

## October, 2010

By now all the parishioners of Saint Demetrios Church have received by mail a remarkable brochure. The contents represent a precious affirmation of the faith we share in the future of Saint Demetrios Church and of Orthodoxy in America. The brochure recalls the history of the Orthodox Church in a new world and the abiding belief of our parents and grandparents in the central value of this Church to their lives. It importantly premieres significant design elements of our new church.

It is a fact that Saint Demetrios is in so many ways a leading parish in America. Its award winning parish organizations, its contribution of time, talent and treasure to a number of Metropolis and national ministries, and the key role we play as a vital teaching parish to our beloved Hellenic College Holy Cross are but a few areas where our parishioners continue to make a substantial difference.

Our Founders would not be surprised, therefore, to learn that we are embarking on the construction of a new church. Their vision with each prior building was keen as each new building met our spiritual needs for generations. Your vision was just as clear when you voted overwhelmingly to “build on our faith” and assure our future made bright by a new church to be built on the site of our existing sanctuary.

Over the next few weeks all parishioners will be personally contacted to make available members of the Building Committees to review any questions your study of the brochure may have raised regarding both the program and design of the new church as well as the organizational structure of the committees you charged with the responsibility to honor the May 19, 2009 vote of our General Assembly, and to build our new church.

Please take some quiet time to review this impressive brochure. It in fact does impart an incredible amount of detail about our new church. Also please give some serious thought to how you choose to help. Some pledge cards have been printed and more are available presently. Consider your sacrificial gift and discuss the choices you have when a Building Committee member calls you.

Your early sacrificial gift will reflect the significance of our church and faith in your lives. For each of us, there is an appropriate sacrificial gift in accordance with our means. We have all read the Gospel and understand the lesson of the poor woman whose small gift was the most generous of all because for her it was not from her abundance but from her heart! As we prepare to commence construction, the excitement will grip all of us!