.
Save us, O Son of God, who were
crucified...

Στίχ. δ'. Ὁ δὲ Θεὸς βασιλεὺς ἡμῶν πρὸ αἰώνων, εἰργάσατο σωτηρίαν ἐν μέσῳ τῆς γῆς.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ σαρκὶ σταυρωθεὶς...

Δόξα Πατρὶ... Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ...

Ὁ Μονογενὴς Υἱὸς καὶ Λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ...

ΑΝΤΙΦΩΝΟΝ Γ'. ΗΧΟΣ Α'

Στίχ. α'. Ὁ Κύριος ἐβασίλευσεν, ὀργιζέσθωσαν λαοί.

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαὸν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος, καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

Στίχ. β'. Ὁ καθήμενος ἐπὶ τῶν Χερουβὶμ, σαλευθήτω ἡ γῆ.

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαὸν σου...

Στίχ. γ'. Κύριος ἐν Σιὼν μέγας καὶ ὑψηλός ἐστιν ἐπὶ πάντας τοὺς λαούς. καὶ τὸ ὄνομα Κυρίου ἐπικαλέσομαι.

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαὸν σου...

ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΜΟΝ. ΗΧΟΣ ΒΑΡΥΣ

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέωξας τῷ Ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας· ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

ΤΗΣ ΕΟΡΤΗΣ. ΗΧΟΣ Α'

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαὸν σου...

Vs. 4: But God is our King before the ages; He worked salvation in the midst of the earth.

Save us, O Son of God, who were crucified...

Glory to the Father... Both now and ever...

Only begotten Son and Word of God...

ANTIPHON III. MODE IV

Vs. 1: The Lord reigns; let the nations be angry.

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over the enemy, and by Your Cross protecting Your commonwealth.

Vs. 2: The Lord sits upon the cherubim; let the earth be shaken.

Save, O Lord, Your people...

Vs. 3: The Lord is great in Zion, and He is exalted above all the peoples. And call upon the name of the Lord.

Save, O Lord, Your people...

RESURRECTIONAL. GRAVE MODE

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. To the robber You opened Paradise. The lamentation of the myrrh-bearing women You transformed, and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all that You had risen, O Christ our God, and granted the world Your great mercy.

FOR THE FEAST OF THE CROSS. MODE I

Save, O Lord, Your people...

ΤΗΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ, ΗΧΟΣ Γ΄

Λίαν εὐφρανας τοὺς ὀρθοδόξους, καὶ
κατήσχυνας τοὺς κακοδόξους, Εὐφημία
Χριστοῦ καλλιπάρθενε· τῆς γὰρ
Τετάρτης Συνόδου ἐκύρωσας, ἃ οἱ
Πατέρες καλῶς ἐδογματίσαν, Μάρτυς
ἔνδοξε, Χριστὸν τὸν Θεὸν ἱκέτευε,
δωρήσασθαι ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

ΤΟΥ ΝΑΟΥ, ΗΧΟΣ Γ΄

Μέγαν εὖρατο ἐν τοῖς κινδύνοις σέ
ὑπέρμαχον ἢ οἰκουμένη, Ἀθλοφόρε, τὰ
ἔθνη τροπούμενον. Ὡς οὖν Λυαίου
καθεῖλες τὴν ἔπαρσιν, ἐν τῷ σταδίῳ
θαρρύνας τὸν Νέστορα, οὕτως Ἅγιε,
Μεγαλομάρτυς Δημήτριε, Χριστὸν τὸν
Θεὸν ἱκέτευε, δωρήσασθαι ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα
ἔλεος.

ΚΟΝΤΑΚΙΟΝ ΕΟΡΤΗΣ. ΗΧΟΣ Δ΄

Ὁ ὑψωθείς ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ ἐκουσίως,
τῇ ἐπωνύμῳ σου καινῇ πολιτείᾳ τοὺς
οἰκτιρμούς σου δώρησαι, Χριστέ ὁ
Θεός· εὐφρανον ἐν τῇ δυνάμει σου
τοὺς πιστοὺς βασιλεῖς ἡμῶν, νίκας
χορηγῶν αὐτοῖς κατὰ τῶν πολεμίων·
τὴν συμμαχίαν ἔχοιεν τὴν σὴν,
ὄπλον εἰρήνης, ἀήττητον τρόπαιον.

FOR ST. EUPHEMIA, MODE III

To the Orthodox you brought elation,
the unorthodox, humiliation, O
Euphemia, the beautiful virgin of
Christ. For what the Fathers of the
Fourth Ecumenical Synod decreed well
as dogma you ratified. Pray to Christ
our God, O glorious Martyr, fervently,
entreating Him to grant us His great
mercy.

FOR OUR PATRON SAINT, MODE III

All the world has you, its mighty
champion, fortifying us in times of
danger, and defeating our foes, O
Victorious One. So, as you humbled
Lyaïos's arrogance by giving courage to
Nestor in the stadium, thus, O
holy Great Martyr Demetrios, to Christ
our God pray fervently, beseeching
Him to grant us His great mercy.

ΚΟΝΤΑΚΙΟΝ FOR THE CROSS; MODE IV

You who were lifted on the cross
voluntarily, O Christ our God, bestow
Your tender compassions upon Your
new community to which You gave
Your name. Cause our faithful
emperors to be glad in Your power,
granting them the victories against
their adversaries. And for an ally,
Lord, may they have You, peace as
their armor, the trophy invincible.

READING FROM THE APOSTLE: GALATIANS 2.16-20

Πρ.: Κύριος ἰσχύει τῷ λαῷ αὐτοῦ δώσει, Κύριος εὐλογήσει τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ ἐν εἰρήνῃ.
Στίχος· Ἐνέγκατε τῷ Κυρίῳ, υἱοὶ Θεοῦ, ἐνέγκατε τῷ Κυρίῳ δόξαν καὶ τιμὴν.

Ἀδελφοί, εἰδότες ὅτι οὐ δικαιοῦται ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ἔργων νόμου, ἐὰν μὴ διὰ
πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ ἡμεῖς εἰς Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐπιστεύσαμεν, ἵνα
δικαιωθῶμεν ἐκ πίστεως Χριστοῦ καὶ οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων νόμου· διότι ἐξ ἔργων

νόμου οὐ δικαιωθήσεται πᾶσα σὰρξ. Εἰ δὲ ζητοῦντες δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ εὐρέθημεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοί, ἄρα Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος; μὴ γένοιτο! Εἰ γὰρ, ἃ κατέλυσα, ταῦτα πάλιν οἰκοδομῶ, παραβάτην ἑμαυτὸν συνίστημι. Ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ νόμου νόμῳ ἀπέθανον ἵνα Θεῷ ζήσω. Χριστῷ συνεσταύρωμαι· ζῶ δὲ οὐκέτι ἐγώ, ζῇ δὲ ἐν ἐμοὶ Χριστός· ὁ δὲ νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῇ τοῦ Υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

READING FROM THE GOSPEL: MARK 8.34-9.1

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Εἴ τις θέλει ὀπίσω μου ἔλθειν, ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἀράτω τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀκολουθείτω μοι. ὃς γὰρ ἂν θέλῃ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ σῶσαι, ἀπολέσει αὐτήν· ὃς δ' ἂν ἀπολέσῃ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου, οὗτος σώσει αὐτήν. τί γὰρ ὠφελήσει ἄνθρωπον ἔαν κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον, καὶ ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ ἔαν ἐπαισχυνηθῇ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμοὺς λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπαισχυνηθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἰσὶ τινες τῶν ὧδε ἐστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ γεύσονται θανάτου ἕως ἂν ἴδωσι τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

Πρός τόν εὐλαβέστατον Ἱερόν Κληρὸν,
Τούς Ἐντιμοτάτους Ἀρχοντας τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ ἡμῶν Πατριαρχείου,
Τούς Προέδρους καί τὰ Μέλη τῶν Ἐκκλησιαστικῶν Συμβουλίων,
Τάς Προέδρους καί τὰ Μέλη τῶν Φιλοπτώχων Ἀδελφοτήτων,
Τούς διδάσκοντας καί διδασκομένους τῶν Κατηχητικῶν καί Ἑλληνικῶν Σχολείων,
Τάς Ὁργανώσεις τῆς Νεολαίας καί ἅπαν τό Χριστεπώνυμον πλήρωμα τῶν εὐσεβῶν Ὁρθοδόξων
Χριστιανῶν τῆς Ἱερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ἱερσέης.

**«Ὡ τρισμακάριστε Σταυρὲ καὶ πανσεβάσμιε, Σὲ προσκυνοῦμεν οἱ πιστοὶ
καὶ μεγαλύνομεν, ἀγαλλόμενοι τῇ θείᾳ σου ἀνυψώσει»**

(Κοντάκιον Χαιρετισμῶν Τιμίου Σταυροῦ)

Ἀγαπητοὶ ἐν Χριστῷ ἀδελφοί·

Μέσα σέ κλίμα χαρᾶς καί συγκίνησης ταυτόχρονα, ἡ ἀγία μας Ἐκκλησία προβάλλει
σήμερα γιά προσκύνηση τό μεγάλο, ἱερό καί πανσέβαστο σύμβολο τῆς χριστιανικῆς μας
πίστεως, τόν Τίμιον Σταυρό τοῦ Κυρίου. Ἡ Δεσποτική ἐορτή τῆς Παγκοσμίου Ὑψώσεως τοῦ
Τιμίου Σταυροῦ ἀποτελεῖ τήν ἀφορμή γιά νά ἐμπνευσθοῦμε ἀπό τό παράδειγμα καί τή
θυσία τοῦ Ἐσταυρωμένου, ἐνῶ τό πανίερο αὐτό σύμβολο τῆς πίστεώς μας γίνεται ἡ πηγή
τῆς δύναμης καί τῆς θείας χάριτος γιά νά ἀνταπεξέλθουμε στόν βιοτικό καί πνευματικό
μας ἀγώνα.

Ὁ Τίμιος καί ζωοποιός Σταυρός ὑψώνεται σήμερα στό μέσον τῆς Ἐκκλησίας ὡς σύμβολο
ἀναφορᾶς, σύμβολο ζωῆς, σύμβολο τῆς «ἐν Χριστῷ» λυτρωτικῆς πορείας κάθε χριστιανοῦ.
Εἶναι τό θυσιαστήριο πάνω στοῦ ὁποῖο ἡ ἄπειρη ἀγάπη τοῦ Θεοῦ θυσίασε τόν Μονογενῆ
Αὐτοῦ Υἱόν, ὡς «λύτρον ἀντί πολλῶν», γιά τή σωτηρία τῆς ἀνθρωπότητος. Ὁ Σταυρός τοῦ
Κυρίου ἦταν ὁ δικός μας σταυρός, ὁ σταυρός τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν καί τῶν παραβάσεων μας. Ἀπό
ἀπέραντη ὅμως ἀγάπη καί ἄκρα συγκατάβαση, ὁ Κύριός μας τόν πῆρε ἀπό τοὺς ὤμους μας,
γιά νά μᾶς λυτρώσει ἀπό τό φορτίο τῆς προπατορικῆς παραβάσεως, προβάλλοντάς μας ὡς
πρότυπο τῇ δικῇ Του ἀγάπῃ καί θυσίᾳ. Ὡς ὀρθόδοξοι χριστιανοί, καλούμαστε νά
ἀκολουθήσουμε τόν Κύριό μας μέ τοὺς ὅρους πού ἔθεσε ὁ ἴδιος καί ἰσχύουν διαχρονικά,
λέγοντας: «Ὅστις ΘΕΛΕΙ ὀΠΙΣΩ ΜΟΥ ἔΛΘΕΙΝ ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτόν, καὶ ἀράτω τόν σταυρόν
αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀκολουθεῖτω μοι».

Ὁ Χριστός, σεβόμενος τό αὐτεξούσιο κάθε ἀνθρώπινης ὑπαρξης, δέν ἐξαναγκάζει
κανέναν. Εἶναι δική μας ἐπιλογή νά μιμηθοῦμε τό παράδειγμά Του καί νά βαδίσουμε
συνειδητὰ τόν δρόμο πού ὁ ἴδιος χάραξε μέ ὑπομονή καί καρτερία. Οἱ περισσότεροι
ἄνθρωποι θλίβονται καὶ ἀπελπίζονται μπροστά σέ δυσάρεστα γεγονότα. Αὐτοὶ ὅμως πού

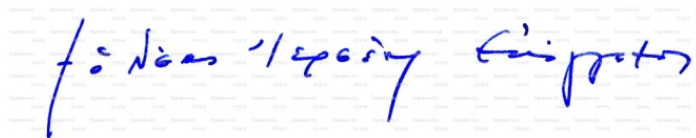
πραγματικά πιστεύουν στόν Θεό σηκώνουν τόν σταυρό τῆς δοκιμασίας τους μέ ἰώβεια ὑπομονή καί πίστη, ἐνθυμούμενοι τόν Παύλειο λόγο, «τῇ ἐλπίδι χαίροντες, τῇ θλίψει ὑπομένοντες». Ἡ ἐλπίδα γιά τά μελλοντικά ἀγαθά τῆς Βασιλείας τοῦ Θεοῦ τοὺς γεμίζει χαρά καί τοὺς βοηθᾷ νά ὑπομένουν τίς ὅποιες δοκιμασίες, κατά τό παράδειγμα τοῦ Κυρίου μας, πού σήκωσε τόν Σταυρό Του ἀγόγγυστα, με ὑποδειγματική ὑπομονή καί συγκλονιστική αὐταπάρνηση, δείχνοντας πραγματική ὑπακοή πρὸς τόν Πατέρα, «γενόμενος ὑπήκοος μέχρι θανάτου, θανάτου δέ σταυροῦ».

Ἀγαπητοί μου ἀδελφοί·

Ὡς ποιμενάρχης τῆς θεοσώστου αὐτῆς ἐπαρχίας, σᾶς καλῶ ὅλους νά προσκυνήσουμε σήμερα τόν Σταυρό τοῦ Κυρίου μας μέ εὐλάβεια καί πίστη, λαμβάνοντας ταυτόχρονα τή μεγάλη ἀπόφαση νά σηκώσουμε μέ ὑπομονή καί σταθερότητα τόν σταυρό πού ὁ Κύριος ἐπιτρέπει νά ἔχει ὁ καθένας μας. Ἄς ἀναφωνήσουμε μαζί μέ τόν ἱερό ὕμνογράφο: «**Ὡ τρισμακάριστε Σταυρὲ καὶ πανσεβάσμιε, Σὲ προσκυνοῦμεν οἱ πιστοὶ καὶ μεγαλύνομεν, ἀγαλλόμενοι τῇ θείᾳ σου ἀννύψώσει**». Ἄς γίνει ὁ Τίμιος Σταυρὸς ἐφελτήριο πίστεως, πού θά ὁλοκληρώσει τὴν ὑπαρξή μας καί θά φέρει τόν Χριστὸ στή ζωὴ μας. Ἄς ἀποφασίσουμε νά ἀκολουθήσουμε τὴ «στενὴ πύλη καὶ τεθλιμμένη ὁδὸ» πού θά μᾶς ὁδηγήσει στὴν Ἀνάσταση καί τὴ Βασιλεία τοῦ Θεοῦ.

Μετά πατρικῶν εὐχῶν καί τῆς ἐν Κυρίῳ ἀγάπης

Ο ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΗΣ



† Ὁ Νέας Ἱερσέης ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

Exaltation of the Holy Cross 2018

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy

Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Esteemed Members of the Metropolitan Council, Esteemed Members of the Parish Councils, Philoptochos Sisterhood, Faculty and Students of the Catechetical and Greek Afternoon Schools, Directors and Participants of all Youth Organizations, and all devout Orthodox Christians of the Greek Orthodox Communities of our Holy Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved,

The Cross of our Lord has been a paradoxical symbol throughout history. For centuries it had been considered the most painful form of torture and execution ever devised while also being considered the most shameful manner in which to be executed. It was only with the crucifixion of our Lord, who humbled Himself to the degree that He would die in such a manner, that this symbol of death and shame became a symbol of life and victory. The Cross's significance and meaning was thus transformed through the death and resurrection of Christ for the rest of history.

The Cross also has taken on an added significance for every one of us who are members of the Body of Christ, for while we recognize that the Cross was the destiny of Christ, we must also realize that the Cross is our destiny too, albeit, in other ways. The Cross is our destiny because we are meant to overcome the difficulties and adversities through our faith and through our constant return to God for our sustenance and strength. By taking the Cross as our personal symbol, we follow Christ not only in His death, but in His Resurrection.

This does not mean that we all are called to be martyrs for the faith, but we are called to be ambassadors of the faith, continually expressing the love which had been shown for us by Christ through His voluntary Passion. We may not be meant to wear a crown of thorns, but we are called to be crowned in righteousness as we fulfill the Lord's commandments and become an example to our neighbor. We might not be crucified like Christ was, but we are called to crucify our egos and live not for ourselves alone, but for each other and for God. Our Cross will most likely be a different Cross than that of Christ's and it very well may be a different Cross than that of our neighbor, but it will

invariably be one that our Lord knows we can handle for we should not ask for a lighter Cross, but broader shoulders on which to carry it.

It is my sincerest hope and prayer that as we celebrate this feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross that we all come to recognize our individual crosses and that we continually ask God for the increased strength to endure. It is also my prayer that when we look upon the Cross or when we wear the crosses we were given at baptism, that we will see not a symbol of death, but the ultimate symbol of life and hope as we look forward to Christ's resurrection and our own resurrection as well. Praying that each of you are fortified in faith by the power of the most precious and life-giving Cross, I remain

With Paternal Love and Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Metropolitan Evangelos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Metropolitan" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and "Evangelos" is written in a slightly smaller, more compact script. The signature is centered on the page.

† E V A N G E L O S
Metropolitan of New Jersey



Greek Language Preschool

OF SAINT DEMETRIOS

Tel. (610) 352 7212

Meet the Greek language,
culture & tradition.
Play, learn & grow together!

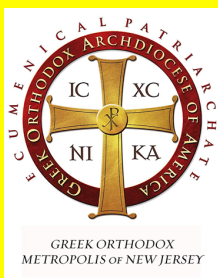
Classes for children
2-5 years old

www.saintdemetrios.org

The DVYC invites you to join us for the

GOYA "Kick Off" Weekend

Grab your weekend gear and
Join your Delaware Valley GOYA friends
for a weekend of FUN!
Contemporary Discussions with our Priests,
Art & Athletic Activities,
Bonfire and S'mores Feast,
Dance Party, Dodge Ball Tournament.



October 12,13 and 14 2018 after Liturgy

\$140.00 per GOYAn

Family rates are available

Camp Manatawny

33 Camp Road * Douglasville, PA. 19518

online registration available at:

<https://goo.gl/forms/M2W2sAtq99NuwzeS2>

Online Registration deadline, September 20, 2018

Or Contact Demetra Peters at

dvyckickoff2018@gmail.com

610-608-5890

COLONIAL

MARBLE & GRANITE

3rd

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

SAVE THE DATE!



Tuesday

October 16, 2018



150 Penn Oaks Drive
West Chester, PA 19382

**PENN OAKS GOLF
CLUB**

Join us for a fun day of golf, delicious
food, and friends!