

ST. DEMETRIOS

Volume XXXIV, No 06

Saco, Maine

JUNE 2023

Festival 2023

Friday, July 14
Saturday, July 15
Sunday, July 16

*Flyer & specifics are on p 2.

*Who to contact if you can help on any specific day & time is included.

*Advertising during the Festival (we have thousands of people who come).

**Other questions?? Call the office to be directed to the right person.*

In June we celebrate:

Pentecost & the coming of the **Holy Spirit**.

Also the Fast & the Feast of the **Apostles**.

Finally the **Nativity of St. John** the Forerunner & Baptist.

All this as we prepare for the Festival.... After not having it for three years!

May we be granted a blessed Summer!



OPA!

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11-3 Sunday

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**LIMITED TIME... an OFFER TO OUR COMMUNITY... your name
on the Festival placemat (\$50). See John Maragus.**

We have a wonderful opportunity to offer everyone... List your name on the Festival placemat. This is a limited time opportunity; please see John Maragus.

NAME ON PLACEMAT _____.

(Please print legibly.)

Cost is \$50. Maximum letters and spaces is 29 on one line.

Please present this form and payment to John Maragus.

Make your check payable to St. Demetrios, memo: festival placemat.

DEADLINE IS SOON... June 14th, 2023.

BLESSED FATHER'S DAY



*“The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make His face to shine upon you, And, be gracious to you,
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you Peace”.*

Numbers 6:24-26

Pentecost:

The Descent of the Holy Spirit

In the Old Testament Pentecost was the feast fifty days after *Passover - the exodus of the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt*. Pentecost celebrated God's gift of the ten commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai.

With the coming of the Messiah, the Old Testament Pascha (Passover), takes on its new meaning as the celebration of Christ's death and resurrection, the "exodus" from this sinful world to the Kingdom of God. With Pentecost the final event is fulfilled, the coming of the "new law," the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the 120 believers & disciples of Christ.

When the day of Pentecost had come they were all together in one place.

*And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind,
it filled all the house where they were sitting.*

And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed as resting upon each one of them.

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit . . . (Acts 2.1-4)

The Holy Spirit that Christ had promised to his disciples came on the day of Pentecost (Jn 14.26, 15.26; Lk 24.49; Acts 1.5). The apostles received "the power from on high," and they began to preach and bear witness to Jesus as the risen Christ, the King and Lord. This is sometimes called the birthday of the Church.

Pentecost, is celebrated together with the full revelation of the divine Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The fullness of the Godhead is manifested with the Spirit's coming. On this day the icon of the Holy Trinity—the three angelic figures who appeared to Abraham, our forefather—is placed in the center of the church. This icon is used with the traditional Pentecostal icon which shows the tongues of fire hovering over Mary and the Twelve Apostles, the prototype of the Church, who are themselves sitting in unity surrounding a symbolic image of "cosmos," the world.

Pentecost is called an apocalyptic day, the final revelation. It is also called an eschatological day, which means the day of the final and perfect **end** (in Greek *eschaton* means the end). For when the Messiah comes and the Lord's Day is at hand, the "last days" are inaugurated in which "God declares: . . . I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh." This is the ancient prophecy to which the Apostle Peter refers in the first sermon of the Christian Church which was preached on the first Sunday of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-7; Joel 2: 28-32).

Edited from **The Orthodox Church in America**

Saturday, June 24, 2023
After Liturgy - 10:00am-12:00noon

As Summer Starts.... On June 24 is the Nativity of St John the Baptist....
We will have one class to talk about & discuss:....

how Our Lord GUIDED & PREPARED His people
through all their Struggles (in the Old Testament),
to receive The Messiah.

And how....

He Guides & Prepares us, through All Our Struggles
to receive The Spirit of God.

The Seers Prophets & All the Faithful
up to the Coming of the Forerunner of Christ!

Abraham & the Forefathers

Moses & the Promised Land

Saul & all the Kings

The Prophets

The Exile & the Return to the land of Canaan

The Maccabees

And The Forerunner

For more info speak to Fr Basil.

The Feastday of Sts Peter and Paul, June 29th

The **holy foremost-of-the-Apostles, Peter** (Simon), preached first in Judea and then in Antioch, in Bithynia, in Asia, in Cilicia, also throughout Italy and in Rome itself. In Rome he was crucified head down, by order of the Emperor Nero. The Apostle Peter and the Apostle Paul, as the apostles who labored more than all the others in preaching the Christian faith, are called the **holy foremost-of-the-Apostles** by the Holy Church.

The Holy fore-most-of-the-Apostles, Paul (Saul) preached in many countries beginning in Jerusalem and ending in Rome, the capital of the world. In Rome he was beheaded by Emperor Nero.

Read the passage below:

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 1:27-30; 2:1-4.

Brethren, let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear omen to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict which you saw and now hear to be mine. So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive of love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests but also to the interests of others.

Notes (June 2023)

Class – Becoming part of St Demetrios – Saco.

On Saturday June 24 @ 10:00am we will have a class on the FAITH.
This is for everyone! Both presentation & Discussion.

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Confession.

On **Sunday July 2**, after Liturgy, Fr Basil will remain in church for short (10 min.) confession. Please call office to be put on list.

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SPECIFICS about Fasting:

The Pentecost Week (Pentecost to All Saints – June 4-11): there is NO fasting.

The Apostles Fast this year is 17 days long, June 12-28th.

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Pentecost Season

(From Pascha to Pentecost, to All Saints)

June 3: Sat of Souls

June 4: PENTECOST

June 11: All Saints

June 24: Nativity of the Forerunner

Jun 12-28 is this year the 17 day fast of The Apostles!

Thursday June 29th is Sts Peter & Paul.

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June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 PENTECOST , <i>The descent of The Holy Spirit w/</i> <u>Vespers of Kneeling</u> <u>Children's Class</u>	Festival 2023: Friday July 14 Saturday July 15 Sunday July 16			1	2	3 8:30am Liturgy Sat of Souls 6:00pm Feastday Vespers in Concord, NH
	5 <i>Feastday @ Lewiston</i> 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Liturgy	6 9:00am Baking Very Important... 5:30pm SACO PLANNING BOARD!	7	8 9:00am Baking 6:00pm Ch Council	9	10
NO fasting during Pentecost Week!						
11 Sunday of All Saints <u>Children's Class</u>	12	13	14	15	16	17
Apostles fast						
18 2 nd Sunday of Matthew Happy Father's Day!	19	20	21	22	23	24 8:30am Liturgy Nativity of Forerunner 10:00am Class on <u>the Faith</u>
Apostles fast						
25 3 rd Sunday of Matthew	26	27	28	29 8:30am Liturgy Feast of Sts Peter & Paul	30	
Apostles fast						

More Notes for June 2023

(continued from page 7)

YOUTH SUMMER CAMP '23 METROPOLIS OF BOSTON

Space is *VERY Limited!* Financial help/scholarships are available! (*Connect confidentially with Fr Basil*)

All Youth (ages 8-18). *JOY, ages 8-11 and GOYA, ages 12-17.*

Five sessions (1, 4 & 5 are full). *Sessions 2 July 3-9 & 3 July 10-16 are open.*

Go to: METROPOLIS OF BOSTON CAMP.ORG

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Visit some Monasteries??

If anyone is interested in visiting one or two Monasteries, please connect with Fr Basil soon!

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Email/call to Fr Basil!

Please do NOT email Fr Basil. He is way behind....

Call the office or text him.

For appointments always connect with the office.

EVERYONE of the St. Demetrios Community...

Please get involved with the festival. There are literally dozens of opportunities. Some opportunities are very public, and others are less public.

If you want to be out in front mingling with the community, we can find a place for you.

If you would prefer to work with a smaller group of folks in our community, we have a place for you as well.

If you can only give us a few hours... **we will find a way for you to help us**

Please reach out to Phil Kowash at either 207-391-2571 (cell phone) or pkowash@maine.rr.com for more information.

Come help us ... We look forward to building our partnership as we work together to make the festival another successful event.

More Notes for June 2023

ICONOGRAPHY DONORS include Mark & Sandra Mimos, John & Anne Maragus, Paul MacDowell, and Stephanie Koutroulis. Please help with an Iconography donation. See Paul MacDowell, Pota Desjardin or Stephanie. Make check payable to St. Demetrios, earmarked Iconography.

CANISTERS. Just a reminder to take one of the canisters (located at the candle stand), and fill it with quarters. Bring the filled canister to the office when ready. Thank you for your offering.

CALLING ALL LADIES of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church:

We would like you to be included on the St. Fotini email distribution list. Send your email address to **saintfotini@gmail.com**. Thank you.

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39TH GREEK FESTIVAL - HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, corner of Park and Pleasant Steet held on June 22, 23, 24 from 11:30 am - 9:30 pm, Free admission, Greek Music & dancing nightly.
www.htrinityportland.org

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HELLENIC PAIDEIA GROUP is offering a new documentary on the Greek Americans.

The series **"ROUTES OF THE GREEK DIASPORA"** is now airing on Greek TV (EPTI, ERT WORLD) and is available on the Web (ERTFLIX). Episode one is now available.

https://www.ertflix.gr/en/series/ser.259911-stous-dromous-ton-ellenon?fbclid=IwAR3R941cw30l50FpRV35aLlo3p_fgdWDpHPqNDi0sFm-bNkKtBqCBQQwW3k

KEEP THE FAITH !

From Stephanie: This message below has pearls of Wisdom. You may think that you cannot go through the sorrows of life, but you can... only with your love of Christ. No matter how much your heart hurts, keep the Faith.

From my Hand and Heart: Selected Letters of St. Ignatius.. On Sorrows

"The merciful Lord, having chosen you for His own, allows different sorrows to come to you — from both people and physical illness. That is a blessed sign. Receive it with a good-natured heart and with faith. When they shower you with insults, and try to twist your words, remember that the same was done to Christ, and taste the cleansing chalice with a grateful heart. God allows you to taste the anguish that educates [you], and makes you wise, in the very same way He did with me. Be generous in spirit. All temptations are only boogie men — lifeless marionettes, frightening only to those without faith, those who see only with their physical eyes. Be cautious, prudent before your mockers, imitate Christ's silence and fear nothing. A hair from your head will not fall."

St. Ignatius Brianchaninov, 1867

* * * * *

The brilliance of the Christian faith is witnessed by the gifts of **the Holy Spirit** that are given to the person who believes in Christ. We find these divine gifts abundantly poured upon all the faithful who have been baptized in the name of the Savior Jesus Christ. He who was previously unlearned becomes filled with the Holy Spirit, and the spirit of wisdom and understanding rests upon him. Yesterday he was undistinguished and one of the multitude; today he is someone important with knowledge, and one of the few destined for the Kingdom of Heaven. Yesterday he was ignorant, today he is full of understanding and truth. Yesterday he was deluded in his pursuits, today he is endowed with purpose and strength. Yesterday he was oblivious to God, today he is filled with knowledge and Godly fear.

St. Nektarios of Pentapolis

Monthly Financial Report. 5/20/2023

(Operating Budget **2023**)

Mortgage Balance: \$145,856

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCIAL UPDATE as of April 30, 2023

Total Stewards: 126

Total Stewardship Received: \$80,000

<u>Month</u>	<u>Income (\$)</u>	<u>Expenses (\$)</u>	<u>Operating account (\$)</u>
January	\$23,692	\$24,598	<u>-\$906</u>
February	\$36,751	\$24,808	\$11,943
March	\$25,704	\$26,426	\$10,345
April	\$24,419	\$27,327	\$7,437

We ended April in the **Black** **\$7,437!** {Compare to 2022: **\$6,253**}.

Our Income is up by \$7,000 (compared to LAST YEAR).

Our Expenses are up by \$9,000 (compared to LAST YEAR).

Compare: Year to date:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Total Income:	\$103,319	\$110,596
Total Expenses:	\$94,045	\$103,159

Let our giving reflect our faith!

* * * * *

Let us enter into the church of God with the fear of God, with a pure heart, laying aside all passions and every worldly care, and let us stand in it with faith and reverence, with understanding attention, with love and peace in our hearts, so that we may come away renewed, as though made heavenly, so that we may live in the holiness natural to heaven, not binding ourselves by worldly desires and pleasures.

~ St. John of Kronstadt

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Summer hours start May 15:

Orthros 8:45 AM, Divine Liturgy by 9:30 AM

Fr. Basil Arabatzis, Presbyter

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Website: stdemetriosofmaine.com

Church: (207) 284-5651

FAX: (207) 283-4641

Home: (207) 284-6170

Food is not evil, but gluttony is. Childbearing is not evil, but fornication is. Money is not evil, but avarice is. Glory is not evil, but vainglory is. Indeed, there is no evil in existing things, but only in their misuse.

St. Maximus the Confessor, Chapters on Love, 3.4

Saint Demetrios

Greek Orthodox Church

186 Bradley Street

Saco, ME 04072

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