

## OCTOBER at a GLANCE...

Sat., Oct. 2 **The St. George Tag Sale**

*See enclosed flyer*

Sun., Oct. 3 The Second Sunday of Luke

Tues., Oct. 5 NB AHEPA Meeting, 7 pm

Sun., Oct. 10 The Third Sunday of Luke

## Welcome to St. George

Meet & Greet with Fr. Spyridon! *See enclosed flyer*

Tues., Oct. 12 Parish Council Meeting, 6:30 pm

Fri., Oct. 15 The NOVEMBER monthly bulletin deadline

Sun., Oct. 17 The Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council  
Philoptochos Society Meeting, after services

## FALL GREEK DRIVE-THRU

Fri. Oct. 22

& Sat. Oct. 23 *See enclosed flyer*

Sat., Oct. 23 The Feast Day of St. James, Brother of Jesus

Sun., Oct. 24 The 6th Sunday of Luke

**Fall Social 2021** at Lyman Orchards

*See enclosed flyer*

Mon., Oct. 25 Visit St. Demetrios, Bristol for Vespers-St. Demetrios

Tues., Oct. 26 The Feast Day of St. Demetrios

Sun., Oct. 31 The 5th Sunday of Luke

## NOVEMBER in ADVANCE!

Sun., Nov. 7 The Fall Parish Assembly

Thur., Nov. 11 Veteran's Day



Mon., Nov. 15 The Nativity Fast Begins

The DECEMBER monthly bulletin deadline

Sun., Nov. 21 The Entrance of Mary Into the Temple

Thur., Nov. 25 **Thanksgiving Day**



## SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Fr. Spyridon Chatzis

301 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1753

New Britain, CT 06050-1753

Phone: (860)229-0055; Fax: (860)225-3586

E-mail: [NBStGeorge@AOL.com](mailto:NBStGeorge@AOL.com)

Web: [NBStGeorge.com](http://NBStGeorge.com)

## October 2021





Dear brothers and sisters,

After having served in our beautiful community for a month, I address all of you personally to invite you to come to the church to meet, exchange views or just have coffee with me. Just come by. I'll be waiting for you.

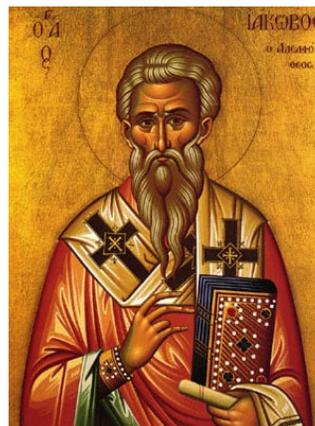
The month of October is here. October is a month full of warm colors and blessed moments. It is the month of contemplation - after the summer carelessness and abandon - that marks the beginning of new efforts.

It begins with the feast of Saint Romanos Melodos. It is no coincidence that he was called the "Pindar" of Christianity. Like the greatest lyric poet of antiquity, Saint Romanos wrote the largest and most beautiful part of the hymns we hear in church. We remember him every time we chant the troparion of Christmas "Η Παρθένος σήμερον τὸν ὑπερούσιον τίκτει καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ σπήλαιον τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει ..- Today The Virgin brings forth The Beyond-Substance, and the earth gives a cave to The Unapproachable....." and so many more. We admire not only the simple language, the plasticity of the images he creates, the maturity of the meanings and so many other characteristics of his poetry but also the fact that he dedicated his talent to Christ and the Church. Each of us has a special talent given to us by the Creator to share with our brothers and sisters in the church. Let us imitate the example of Saint Romanos and seek the joy of sharing our talents in the church.

The month continues with the feast of Saints Sergius and Bacchus on the 7th day. The katholikon of the monastery that was dedicated to them is preserved as a mosque near the church of God's Wisdom (Hagia Sophia) in Istanbul. Its incomparable beauty and resemblance to Hagia Sophia made it known today as the little Hagia Sophia.

Saint Luke the Evangelist's feast is celebrated on October 18. Saint Luke was a physician and a follower of Apostle Paul. In addition to the Gospel he wrote and bears his name, he also wrote the book of Acts which is included in the canon of the books that constitute the New Testament.

## James the Apostle, Brother of Our Lord - October 23



According to some, James was a son of Joseph the Betrothed, born of the wife Joseph had before he was betrothed to the Ever-virgin. Hence he was the brother of the Lord, the son of Joseph (Matt. 13: 55). But some say that he was a nephew of Joseph, the son of his brother Cleopas, and Mary his wife, who was the first cousin of the Theotokos. The Synoptic Gospels, similarly to the Epistle to the Galatians, recognize a core group of three disciples (Peter, John and James) having the same names as those given by Paul. In the list of disciples found in the Gospels, two disciples whose names are James, the son of Alphaeus and James, son of Zebedee are mentioned in the list of the twelve disciples: (Matthew 10:1-4). Regardless of his genealogy, James was still called the Lord's brother because of their kinship.

This James (Iakovos; *Ἰάκωβος ὁ Ἀδελφότης*) is sometimes called the Less (Mark 15:40) by the Evangelists simply to distinguish him from Iakovos, the son of Zebedee, who was called the Great. Despite this title, James the Apostle wrote the first of the Catholic (General) Epistles written to the Jews in the Diaspora who believed in Christ. James became the first to be elected to the episcopal throne, Bishop of Jerusalem, elevated to this rank by the Apostles, and was called the Just, because of his great holiness, righteousness, and because of his outstanding virtue.

Having ascended the crest of the Temple on the day of the Passover at the prompting of all, he bore testimony from there concerning his belief in Jesus, and he proclaimed with a great voice that Jesus sits at the right hand of the great power of God and shall come again upon the clouds of heaven. On hearing this testimony, many of those present cried, "Hosanna to the Son of David." But the Scribes and Pharisees cried, "So, even the just one hath been led astray," and at the command of Ananias the high priest, the Apostle was cast down, stoned, and while he prayed for his slayers, his head was crushed.

We will be celebrating James the Just on October 23rd with Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m.



## Great Martyr Artemios & the Monk Gerasimos - October 20

**The Great Martyr Artemios** was a prominent military leader during the reigns of Constantine the Great and his son and successor Constantius. Artemios held many awards for service and courage, and he was appointed viceroy of Egypt. In this official position he did much for spreading and strengthening Christianity in Egypt.

Constantius was succeeded by Julian the Apostate. Julian, in his desire to restore paganism, carried on an implacable struggle with Christianity. During this time Artemios arrived in the city and publicly denounced Julian for his impiety. The enraged Julian subjected the saint to terrible tortures then threw him into prison. During prayer the saint offered to the Lord, Christ appeared to him and said: "*Take courage, Artemios! I am with thee and wilt preserve thee. Therefore, take courage and rejoice, thou shalt be with Me in Mine Kingdom*". The following day Julian demanded that Artemios honor the pagan gods. The saint endured many tortures without a single moan. They did not break the will of the saint, and finally the Great-martyr Artemios was beheaded.

**The Monk Gerasimos** was born in the village of Trikala in the Peloponnesus. Upon reaching maturity he withdrew to the island of Zakina for a monastic life. Later the monk set off to Jerusalem to worship at the Grave of the Savior. Having been to Mount Sinai, Antioch, Damascus, Alexandria and Egypt, he returned to Jerusalem. The monk was ordained by the Patriarch of Jerusalem, Germanos, to the diaconate, and then to the priesthood. Then he withdrew to Jordan, where he spent 40 days without respite. Gerasimos withdrew to Zakynthos where he dwelt in solitude for 5 years, went to the island of Cephalonia and on to Omal, and having restored a church he founded a monastery at which he dwelt for 30 years in constant toil, vigil, and prayer on bended knee stretched out upon the earth. For his exalted life he was vouchsafed of God a miraculous gift -- to heal the sick and cast out unclean spirits. When his grave was opened two years after his death his holy relics were found undecayed and exuding fragrance, and were said to cure the sick.

Apart from the tradition that claims that Saint Luke the Evangelist was the first hagiographer and the man who gave us the figure of the Virgin Mary, "την ιστορειθείσα υπό του αποστόλου Λουκά ιερωτάτου...And was depicted for us by one of the apostles, Luke the Evangelist." says the Hymnist, Luke is certainly the Evangelist who gave us information about the Virgin Mary which other Evangelists do not mention.

The holy great martyrs Artemios and Gerasimos are celebrated on October 20 and we all pray to the Lord to give many days to those parishioners who were named after them.

Do not forget the drive-through Festival that we have on October 23 & 24 and do not miss the opportunity to try the wonderful dishes prepared by the kitchen volunteers offering their culinary talent to the church. We thank them warmly as well as all of you who will come to buy the delicious handmade Greek food.

While the festival will be underway, we will celebrate the memory of St. James the Just. St. James was the first bishop of Jerusalem and the half-brother of Jesus. He wrote the first Divine Liturgy and shepherded the Church of Jerusalem with love and wisdom.

We can only celebrate this archaic Divine Liturgy on the day of St. James' feast in which you will be able to participate on October 23 at 9:30 am. Those of you who are preparing to participate in the sacrament of the holy Eucharist should know that in this Divine Liturgy we first receive the body and separately the blood of the Lord from the Holy Cup like the first Christians.

Please, do not come to church late as there will be no orthros on this day.

Finally, I ask you to make an effort to come to the Divine Liturgy on the feast day of Saint Demetrios, on October 26, while I invite you all to concelebrate the service of Vespers the night before with the parishioners of the Holy Church of Saint Demetrios in Bristol.

Happy and blessed autumn brothers and sisters and every blessing to your families.

With love and paternal prayers,  
+ Hieromonk Spyridon Chatzis



Αγαπητοί μου αδελφοί,

Απευθύνομαι στον καθένα προσωπικά, έχοντας συμπληρώσει ένα μήνα στην όμορφη κοινότητα μας, ζητώντας σας να περάσετε από την εκκλησία για να γνωριστούμε, να ανταλλάξουμε απόψεις ή απλά να μοιραστούμε έναν καφέ.

Ο Οκτώβριος είναι ένας μήνας γεμάτος ζεστά χρώματα και ευλογημένες στιγμές. Είναι ο μήνας της περισυλλογής μετά το καλοκαιρινό σκόρπισμα και των νέων αφετηριών στις προσπάθειες μας.

Ξεκινά με την εορτή του Αγίου Ρωμανού του Μελωδού. Δεν τον ονόμασαν τυχαία «Πίνδαρο» του Χριστιανισμού. Όπως ο μεγαλύτερος λυρικός ποιητής της αρχαιότητας έτσι και ο Ρωμανός συνέγραψε το μεγαλύτερο και ομορφότερο μέρος των ύμνων που ακούμε στην εκκλησία. Θυμόμαστε κάθε φορά που μιλάμε για τον Οσ. Ρωμανό το τροπάριο των Χριστουγέννων «Η Παρθένος σήμερον τὸν ὑπερούσιον τίκτει καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ σπῆλαιον τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει..» και τόσα άλλα. Θαυμάζουμε όχι μόνο την απλή γλώσσα, την πλαστικότητα των εικόνων που δημιουργεί, την μεστότητα των νοημάτων και τόσα άλλα χαρακτηριστικά της ποίησης του αλλά και το γεγονός της αφιέρωσης του ταλέντου του στον Χριστό και την Εκκλησία. Ο καθένας μας έχει ένα ταλέντο ξεχωριστό που μας δόθηκε από τον δημιουργό για να το μοιραζόμαστε με τους αδελφούς μας στην Εκκλησία. Ας μιμηθούμε το παράδειγμα του Οσίου και ας αναζητήσουμε την χαρά του μοιράσματος των ταλέντων μας μέσα στην Εκκλησία.

Συνεχίζει με την εορτή τῶν ἁγίων Σεργίου καὶ Βάκχου στις 7 του μηνός. Το καθολικό της μονής που ήταν αφιερωμένη σε αυτούς διασώζεται ως τζαμί κοντά στον ναό της του Θεού Σοφίας στην Κωνσταντινούπολη. Η απaráμιλλη ομορφιά του και η ομοιότητα με την Αγιασοφία το έκαναν ως σήμερα γνωστό ως μικρή Αγιασοφία.

Ο Άγιος Ευαγγελιστής Λουκάς εορτάζει στις 18 Οκτωβρίου. Ο Λουκάς ήταν Ιατρός και ακόλουθος του αποστόλου Παύλου. Εκτός από το ομώνυμο Ευαγγέλιο συνέγραψε το βιβλίο της πράξεως των αποστόλων που συγκαταλέγεται στον κανόνα των βιβλίων που αποτελούν την Καινή Διαθήκη.

## The 7th Ecumenical Council Why is it Important Today?

Held in Nicea, Asia Minor in 787, under Empress Irene, 367 Bishops convened mostly to discuss the use of icons in the Church and the controversy between the *iconoclasts* and *iconophiles*. The **Iconoclasts** were suspicious of religious art; they demanded that the Church rid itself of such art and that it be destroyed or broken (as the term "iconoclast" implies).



The **iconophiles** believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty. The Iconoclast controversy was a form of *Monophysitism*: distrust and downgrading of the human side. The Council proclaimed:

*"We define that the holy icons, whether in color, mosaic, or some other material, should be exhibited in the holy churches of God, on the sacred vessels and liturgical vestments, on the walls, furnishings, and in houses and along the roads, namely the icons of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, that of our Lady the Theotokos, those of the venerable angels and those of all saintly people. Whenever these representations are contemplated, they will cause those who look at them to commemorate and love their prototype. We define also that they should be kissed and that they are an object of veneration and honor (timitiki proskynisis), but not of real worship (latreia), which is reserved for Him Who is the subject of our faith and is proper for the divine nature, ... he who venerates the icon, venerates in it the reality for which it stands."*

In Constantinople in 843, an Endemousa (Regional) Synod was called and, under Empress Theodora, the veneration of icons was solemnly proclaimed at the St. Sophia's Cathedral. Monks and clergy came in procession and restored the icons in their rightful place. The day was called "Triumph of Orthodoxy." Since that time, this event is commemorated yearly with a special service on the first Sunday of Lent, the "Sunday of Orthodoxy."



## Sergius & Bacchus Great Martyrs of Syria—October 7

These holy Martyrs were Romans of high rank in the service of the Emperor Maximian, to whom it was reported that they did not take part in the festivals of the idols. When Emperor Maximian called them into his presence, they called upon the strength of the Almighty and confessed their Faith in the one true God. Maximian, furious with his highly ranked officers for making a mockery of him, had them dressed in frivolous women's clothes,

chained, and paraded through the streets for the people to mock.

St. Bacchus was beaten to death and St. Sergius was beheaded around the year 296, in the city of Rasafa, present day Syria. Saint Sergius was then taken to Resapha in Syria, where he was tortured and beheaded. There, these holy martyrs are listed among especially venerated military saints including St. George and St. Demetrios. Their memory is especially venerated among Arab Christians and their shrine in Resapha became a major pilgrimage center during the time of the Byzantine empire when the city was renamed Sergiopolis in his honor.

The Church of Sergius and Bacchus in Istanbul is one of the oldest Byzantine churches in the country, bringing a new dimension to Byzantine architecture with its octagonal dome in a square structure. This church, one of the most beautiful buildings built by Justinian, has survived to the present day. Some historians argue that the construction of the Church of Sergius and Bacchus is a rehearsal of the architecture of Hagia Sophia. The church was converted into a mosque by the Ottomans in 1509. Porticos and minaret were added to the building afterwards. The wall decorations inside the mosque were also made during the Ottoman period. On the other hand, the antique column capitals inside the building and the inscriptions embroidered on the wall above the columns are from the Byzantine period. These writings describe Sergius and Bacchus' stance against the persecution of Christians and the piety of Justinian and his wife Theodora.

Έκτος από την παράδοση που θέλει τον ευαγγελιστή Λουκά ως πρώτο αγιογράφο και τον άνθρωπο που μας παρέδωσε την μορφή της Παναγίας, «την ιστορειθήσα υπό του αποστόλου Λουκά Ιερωτάτου» αναφέρει ο Υμνωδός, ο Λουκάς είναι μετά βεβαιότητας ο ευαγγελιστής που μας παρέδωσε πληροφορίες για την Παναγία που άλλοι ευαγγελιστές δεν αναφέρουν.

Οι άγιοι μεγαλομάρτυρες Αρτέμιος και Γεράσιμος γιορτάζουν στις 20 Οκτωβρίου και ευχόμαστε όλοι ο Κύριος να μακροημερεύει όσους ενορίτες μας έχουν το όνομά τους.

Μην ξεχάσετε το Drive Throw Festival που έχουμε στις 22 & 23 Οκτωβρίου και μην χάσετε την ευκαιρία να δοκιμάσετε τα υπέροχα εδέσματα που ετοίμασαν οι εθελοντές της κουζίνας προσφέροντας το ταλέντο της μαγειρικής τους στην Εκκλησία. Τους ευχαριστούμε θερμά όπως και όλους εσάς που θα έρθετε να αγοράσετε τα πεντανόστιμα και χειροποίητα ελληνικά φαγητά.

Όσο θα είναι σε εξέλιξη το φεστιβάλ, εορτάζουμε την μνήμη του Αγίου Ιακώβου του Αδελφοθέου. Ο Άγιος Ιάκωβος ήταν πρώτος επίσκοπος των Ιεροσολύμων και ετεροθαλής αδελφός του Ιησού. Συνέγραψε την πρώτη Θεία Λειτουργία και ποίμανε με αγάπη και σοφία την Εκκλησία των Ιεροσολύμων.

Την αρχαιοπρεπή αυτή Θεία Λειτουργία μπορούμε να τελούμε μόνο την ημέρα της μνήμης του και θα μπορείτε συμμετέχετε σε αυτήν στις 9:30 της 23<sup>ης</sup> Οκτωβρίου. Όσοι ετοιμαστείτε να κοινωνήσετε να ξέρετε ότι στην συγκεκριμένη Θεία Λειτουργία κοινωνούμε πρώτα το σώμα και ξεχωριστά το αίμα του Κυρίου από το Άγιο Ποτήριο όπως οι πρώτοι χριστιανοί. Θα μπορείτε να σταθμεύσετε μόνο στο parking που βρίσκεται μπροστά από το Ιερό της εκκλησίας. Μην καθυστερήσετε να έρθετε δεν θα τελεσθεί όρθρος την ημέρα αυτή.

Τέλος την ημέρα της εορτής του Αγίου μεγαλομάρτυρος Δημητρίου παρακαλώ να έρθετε όσοι μπορείτε στην Θεία Λειτουργία ενώ για τον εσπερινό παρακαλούμε να συνεορτάσουμε στον Ιερό Ναό Αγίου Δημητρίου Bristol.

Καλό κι ευλογημένο φθινόπωρο αδελφοί και κάθε ευλογία στις οικογένειές σας.

Με αγάπη και πατρικές ευχές  
+ Ιερομ. Σπυρίδων Χατζής

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN OCTOBER, 2021

Sunday, October 2

### **The Second Sunday of Luke**

Matins—9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy—10:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 10

### **The Third Sunday of Luke**

Matins—9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy—10:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 17

### **The Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council**

Matins—9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy—10:00 a.m.

Saturday, October 23

### **The Feast Day of Saint James**

Divine Liturgy—9:30 a.m.\*

*\* Note there is no Matins—Please arrive by 9:30 a.m.*

Sunday, October 24

### **The Sixth Sunday of Luke**

Matins—9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy—10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, October 26

### **The Feast Day of Saint Demetrios\***

Matins—9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy—10:00 a.m.

*\* We have been invited and encourage our parishioners to visit St. Demetrios Church, 31 Brightwood Road in Bristol for the Vespers of their Patron Saint on Monday, October 25, at 6:30 p.m.*

Sunday, October 31

### **The 5th Sunday of Luke**

Matins—9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy—10:00 a.m.

## Welcome back, friends and family of Saint George!

Please watch for upcoming events and activities for everyone to join! There are so many things going on this time of year, we hope you can be a part of some or all of them. And speaking of joining, consider being a part of one of our wonderful community clubs and organizations! We have the Philoptochos Society, the Golden Rascals Seniors, the Daughters of Penelope of Meriden and of New Britain, and the AHEPA of New Britain! Also, be an “angel” and join the Saint George Choir! We’d love to have you. We happily invite the youth of Saint George to join the Sunday school, Greek school, and GOYA! Parents are warmly encouraged to assist and participate in the activities with other youth, parents, directors advisors and teachers.

***Let’s all be a part of a Great Year!***

~ Irene Sklavouris, Parish Council Secretary



### PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

- 1)Our next regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be held on Sunday, October 17 immediately following Divine Liturgy
- 2)We are pleased to announce that we will be having a very special Thanksgiving Raffle this year. Watch the bulletin, flyers, email, and Facebook for more information coming soon.
- 3)I would like to personally thank all of the ladies who contributed to or worked for the reception to welcome Father Spyridon to our parish. Thanks to all of your generosity all went well.

~ Donna Rados, Philoptochos President

### INCLEMENT WEATHER ADVISORY

You are absolutely correct - it is way too soon to start talking about winter weather advisories! However, we just too recently had flood warnings and possible issues surrounding weather that was beyond our control, so this is an INCLEMENT weather advisory, not a WINTER one. Go with it.

When in doubt about a weather issue delay or postponement, please check WFSB Channel 3 — the information will be ON-AIR and on their website [wfsb.com](http://wfsb.com). We are **St George Ch - New Britain**.