

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24

**NO SERVICE**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

**9:00AM – DIVINE LITURGY**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

**9:00AM – DIVINE LITURGY**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

**9:00AM – DIVINE LITURGY**

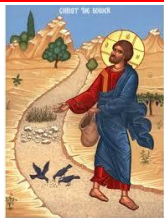
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

**9:00AM – DIVINE LITURGY**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

**6:00PM – НЕДІЛЬНА СЛУЖБА БОЖА (УКРАЇНСЬКОЮ)**

**21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, OCTOBER 30**



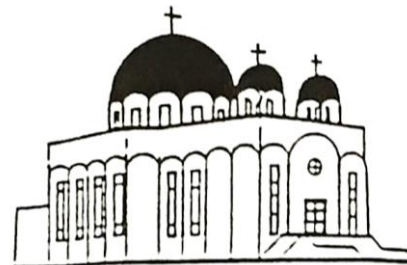
**09:30am – ROSARY**  
**10:00am – DIVINE LITURGY**  
**(BILINGUAL)**

### PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, we entreat You to hear the earnest prayer of Your beloved Church of Kyivan Rus' for her deeply afflicted children abiding in the land of Ukraine. Behold their grave sorrow and grievous plight, and speedily come to their aid. Deliver Your vulnerable people from unjust aggressors, foreign invasion and the terror of war. Strengthen courageous defenders of the nation to fight virtuously, inspired more by love of those they protect than hatred of the enemy.

O compassionate Lord, shelter the displaced, heal the wounded, console the orphan, protect the widow, comfort those who mourn, and mercifully receive into Your Kingdom those who have nobly died guarding their homeland against every aggression. Quickly make cease the spilling of blood of friend and foe alike, yet stir many to bravely struggle for that true justice which alone can bring lasting peace.

O kind-hearted Lord, as You are our peace, soften the hearts of the unmerciful and convert those who promote hostilities toward reconciliation, so that Your beloved children of the land of Ukraine, may abide in that tranquility, justice and freedom which reflects your Kingdom, where You reign with Your eternal Father, and Your most holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and forever and ever. Amen.



**SAINT GEORGE'S**  
**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА**  
**СВЯТОГО ЮРІЯ**

**opens wide its doors**  
to all who mourn or need comfort;  
to all who are weary and need rest;  
to all who seek friendship;  
to all who desire to grow  
in relationship with God;  
to all who yearn to pray;  
to all who need a Saviour,  
and in the name our Lord, says:

**WELCOME!**

### CONTACT US

**ADDRESS:** 2414 Vanier Drive,  
Prince George BC, V2N 1T7  
**PHONE:** (250)-563-2015 (*Church*)  
(250)-563-7240 (*Rectory*)  
**E-MAIL:** [pgparish@yahoo.com](mailto:pgparish@yahoo.com)  
**WEB:** [sgparish.ca](http://sgparish.ca)

### HOLY MYSTERIES

- ✠ **CONFESSION / СПОВІДЬ** ✠  
every Saturday: 4:00-4:50pm  
or by appointment
- ✠ **HOLY COMMUNION / СВ. ПРИЧАСТЯ** ✠  
for the sick, by appointment,  
any time
- ✠ **BAPTISM / ХРЕЩЕННЯ** ✠  
by appointment
- ✠ **MARRIAGE / ВІНЧАННЯ** ✠  
6 months notice should be given  
to the parish priest, and he should  
be contacted before any other  
arrangements are made
- ✠ **FUNERAL / ПОХОРОН** ✠  
by appointment

OCTOBER 23, 2022  
20 SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



The reaction of each person to various sufferings and misfortunes is to eliminate them or at least reduce them. Every person, while still having a little hope amidst struggles but against death – feels powerless and there is nothing left beside crying.

The mother from today's Gospel was crying with bitter tears following the funeral procession of her son. Once, after the death of her husband, part of her life already went to the tomb with him. And now, when her only son died, all the joy of her life died with him. The reaction of Jesus Christ to death was similar to ours. Like all of us He said this comforting expression: "do not weep." But His words are not as powerless as ours. Following these are the other words: "Young man, I say to you, rise!" And in the sight of all people, this boy stood up.

We must consciously acknowledge death and recognize it in our life plan. For this we need to integrate our whole life and work with Jesus Christ, "through Him, with Him and in Him". And then the thought of death will not fill us with fear and emptiness, but with the hope of resurrection and always strengthening our union with God.

**Troparion, T.3:** Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice,\* for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm.\* He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead;\* He saved us from the abyss of Hades\* and granted great mercy to the world.

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.*

**Kontakion, T.3:** You rose from the tomb, O compassionate Lord,\* and led us out from the gates of death.\* Today Adam exults and Eve rejoices,\* and the prophets together with the patriarchs\* unceasingly acclaim the divine might of Your power.

*Now and forever and ever. Amen.*

**Theotokion, T.3:** Today the Virgin stands before us in the church\* and together with the choirs of saints invisibly prays to God for us.\* Angels are worshipping with hierarchs,\* Apostles exult with prophets,\* for the Mother of God prays in our behalf to the eternal God.

**Prokeimenon, T.3:** Sing to our God, sing;\* sing to our King, sing.

*verse:* Clap your hands all you nations; shout unto God with the voice of joy.

**A Reading from the Epistle of St Paul to the Galatians (1:11-19)**

Brothers and Sisters, I want you to know, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days; but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother.

**Alleluia, T.1**

*verse:* In You, O Lord, have I hoped that I may not be put to shame for ever.

*verse:* Be a protector unto me, O God, and a house of refuge to save me.

**Gospel: Luke 7:11-16**

**Communion Hymn** Praise the Lord from the heavens,\* praise Him in the highest.\* Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;\* praise befits the righteous.\* Alleluia (x3)

**Тропар гл.3:** Нехай веселяться небеснії, нехай радуються земляни,\* бо показав владу рукою Своєю Господь,\* Він смертю смерть подолав,\* первістоком з-поміж мертвих став,\* визволив нас із глибин аду,\* і подав світові велику милість.

*Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові.*

**Кондак гл.3:** Воскрес Ти нині з гробу, Щедрий, і нас визвів із брам смерті; нині Адам веселиться і радіє Єва, разом же і пророки з патріярхами безустанно оспівують божественну могутність влади Твоєї.

*І нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.*

**Богородичний гл.3:** Діва сьогодні стоїть перед нами у храмі\* та з хорами святих невидимо за нас молиться Богу.\* Ангели з архиереями поклоняються, апостоли ж з пророками радуються;\* бо за нас благає Богородиця споконвічного Бога.

**Прокімен гл.3:** Співайте Богові нашому, співайте;\* співайте цареві нашому, співайте.

*Стих:* Всі народи, заплещіть руками, кликніть до Бога голосом радості.

**До Галатів послання св. Апостол Павла читання: (1,11-19)**

Браття, звістую вам, що Євангелія, яку я вам проповідував, не є за людською мірою; бож я її не прийняв, ані навчився від людини, лише – через об'явлення Ісуса Христа. Ви чули про мою поведінку колись у юдействі, про те, як я несамовито гонив Божу Церкву та руйнував її. Я перевищував у юдействі багатьох ровесників з мого роду, будши запеклим прихильником передань моїх предків. Та коли той, хто вибрав мене вже від утроби матері моєї і покликав своєю благодаттю, зволив об'явити в мені Сина свого, щоб я проповідував його між поганями, то я негайно, ні з ким не радившись, ані не подавшись в Єрусалим до тих, що були апостолами передо мною, пішов в Арабію, а потім знову повернувся в Дамаск. По трьох роках по тому пішов я у Єрусалим відвідати Кифу і перебув у нього п'ятнадцять день. А іншого з апостолів я не бачив, крім Якова, брата Господнього.

**Алилуя гл.3:**

*Стих:* На Тебе, Господи, уповав, щоб не осоромитись навіки.

*Стих:* Будь мені Богом захисником і домом пристановища, щоб спасти мене.

**Євангеліє: Лк 7,11-16**

**Причасний:** Хваліте Господа з небес, хваліте Його на висотах. Радуйтеся, праведні, у Господі, правим належить похвала. Алилуя (x3).

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ **HELP NEEDED**, please, consider coming and helping us with our annual food prep for Christmas Bazaar:

**Fri., October 28 – from 8:00am** – peeling, boiling, and meshing

**Sat., October 29 – from 8:00am** – perogies making

◆ **BIG THANK YOU**. The preparation for our Annual Christmas Bazaar has already started. A Huge Thank You to all our helpers and volunteers for their time, talents and kindness. May Our Lord reward you richly with all His blessings. Our **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** will take place on **DECEMBER 3RD, 2022**. Please, save this date, come yourself and bring your friends and relatives.

◆ **CONGRATULATION** to **FREYJA SYLTE, LEONA & SHANA ZALUSKI, PATRICIA SCOTT, OKSANA KARIAHINA, DAVE SULLIVAN, IAN WALLACE JUN.**, who celebrate their Birthdays. May the Almighty God bless her all with good health and salvation in Many Happy & Blessed Years of Life. Mnohaya I Blahaya Lita!

◆ **PRAYER REQUEST: PLEASE REMEMBER** the sick and infirmed of our Parish in your prayers: **BERNICE KALTWASSER, ROSEMARIE PROKOPCHUK, MIKE & HELEN LUTZ, BARBARA & IAN WALLACE, BETH PAWLUK, DAVE SULLIVAN, LARRY ZALUSKI, PAUL ROZNER & all** who have asked us to pray for them.

◆ **THIS WEEK'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP:** Sunday, October 16, 2022 – Donations - \$405.00 For Ukraine – \$108.10. *May God bless and reward you for your generosity & support.*

◆ **BEQUESTS AND WILLS:** In your kindness please remember St. George's parish in your bequests and wills. If anyone wishes to make such a bequest in their will, the following clause may be included or added to a will: *"I give, devise, and bequeath to St. George Ukrainian Catholic Parish – 2414 Vanier Dr, Prince George, BC V2N 1T7 the sum of \$ (or % of my estate), to be used for the benefit of the parish and it's pastoral activities."*

◆ **ST. PHILIP'S FAST (ПИЛИПІВКА)** – a time of 40 days preparation for Christmas will begin on Tuesday, November 15th, 2022.

◆ **SAVE THE DATE: NOVEMBER 19-20** On these days St. George's parish will welcome **REV. YURIY SAKVUK** for our **ANNUAL PHILIP'S FAST MISSIONS**. More details to come. During our Missions we will have a unique opportunity to host **the first-class relics of Saint Mother TERESA of Calcutta**. Please mark these days in the calendar, plan to attend and spread the word about these events. More details coming soon.

◆ **WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD) AUGUST 1-6, 2023 LISBON, PORTUGAL.**

Established in 1985 by John Paul II, WYD is a pilgrimage of young people from all over the world, gathering with Pope Francis to celebrate youth and the universal Church in an intense moment of evangelization! This year's theme is, "Mary arose and went with haste" (Luke 1:39). [www.lisboa2023.org/en/](http://www.lisboa2023.org/en/) The Eparchies of Edmonton and New Westminster are canvassing interest in this life-changing pilgrimage and would like to hear from interested young adults (ages 18-35) by October 21. Contact the Office for Family and Life Ministries at 780 424 5496 or [familyandlife@eeparchy.com](mailto:familyandlife@eeparchy.com) for more information.

## NEWS

### PASTORAL LETTER TO THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND FAITHFUL OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CANADA AND TO ALL GOOD PEOPLE

#### The War in Ukraine: A Call to Prayer, Fasting, and Action

Dear Faithful,

The war in Ukraine rages on with no end in sight, claiming the lives of thousands of innocent children, men and women, with millions more on the move as refugees in search of safety, food, shelter, clothing and medicine, in addition to the destruction of countless homes, schools, hospitals and business. As winter approaches, hundreds of thousands of people will have no heat in their homes, with energy being used as a weapon of punishment.

Ukraine and its people are in crisis. Like the Holodomor-Genocide or Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933, which claimed the lives of millions of people in Ukraine when the Soviet Union deliberately and methodically starved as many as one-quarter of the Ukrainian population, today's war in Ukraine by foreign aggressors has as its intent to erase the identity and history of the Ukrainian people – a genocide in the making.

In light of the recent intensified attacks, let us renew our attention to the plight of the people of Ukraine in an effort to continue to "Stand with Ukraine."

In particular, let us renew our efforts to pray, fast, and act.

#### Prayer

Prayer is the privilege and duty of every person where we worship and praise the Lord God and bring forth our immediate needs and concerns. We, the Ukrainian Catholic Bishops in Canada, invite you to renew your efforts to pray daily for peace in Ukraine.

Let us pray for those who endure the war, who defend their country and nationhood, who live in fear, and who have been forced to flee their homes.

Let us pray for those who have died as a result of the war, and for those who have died today and who will die tomorrow.

Let us pray:

*O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, we entreat You to hear the earnest prayer of Your beloved Church of Kyivan Rus' for her afflicted children abiding in the land of Ukraine. Deliver Your vulnerable people from unjust aggressors, foreign invasion and the terror of war. O kind-hearted Lord, as You are our peace, soften the hearts of the unmerciful and convert those who promote hostilities toward reconciliation, so that your beloved children of the land of Ukraine, may abide in that tranquility, justice and freedom which reflects your Kingdom, where You reign with Your eternal Father, and Your most holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and forever and ever. Amen.*

### **Fasting**

The age-old practice of fasting is a means to spiritual growth and purity of heart.

Through fasting we recall the failure of Adam and Eve to fast from the forbidden fruit thereby leading to their expulsion from the Garden of Eden. Through fasting, we resolve to renew our lives according to God's ways and laws.

We, the Ukrainian Catholic Bishops in Canada, invite you to fast for the people of Ukraine and for peace in their country. Like the Holodomor Ukrainian Famine in 1932-1933, many people in Ukraine today have no food. In solidarity with them, let us fast.

In particular, we invite you to a three-day fast starting on Thursday, November 24, concluding on Saturday, November 26, when we commemorate the Holodomor annually throughout Canada.

Fast as best as you can. For some, that will mean only bread and water, for some no sweets, for others only one meal each day. However you choose to fast, unite your thoughts and prayers before the Lord for peace for the people of Ukraine.

### **Action**

Almsgiving is a charitable way of expressing gratitude to God for the bounty of God's blessings in our daily lives.

Almsgiving is also a way to identify with the needs of others and respond in some meaningful way.

We, the Ukrainian Catholic Bishops in Canada, acknowledge and thank you for your unprecedented generosity in providing humanitarian aid to the people of Ukraine. May God bless your kindness and generosity!

Yet, today, as winter approaches, the people of Ukraine need your support evermore.

We invite you to consider a further humanitarian aid donation so that the people of Ukraine may have the basic necessities in life that each of us enjoys – food, shelter, clothing, and medicine, as well as heat, for their homes this winter.

Kindly donate through your local parish, Catholic Near East Welfare Association – Canada (CNEWA), Development and Peace – Caritas Canada, Aid to the Church in Need – Canada, Canadian Jesuit International, or the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

### **Conclusion**

The purpose of this pastoral letter has been to raise our awareness of the ongoing war in Ukraine and to invite you to prayer, fasting, and action towards our brothers and sisters who are in desperate need of your support.

These are not easy times. The entire world is ill at ease.

Yet, together we can make a difference in the millions of lives of the children, men and women who are counting on you.

May God bless you and your family with health, peace, love and joy.

### **Sincerely in Christ,**

+ **Lawrence Huculak**, OSBM, Metropolitan Archbishop of Winnipeg; Apostolic Administrator of Saskatoon

+ **David Motiuk**, Eparchial Bishop of Edmonton; Apostolic Administrator of New Westminster

+ **Bryan Bayda**, CSsR, Eparchial Bishop of Toronto

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## **Пастирський лист до духовенства, монашества і вірних Української Католицької Церкви у Канаді і до всіх людей доброї волі**

### **Війна в Україні:**

#### **Заклик до молитви, посту і дій**

#### **Дорогі вірні,**

Війна в Україні шаленіє без видимих ознак завершення, забираючи життя тисяч невинних дітей, чоловіків і жінок і змушуючи мільйони українців залишати домівки у пошуках безпеки, їжі, прихистку, одягу, медикаментів через втрату зруйнованого житла, шкіл, лікарень і підприємств. З наближенням зими сотні тисяч людей також будуть позбавлені опалення у своїх помешканнях, оскільки енергоносії сьогодні перетворюються на засоби тиску і покарання.

Україна і її народ – у кризі. Схоже до того, як у свій час Геноцид-Голодомор 1932-33 років, який позбавив життя мільйонів людей в Україні, коли Радянська влада свідомо і методично заморила голодом чверть українського населення, сучасна війна в Україні, спричинена зовнішнім агресором, має на меті стерти ідентичність і саму історію українського народу, стаючи таким чином новим “геноцидом в дії”.

У світлі нещодавніх ще інтенсивніших ворожих нападів, давайте разом заново привернемо увагу до важкої ситуації в Україні, намагаючись продовжувати “стояти з Україною.”

Зокрема, давайте заново докладемо зусиль до молитви, посту і активних дій.

### **Молитва**

Молитва є водночас привілеєм і обов'язком кожної особи, яка через прославу Господа Бога доносить до Нього наші безпосередні потреби і занепокоєння.

Ми, Українські католицькі єпископи Канади, закликаємо вас відновити старання стосовно щоденної молитви за мир в Україні.

Давайте молитися за тих хто потерпає від війни, хто захищає свою країну, хто живе в страху і тих, хто був змушений залишити свої домівки.

Давайте молитися за тих, хто загинув через цю війну, тих, хто загинув сьогодні і тих, хто загине завтра.

Помолімось:

*Господи Ісусе Христе, Боже наш, благаємо Тебе вислухати щирі молитви Твоєї улюбленої Церкви Київської Русі за її засмучених дітей, які потерпають в Україні. Звільни Твій наражений на небезпеку народ від несправедливого агресора, нападу чужинців і терору війни. Добросердний Господи, джерело нашого миру, умиротвори серця немилосердних і наверни тих, хто пропагує ворожнечу до примирення, щоб Твої улюблені діти української землі могли проживати у такому спокої, справедливості і свободі, які завжди панують у Твоєму Царстві, де Ти царюєш зі своїм споконвічним Отцем і Твоїм благим і животворящим Духом нині, повсякчас і на віки віків. Амінь.*

### **Піст**

Споконвічна традиція посту є потужним засобом духовного росту і очищення серця.

Через піст ми пригадуємо невдачу Адама і Єви стриматися від забороненого плоду, що призвело до їхнього вигнання з Едемського

саду. Через піст ми постановляємо відновити свої життя згідно Божих доріг і законів.

Ми, українські католицькі єпископи Канади, запрошуємо вас постити за український люд і за мир у їхній країні. Як у часи Голодомору 1932-1933 років, багатьом людям в Україні сьогодні бракує їжі. Тож давайте постити у солідарності з ними.

Зокрема, запрошуємо вас до трьох-денного посту від четверга, 24 листопада до суботи, 26 листопада, в часі коли ми у Канаді щороку відзначаємо пам'ять Голодомору.

Постіть так, як ви найкраще можете. Для декого, це може бути лише хліб і вода, інші – можуть відмовитися від солодощів, у той час коли хтось може обмежити споживання їжі до одного разу на день. Як би ви не вирішили постити, нехай ваші думки і молитви перед Господом будуть за мир для українського народу.

### **Активні дії**

Милостиня – є практичним харитативним способом виявляння вдячності Богові за обильні Божі дари в нашому щоденному житті.

Милостиня – це також можливість ідентифікувати себе з потребами інших і здатність реагувати на ці потреби у конкретний осмислений спосіб.

Ми, українські католицькі єпископи Канади, цінуємо і висловлюємо вам вдячність за вашу безпрецедентну щедрість у наданні гуманітарної допомоги людям з України! Нехай Господь благословить вашу доброту і щедрість!

Однак сьогодні, в часі наближення зими, український народ потребує вашої підтримки ще більше.

Ми запрошуємо вас розглянути можливість подальшої гуманітарної допомоги, яку буде потрібно спрямувати на забезпечення базових життєвих потреб людей в Україні, всього того, чим кожен з нас втішається тут у Канаді – їжа, дах над головою, одяг, медикаменти як і тепло у їх помешканнях цієї зими.

Ласкаво просимо надсилати пожертви через ваші місцеві парафії до Catholic Near East Welfare Association – Canada (CNEWA), Development and Peace – Caritas Canada, Aid to the Church in Need – Canada, Canadian Jesuit International, or the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

### **Підсумки:**

Метою цього Пастирського листа було підвищити наше загальне усвідомлення того, що війна в Україні триває і запросити вас до

молитви, посту і активних дій спрямованих на допомогу нашим братам і сестрам, які надзвичайно потребують вашої підтримки.

Ми живемо у нелегкі часи. Весь світ є хворим.

Однак разом ми можемо зробити суттєвий внесок у життя мільйонів дітей, чоловіків і жінок, які розраховують на нас.

Нехай Господь благословить вас і ваші сім'ї здоров'ям, миром, любов'ю і радістю.

### **Щиро у Христі,**

+ **Лаврентій Гуцуляк**, ЧСВВ, Митрополит і Архієпископ Вінніпегу, Апостольський Адміністратор Саскатуну

+ **Давид Мотюк**, Єпископ Єдмонтону, Апостольський Адміністратор Нью Вестмінстеру

+ **Браян Байда**, ЧНІ, Єпископ Торонто

## LITURGICAL YEAR



### **FEAST OF THE HOLY AND GLORIOUS GREAT MARTYR SAINT DEMETRIOS**

Saint Demetrios of Thessaloniki was the son of a Roman proconsul in Thessaloniki. Three centuries had elapsed and Roman paganism, spiritually shattered and defeated by the multitude of martyrs and confessors of the Savior, intensified its persecutions. The parents of the Saint were secret Christians, and he was baptized and raised in the Christian Faith in a secret church in his father's home.

By the time Demetrios had reached maturity and his father had died, Emperor Galerius Maximian had ascended the throne (305). Maximian, confident in Demetrios's education as well as his administrative and military abilities, appointed him to his father's position as proconsul of the Thessaloniki district. The young commander's principal duties were to defend the city from barbarians and to eradicate Christianity. The Emperor's policy regarding Christians was expressed simply: "Put to death anyone who calls on the name of Christ." The Emperor did not suspect that by appointing Demetrios he had provided him with the opportunity to bring many people to Christ.

Accepting the appointment, Demetrios returned to Thessaloniki and confessed and glorified our Lord Jesus Christ. Instead of persecuting and executing Christians, he began to teach the Christian Faith openly to the

inhabitants of the city and to overthrow pagan customs and the worship of idols.

When Maximian learned that the newly-appointed proconsul was a Christian, and that he had converted many Roman subjects to Christianity, the Emperor's rage knew no bounds. Returning from a campaign, the Emperor decided to lead his army through Thessaloniki, determined to massacre the Christians. Learning of this, Saint Demetrios ordered his faithful servant Lupus to give his wealth to the poor saying, "Distribute my earthly riches among them, for we shall seek heavenly riches for ourselves."

When the Emperor came into the city, he summoned Demetrios, who boldly confessed himself a Christian and denounced the falsehood and futility of Roman polytheism. Maximian ordered Demetrios to be thrown into prison. An Angel appeared to him, comforting and encouraging him. Meanwhile the Emperor amused himself by staging games in the circus. His champion was a German by the name of Lyaeos. He challenged Christians to wrestle with him on a platform built over the upturned spears of the victorious soldiers. A brave Christian named Nestor went to the prison to Saint Demetrios, his instructor in the Faith, asking for his blessing to fight the barbarian. With the blessing and prayers of Saint Demetrios, Nestor defeated the fierce German and hurled him from the platform onto the spears of the soldiers, just as the murderous pagan would have done with the Christian. The enraged commander ordered the execution of the holy Martyr Nestor and sent a guard to the prison to kill Saint Demetrios. At dawn on October 26, 306 soldiers appeared in the Saint's underground prison and ran him through with lances. His faithful servant, Saint Lupus, gathered up the blood-soaked garment of Saint Demetrios he took the imperial ring from his finger, a symbol of his high status, and dipped it in the blood. With the ring and other holy things sanctified the blood of Saint Demetrios, Saint Lupus began to heal the infirm. The Emperor ordered his soldiers to arrest and kill him.

The body of the holy Great Martyr Demetrios was cast out for wild animals to devour, but the Christians took it and secretly buried it in the earth.

During the reign of Saint Constantine, a church was built over the grave of Saint Demetrios. A hundred years later, during the construction of a new church, the incorrupt relics of the holy martyr were uncovered. Since the 7th century a miraculous flow of fragrant myrrh has been found beneath the crypt of the St. Demetrios, so he is called "the Myrrh-gusher." Saint Demetrios is regarded as a protector of the young and is also invoked by those struggling with lustful temptations.