



Parish Information Bulletin

Program for 22—28 OCTOBER 2023

Telephone Contact Numbers

St Vasilios Church
9387 7693

Fr Athanasios
9383 4151

Fr Ephraim
0490 378 215

Website:
stvasiliosbrunswick.com

Fr Athanasios and
Fr Ephraim are available
at the Church every
Monday to Friday
between 4.00 and 6.00pm
for Holy Confession and
any spiritual need.

SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER	6TH SUNDAY OF LUKE, Luke 8: 26-39 • 7.30am Orthros and Divine Liturgy
2023 SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES - 2023 (A free voluntary program organised by the Church) Lessons take place in the building behind the church and begin at 10.30am until Church dismissal. We have classes for ages ranging from 5yrs to teenage years. Lessons are taught in a relaxed, friendly environment. Please bring your children along to learn of their rich Orthodox faith and come close to God and His Love.	
MONDAY 23 OCTOBER	• 9.00am Service of Holy Unction • 10.00am Meeting of Elderly Citizens in Church Hall
WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER	• 5.00pm Paraklesis to the Theotokos
THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER <i>St Demetrios, the Myrrh-Flowing</i>	• 7.30am Orthros and Divine Liturgy • 8.00—9.00pm ➡ TEENAGE YOUTH GROUP 2023 ALL TEENAGERS WELCOME Join the group and learn about your faith, make friends, enjoy refreshments, in a friendly, relaxing environment. * In Church Hall, upstairs behind the Church
SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER <i>Holy Protection of the Theotokos</i>	• 7.30am Orthros and Divine Liturgy
SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER	GOSPEL READING: Luke 8: 41-56 EPISTLE READING: Galatians 2: 16-20

We make known to all that a Greek Language School operates in our Parish.

- Primary school classes: every Saturday, from 9.00am to 12.30pm
- High School classes: every Monday, from 5.00 to 8.30pm.

For inquiries and enrolments : 0401 051773

FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS

October 28

Kontakion

Today the Virgin stands in the church,
and with hosts of Saints, and invisibly prays to God for us.
Angels worship with Hierarchs, / and Apostles rejoice with Prophets,
For the Theotokos prays to the Pre-eternal God for us.

Feast of the Holy and Glorious Great Martyr Saint Demetrios, The Myrrh-Streamer

Apolytikion

The world has found in you a great champion in time of peril, as you emerged the victor in routing the barbarians.

For as you brought to naught the boasts of Lyaios, imparting courage to Nestor in the stadium,
in like manner, holy one, great Martyr Demetrios, invoke Christ God for us, that He may grant us His great mercy.



PRAYING

"But if we were to leave our life of prayer at the mercy of our moods, we should probably pray from time to time fervently and sincerely, but lose for long periods any prayerful contact with God. It is a great temptation to put off praying till the moment when we feel alive to God, and to consider that any prayer or move Godwards at other periods lacks sincerity. We all know from experience that we have a variety of feelings which do not come to the fore at every moment of our lives; illness or distress can blot them from our consciousness. Even when we love deeply, there are times when we are not aware of it and yet we know that love is alive in us."

"The same is true with regard to God; there are inner and outward causes that make it difficult at times to be aware of the fact that we believe, that we have hope, that we do love God. At such moments we must act not on the strength of what we feel but of what we know.

- Metropolitan Anthony Bloom



5TH SUNDAY OF LUKE, Luke 8: 26-39

"WHAT IS YOUR NAME?"

"My name is 'Mob' (or 'Legion')," he answered — because many demons had gone into him (Luke 8:30).

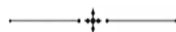
A strange and fearsome man encounters us through the Gospel reading of the 6th Sunday of Luke which falls after the Sunday of the Fathers. It is a gripping scene from the personal life of a human being who lived in first-century rural Palestine — a decisive moment when he met Christ and was completely changed. Of what interest is this decisive experience of his life to us who live in the entirely different circumstances of modern times?

Our Saviour did not come to bring us new moral teachings or to set down for us revolutionary social or political programs. Rather He came to heal our bodies and souls, to redeem us from sin and death, to give us new God-centred lives through the power of the Holy Spirit. He said: "I will never turn away anyone who comes to me (Jn. 6:37)" and again, "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest (Mt. 11:28)."

HIS GIFT OF NEW LIFE INVOLVES NOT ONLY NEW ATTITUDES, NEW WAYS OF DOING THINGS AND
A NEW SPIRITUAL DIRECTION, BUT ALSO A NEW SELF!

What is meant by a new self? A new self in Christ means a new understanding of and a new relationship to self, Christ, God, Holy Spirit, others and the world. Christ changes not merely the spiritual circumstances in which we live, but also our inner being or character — us. There in the depths of our heart, where we experience what we are and how we feel about ourselves, where our own self-image is often distorted and covered up by frustration and guilt, where God has nevertheless placed a treasure of spiritual gifts and powers, there is where the personal identity of each human being is located and awaits an explosive release by the grace of Christ. This same question of identity is as important to us as it was important to the man of the Gospel account who was possessed by many demons. It is one of the key questions of life. Will we, like many, be inclined to ignore it?

Source: *A Year of the Lord*, Theodore Stylianopoulos



Never confuse the person, formed in the image of God, with the evil that is in him, because evil is but a chance misfortune, illness, a devilish reverie. But the very essence of the person is the image of God, and this remains in him despite every disfigurement.

— St. John of Kronstadt