

*From the Divine Office for St. James, Brother of the Lord (Oct. 23)*

*Foreseeing your holy life from afar, Christ, the Lover of Mankind, chose you, O James, as His brother in His foreknowledge, He designated you as the sacred hierarch and chief shepherd of Jerusalem, to celebrate the ineffable Mysteries which He had taught you. Entreat Him now to save our souls. (Vespers)*

*When at the completion of time God the Word, the only-begotten Son of the Father, came down to us. He established you, admirable James, as the first shepherd and teacher of Jerusalem, a faithful steward of the mysteries of faith; wherefore we honor you as an apostle. (Orthros)*



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

OCTOBER 24, 2021



JESUS HEALING THE GERASENE DEMONIAK

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Melkite Catholic Church**  
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Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM

**Antiphon (1st)**

1: Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth, and sing praise to His name.

**Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.**

2: Say to God: How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You.

***Be shafa'ati Walidatil Eelah, ya Mukhallisu, khallisna.***

3: Let all the earth worship You and sing praises to You; let it sing praises to Your name, O Most High!

**Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.**

**Entrance Hymn**

**Priest:** Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ.

**People:** O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You. Alleluia.

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 5) pg. 40**

Let us, O faithful, praise and worship the word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our Salvation, for He was pleased to be lifted in the flesh upon the cross, and to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

**Troparion of the Dormition (Tone 1)pg. 15**

In giving birth, you have preserved your virginity, and in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Mother of God. You have passed to life, being the Mother of Life. Through your intercession, save our souls from death.

**Kontakion (Tone 2) Pg. 16**

O never failing Protectress of Christians and their ever-present intercessor before the Creator, despise not the petitions of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to us who call upon you with confidence. Hasten, O Mother of God, to intercede for us, for you have always protected those who honor you.

**Life of the Great Martyr Demetrios, Cont.**

Rather than yield to the sign of the sovereign power of God, the Emperor flew into a rage and ordered the immediate arrest of Nestor and his beheading outside the city. He had heard Nestor calling upon the God of Demetrios and, supposing the Saint had used some kind of witchcraft, Maximian ordered his soldiers to go and thrust Demetrios through with their lances, without trial, in the depths of his prison cell. There were some Christians, including Demetrios' servant Lupus, present at his martyrdom, and when the soldiers had gone, they reverently buried the Saint's body.

It was God's will that the grace with which He filled Saint Demetrios should remain active even after his death. This is why He caused to flow from his body a myron with a delightful scent, which had the property of healing all who took it as an unction, with faith in the intercession of the Saint. Time and again, during sixteen hundred years, Saint Demetrios has given proof of his benevolent care for the city of Thessalonica and its inhabitants. He has defended them from the attacks of barbarians, he has preserved them from plague and famine, healed the sick and comforted the afflicted.

*Adapted from The Synaxarion: The Lives of the Saints of the Orthodox Church, Vol. 1, compiled by Hieromonk Makarios of Simonos Petra and translated from the French by Christopher Hookway (Chalkidike, Greece: Holy Convent of the Annunciation of Our Lady, 1998) pp. 481-483.*





## DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

- Today**    **Healing of Archie Opatka**  
+Peter Solitro. Requested by Lisa Jagielski
- Oct 31**   **Healing of Archie Opatka**  
+Peter Solitro. Requested by Ron & Dick Abrahami
- Nov 7**    **Healing of Archie Opatka**  
+Peter Solitro. Requested by Marilyn & Zenon Tencza

**This morning's Coffee Hour is hosted by Andy & Jocelyn Aulo**  
**Next Sunday's Coffee Hour will be replaced by the picnic meeting and lunch**

## Last Week's Collection

<b>Weekly</b>	<b>\$754</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>\$ 32</b>
<b>Coffee Hr.</b>	<b>\$ 39</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$825</b>

**God bless for your generosity!**



## FUNDRAISER

There will be a fundraiser on Saturday November 20 from 2:30-6:30PM to benefit the Opatka family as Archie battles heptoblastoma. The fundraiser will be held at the Millbury VFW, 16 South Main St. Millbury. Tickets are \$10 and include dinner. If you would like to purchase tickets, please see Nick Rahall (508) 826-9346. Please go to [archiesarmy.net](http://archiesarmy.net) to learn more. "Physician of our souls and bodies, heal, bless and have mercy on Your child Archie!"

Please welcome Fr. Jim Koury and Deacon Elias Bailey, who are celebrating the Divine Liturgy this morning. Fr. Bryan is in Utica, NY celebrating the divine Liturgy for the people of St. Basil Melkite Church.

## PICNIC MEETING/LUNCH

Next Sunday, **October 31** we will have lunch and a meeting after the Divine Liturgy to review the Picnic and see where things worked well and where we can improve. Please plan to attend and bring your ideas!

## PARISH COUNCIL

As previously stated, I would like to form a Parish Council this fall. It is an important part of parish life. For a parish of our size, I think seven people will be enough, at least to begin. We will elect three members and I will appoint two. Currently, we have both a Finance & Building committee. Each of these committees will have a representative on the Council.

I will be sending a ballot in the mail in the next couple of weeks. Rather than go through a nomination process followed by an election, we will just have the election. The top three vote getters will be elected to the Council. Should someone not wish to serve, we will go to the person who received the next largest number of votes. We will meet once a quarter and expand that when required.

Please remember that the Parish Council, like all of the councils, is an advisory body. It's purpose is to advise the pastor on elements of church life. It is not a governing body. Problems often arise when that distinction is not understood by all, including the pastor.

## FOOD FAIR

St. Basil the Great Melkite Church in Lincoln, RI is having a Food Fair on October 23 & 24. Please see the flyers on the bulletin boards for more details.

## Great Martyr Demetrios of Thessalonica

Saint Demetrios suffered in Thessalonica during the reign of Galerius Maximian (c. 306). He belonged to one of the most distinguished families of the province of Macedonia and was widely admired not only because of his noble ancestry and grace of bearing, but also for virtue, wisdom and goodness of heart surpassing that of his elders.

The military expertise of Saint Demetrios led Galerius, as Caesar of the Eastern Empire, to appoint him commander of the Roman forces in Thessaly and Proconsul for Hellas. But for all this, Demetrios remained ever aware of the underlying realities of life. Since faith in Christ had touched his heart, all the glory of this world meant nothing to him, and there was nothing he preferred to teaching and preaching the word of God.

Despite the persecution directed against Christians by the Emperor, Saint Demetrios brought a large number of pagans to the faith. His words convinced them because they saw in the righteousness, peace and brotherly love that marked his life an illustration of the truth of which he spoke.

The Emperor Maximian had just won a series of brilliant victories over the Scythians and was on his way back to Rome when he halted at Thessalonica to receive the acclamations of the populace and to offer sacrifices in thanksgiving to the idols. A number of pagans, envious of the success of the Saint, took advantage of the Emperor's presence in the city to denounce Demetrios as a Christian. Maximian's astonishment gave way to violent indignation when he was told that Demetrios' was making use of his official position to spread the faith. Demetrios was summoned and confined in a cell, located in the basement of nearby baths.

Maximian arranged for games and gladiatorial combats to take place in the amphitheater of the city. He had brought with him a man of gigantic stature and Herculean strength called Lyaaios, a Vandal by origin. Such was this man's strength and skill in single combat that no one could withstand him. There was in the city a young Christian called Nestor, who observing the empty pride of the Emperor in the victories of his champion, made up his mind to show him that real power belongs to Christ alone. He ran to the baths where Demetrios was imprisoned and asked for the protection of his prayer in going to confront the giant. The Martyr made the sign of the Cross on the brow and the heart of the boy, and sent him like David before Goliath. He reached the amphitheater just as the heralds were crying out on all sides for any who would stand against Lyaaios. Advancing towards the Emperor, Nestor threw his tunic to the ground and shouted, "God of Demetrios, help me!" In the first encounter, at the very moment the giant rushed upon him, Nestor slipped aside and stabbed him to the heart with his dagger. There was uproar and amazement at the marvel, and people asked themselves how a mere child, relying neither on strength nor weapons, could so suddenly have brought down the barbarian.

### Prokimenon

**Reader:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**People:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**Verse:** Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any holy man, for truthfulness has vanished from among the children of men.

**People:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**Reader:** You, O Lord, will keep us

**People:** And preserve us always from this generation.

### Epistle: Gal 6:11-18

### Alleluia Verses

Your favor, O Lord, I will sing forever, from generation to generation, my mouth will proclaim  
Your faithfulness.

**Verse:** For You have said, "My kindness is established forever." In heaven You have confirmed  
Your faithfulness.

### Gospel: Lk 8:27-39

**There are registration forms for religious education on the table at the rear of the church. Please take one and register your children. Once we know how many children we have, we can put classes together. We will begin having classes once a month beginning November 7 and expand from there. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.**

**Fr. Bryan**