

St. Demetrius Orthodox Church September 2026

Are We Ready For Some Church School?

Yes, it's time to start the kickoff to a New Church School Year! Plans are being finalized for the start of our Church School to begin Sunday, September 13th, 2026 and Adult Education Classes to begin Wednesday, September 23rd, 2026 at 12 noon.

We are looking forward to a very exciting year of activities and educational fun throughout the year. What we need is your participation. Don't sit on the sidelines this year, but bring your children and become totally involved. It is the responsibility and duty of the parents to first of all raise their children in the ways of the Lord, and to be the support and follow-up of what the children learn in Church and Church School.

As Deuteronomy 6:4-9 states: "...love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your home, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down and when you rise and when you are working. Tie them on your arms and wear them on your foreheads as a reminder. Write them on the door posts of your houses and on your gates."

Let us remember that the Church and Church School has a child a mere 60 minutes or so a week and perhaps 30 Sundays a year. That is why it is important for parents to become involved in the religious education of their children, but also expand and renew their religious education to spiritually enrich their lives and their living witness of their faith at home.

The greatest opportunity of a child is their personal relationship with their God and Savior Jesus Christ, and with their Church. Church School is not just another activity to "cram" into an already busy week with your children. Attending Church and participating in Church Education is a life time commitment which leads to eternal life of salvation in God's Kingdom! Don't let the "lack of time" stand in your way from bringing your child to understanding and communion with God. Our children are only children for a short period of time, and God's commandments and love needs to be a daily experience for them, in order for them to grow in Christ.

With the help of our talented parishioners and with parental involvement and follow-up, our success in teaching the Orthodox Faith at St. Demetrius will be a "Touchdown" for everyone!

May God Bless us as we begin the new Church School Year!

+Fr. Dusan

This Month in St. Demetrius Church History...

September 17, 1983

After St. Demetrius Orthodox Church was transferred from the Patriarchate of Moscow to the Orthodox Church in America (July 1983), Bishop Boris, the OCA Bishop of Chicago and Archpriest Daniel Hubiak, the OCA Chancellor and representative of Metropolitan Theodosius, placed a new Antimins on the Altar. The Antimins is the cloth with the relic of a martyr sewn into it that is placed on the altar table and has the icon of the burial of Christ on it. It contains the bishop's signature which gives permission for the parish to lawfully conduct the Divine Liturgy.

September 2000

Twenty-six years ago, Father Dusan Koprivica and the Parish Council of St. Demetrius came to an agreement whereby Father Dusan would become a "commuter priest." This was several years prior to him and the Koprivica family moving to Jackson from Mt. Clemens. When Father Dusan became a commuter priest he served Divine Liturgy three Sundays each month plus six Liturgical Holy Days, including Holy Week. Our parish has been so blessed to have him and his family!

The Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross

Soon after proclaiming Christianity to be the official religion of the Empire, Constantine the Great embarked on an ambitious project of building magnificent churches upon the holy places that marked significant events in the life of our Lord. Of primary interest to Him was, not only constructing an edifice on the site of Christ's Crucifixion, but finding our Savior's Cross as well.

In 326 A.D. St. Helena, the Emperor's mother, led an expedition to Jerusalem to accomplish this purpose. It seemed like an impossible task, for the enemies of the church had long since buried the Cross, covering it with debris and refuse and erecting a pagan temple on this sacred ground. Through the help of an elderly man (ironically named Judas), Helena was able to locate the area where the Cross was buried. Intense excavation unearthed three crosses: Christ's and that of the two thieves crucified with Him. But which was which?

It is the tradition of the Church that a sick woman and a dead man were placed on each cross. The miraculous and life-giving powers of the Cross of our Lord were soon made manifest, as the woman was healed instantly and the dead man immediately revived! The Cross has been found!

A great crowd had already gathered, and after properly venerating it, Patriarch Makarios stood on a high place and lifted up, or "elevated" the Cross so that everyone could see this precious relic. It is said that everyone immediately fell to their knees, praying repeatedly; LORD HAVE MERCY!

True to His word, Constantine built an enormous church there, with the place of Christ's Crucifixion and His burial contained under one roof. It was consecrated on September 13, 335 A.D.+

2026 Sisterhood Bake Sale

Here are the dates for making baklava, zelnic and soup:

Friday & Saturday, September 11th & 12th making baklava at 9 a.m.

Saturday, October 3rd making spinach zelnic at 9 a.m.

Saturday, October 24th making leek & cheese zelnic at 9 a.m.

Sunday, November 8th after church and Monday, November 9th 9 a.m making soup.



The pre-order deadline is Sunday, October 18th.

Bake Sale is Saturday, November 21st

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