

SYNDIAKONIA

THE MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF THE

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΜΕΤΑΜΟΡΦΩΣΕΩΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ

Marietta, GA

AUGUST 2012



THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples beheld Your glory, in so far as they were able, so that when they would see You crucified, they might understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the radiance of the Father.

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

*3431 Trickum Road
Marietta, GA 30066*

Tel. 770 924-8080

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Website: www.holytrans.org

CHURCH OFFICE

Open Monday-Friday, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm

E-mail: holytrans@comcast.net

SUNDAY SERVICES

Orthros..... 8:30 am Divine Liturgy..... 10:00 am

PARISH CLERGY

*Rev. Father Panayiotis Papageorgiou, Ph.D.,
Presiding Protopresbyter*

Rev. Father George Pallas, Protopresbyter

Pastoral Assistant: Paul Lundberg

PARISH COUNCIL-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President.....Maria Alberts

First Vice-President.....Pete Bilson

Recording Secretary.....Randy Rogers

Treasurer.....Steve Steffas

Assistant Treasurer.....Christopher Hansard

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Cathy Costarides, Ellen Linebaugh, George Lopos, Alex Miltiades,
John Moustoukas, Jim Tidwell, Athan Tsarouhas

Directions to our Parish:

FROM I-75 Exit at 267-A. At 1st light, turn right (Sandy Plains Road). Continue for 3-4 miles until you see a CVS Pharmacy on your left. At that light turn left onto Trickum Rd. Proceed Approx 1/2 mile. Church will be on your left. Can't miss it!

<http://www.holytransfiguration.info/directions/>

THE SENSELESS VIOLENCE IN OUR SOCIETY



The news from Aurora, Colorado pierced the heart of the nation like a knife. A brilliant young man with a tremendous future did the unthinkable, ending the lives of twelve others and wounding scores of unsuspecting fellow Americans. It seems that this kind of random acts of violence are increasing in number every year. People are perplexed by the frequency as well as the magnitude of them. The chilling thought is that the killer is one of us! It could be the young man down the street, or the other one further down! Whom can you trust? And what is the solution to this problem? How could did this man acquire legally so much firepower without anyone noticing? Something is seriously wrong with this picture!

The political pundits, as usual, grabbed on the opportunity to offer us their 'valuable' opinion. The solution, some of them suggest, is the tightening of the gun laws, prohibiting people from buying guns as easily, or perhaps increasing the waiting period; doing more background checks. And then the objections rise up from the other side: This is an American civil liberty issue. Any more gun restrictions will violate the Second Amendment. And the passionate debate goes on for days, even weeks, until an other political issue arises and they all turn their attention to that one forgetting once more the issue of violence until it strikes us again in some big way.

Of course the problem is much bigger than the occasional mass murder we see every so often. The senseless killing of mostly young people continues undisturbed in the black and hispanic ghettos of America with primarily illegal weapons, acquired on the streets of America, weapons with far more firepower than anyone can purchase at a gun shop. But this discussion is not happening on the networks. No one offers a solution for that.

In addition, no one talks about the youths who grow up without a father figure in their lives, no moral compass and no guidance, who eventually turn to the thugs of the "hood" to give them validation and purpose, quickly becoming both actors and victims of street violence. While 6,000 Americans died at the front line in Iraq and Afghanistan in the last 10 years of war, more than 30,000 people have died from bullets on the streets of America, shot by other Americans during the same time - a war far greater and bloodier that is cutting deeply into the soul of this nation.

But let me get back to the more bizarre incidents which catch our attention immediately, like the Virginia Tech incident, the 2011 Tucson shooting and finally the most recent one in Aurora, CO. This last one is the most perplexing to all: How can a white, middle-class, intelligent, well educated American end up doing such a horrific thing, everyone is asking?

It seems to me that part of the answer in all three of these cases is found in the fact that there is some serious mental illness involved, definitely serious enough to lead a person to such horrific behavior, but unfortunately not considered serious enough to alarm those who come into contact with these individuals. The other part of the answer is found in a common element in all three cases: The fact that both family and community have been missing from the lives of all these men in the years preceding their violent behavior. They were all isolated in their sick world behaving and acting in ways that would have been quickly noticed if they lived with people who cared for them, but went unnoticed in the anonymous modern societal order.

.....continued, next page

The individual isolation in our society has led us to live lonely lives even in the midst of the most populous cities, but most frighteningly has left us unmonitored by relatives, friends and loved ones to disintegrate into behaviors that end up in tragedies. It's not all about the gun laws, unfortunately. It's also about our relationships or lack thereof; it's also about some other laws, which govern mental illness. Even professional healthcare providers are disabled by legal restrictions to care effectively for mentally ill patients, even if they know that their behavior is seriously irrational. In the absence of family to monitor and provide care on a daily basis, these individuals run the risk of crossing the boundaries. Unfortunately, the current laws make it very difficult to commit someone to psychiatric care. Even the hospitals are unable to hold them for more than a short time unless they have clearly indicated that they plan to hurt themselves or another. Law enforcement's hands are tied until the person commits a crime! The result is what we have seen at Virginia Tech, Tucson and Aurora.

If we truly want to debate this issue, we must honestly consider what has happened to the family unit, the nuclear family as well as the extended family. We must consider the value of the local church and synagogue, the positive effect of faith and morality, but more than anything else, the comfort and security provided by a close knit community where people look out for each other. We must draw lessons from the experience of the past in order to build a better future.

Whether violence occurs on the streets of the inner city, the campus of a college or a movie theater, the root of the problem is found in the disintegration of the support systems provided by family and community. Hospital staff and government social workers cannot replace the long-term, loving, unconditional care which the nurturing embrace of a family can offer.



The Three Heroes of Aurora: They gave their lives to save others

By **William Bennett**, CNN Contributor

updated 10:30 AM EDT, Thu July 26, 2012

Twenty-five-year-old Jon Blunk was sitting next to his girlfriend, Jansen Young, at the midnight premiere of "The Dark Night Rises" when the gunman (who shall remain nameless) opened fire in the dark theater. Blunk instinctively pushed his girlfriend to the ground and threw his body on top of hers. Blunk, a security guard, served eight years in the Navy and was in the process of re-enlisting in hopes of becoming a Navy SEAL, family and friends said. He was killed in the gunfire; his girlfriend survived.

Twenty-four-year-old Alex Teves dived on top of his girlfriend, Amanda Lindgren, when the gunfire erupted. Covering her body, he took the bullets so they did not harm her. She survived the massacre; he did not.

Matt McQuinn, 27 years old, threw his body in front of his girlfriend, Samantha Yowler, as the shooting continued. Yowler survived with a gunshot wound to the knee; McQuinn's body absorbed the fatal shots.

By all appearances, these men believed that a man has a responsibility to protect a woman, even to the point of death. They believed that there are things in life worth dying for and the innocent woman sitting next to them was one.

They believed, to put it simply, in a code of honor. They put the lives of the women before their own, an old fashioned notion to be sure, but certainly an honorable one (if you have any doubt, ask the survivors). Their instincts were to protect, not run away.

This is especially important given the state of many men today. Record numbers of men aren't working or even looking for work. Record numbers aren't marrying or even acting as fathers to their children. These men need heroes to imitate whom they can relate to in everyday life, not just make-believe superheroes who catch their imagination for an hour or two. They need heroes like the Aurora three.

<http://www.cnn.com/2012/07/25/opinion/bennett-aurora-three/index.html>



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Rev. Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou, Ph.D., Protopresbyter

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

August 2012

August 1, Wednesday, Blessing of the Water 11:00 am.

Beginning of the Fast of August. Oil and wine is allowed only on Saturdays and Sundays.
Fish is allowed on August 6 for the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Savior.

Wednesday Evening: Service of Supplication to the Theotokos 6:00 pm

August 2, 3, Thursday-Friday, Evening: Service of Supplication to the Theotokos 6:00 pm

August 4, Saturday. Great Vespers 5:00 pm

August 5, Ninth Sunday of Matthew. Forefeast of the Transfiguration of the Lord.

Orthros 8:30 am & Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Sunday Evening: Great Vespers - the Transfiguration of our Savior Christ

Great Vespers begins at 7:00 pm -- Feast-Day of our Parish begins.

Reception to follow the Great Vespers in our Parish Hall.

August 6, Monday. The Transfiguration of our Savior. **Parish Feast-Day.**

Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am, followed by coffee and social time in our church hall - *Today we eat fish.*

Monday Evening: Service of Supplication to the Theotokos 6:00 pm

August 7, 8, 9 and 10 Evening: Service of Supplication to the Theotokos 6:00 pm

August 11, Saturday. Great Vespers 5:00 pm

August 12, Sunday. Tenth Sunday of Matthew, Sunday after the Transfiguration of the Lord

Orthros 8:30 am & Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

August 13, Monday Evening: Service of Supplication to the Theotokos 6:00 pm

August 14, Tuesday. Evening: Great Vespers, Dormition of the Theotokos 6:00 pm

August 15, Wednesday. Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos.

Orthros 8:45 am & Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

August 18, Saturday Evening: Great Vespers 5:00 pm

August 19, Sunday. Tenth Sunday of Matthew.

Orthros 8:30 am & Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

August 25, Saturday Evening: Great Vespers 5:00 pm

August 26, Sunday. Twelfth Sunday of Matthew. Feast of St Phanourios (moved from Aug 27)

Orthros 8:30 am & Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

August 28, Tuesday. Evening: Great Vespers, Beheading of St. John the Fore-Runner 6:00 pm

August 29, Wednesday. Remembrance of the Beheading of St. John the Fore-Runner (Baptist)

Orthros 9:00 am & Divine Liturgy 10:00 am. *This is a day of strict fast.*

The Transfiguration of our Lord on Mount Tabor

Celebrated on August 6

Hymn of the Feast

Apolytikion of the feast

(Grave Tone)

You were transfigured on the Mount, Christ God revealing Your glory to Your disciples, insofar as they could comprehend. Illuminate us sinners also with Your everlasting light, through the intercessions of the Theotokos. Giver of light, glory to You.

Commentary:

Our Lord had spoken to His disciples many times not only concerning His Passion, Cross, and Death, but also concerning the coming persecutions and afflictions that they themselves would endure. Since all these evils were near at hand, but the enjoyment of good things which they hoped to receive in their stead was yet to come, our Savior desired to give them full assurance, evidently and openly, concerning that glory which is prepared for those who endure to the end. Therefore, fulfilling that which He had promised shortly before, that "there be some standing here which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in His Kingdom" (Matt. 16:28), He took His three foremost disciples and ascended Mount Tabor, where He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white as the light. Suddenly, together with this dread and marvelous effulgence of light, there appeared those pinnacles of the Prophets, Moses and Elias, who spoke with the Lord Jesus concerning His saving Passion which was about to take place. Standing before Him as reverent servants, they showed that He is the Lord of both the living and the dead, for Moses came forth from Hades, having died many centuries before, and Elias, as it were from heaven, whither he had been taken up while yet alive. After a little while a radiant cloud overshadowed them and out of the cloud they heard that same voice which had been heard at the Jordan at the Baptism of Christ, testifying to the Divinity of Jesus and saying: "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well-pleased; hear ye Him" (Matt. 17: 5).

Such are the marvels, truly worthy of God, celebrated in this present feast, which is an image and prefiguring of the future state of the righteous, whose splendor the Lord spoke of, saying: "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun" (Matt. 13:43). It is because of this that the Kontakion of this Feast is said daily (when there is not a great feast) in the Service of the Typica in perpetual commemoration of the glory that will be the lot of the Saints. According to tradition, the Lord's Transfiguration came to pass forty days before His Crucifixion; this is why the Transfiguration is celebrated forty days before the Exaltation of the Cross.

The Commentary is courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Brookline, MA

The Apolytikion is courtesy of Narthex Press, Northridge, CA

<http://www.goarch.org/en/chapel/saints.asp?contentid=155>



The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary

Celebrated on August 15

On August 15 we celebrate the Dormition (Falling Asleep) of the Most Holy Virgin Mary the Theotokos, the one who gave birth to our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Hymn of the Feast

Apolytikion of the feast

First Tone

In giving birth, O Theotokos, you have retained your virginity, and in falling asleep you have not forsaken the world. You who are the Mother of Life have passed over into life, and by your prayers you do deliver our souls from death.

Hymns from the Vespers Service

From the Lity. Tone Plagal of the First

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

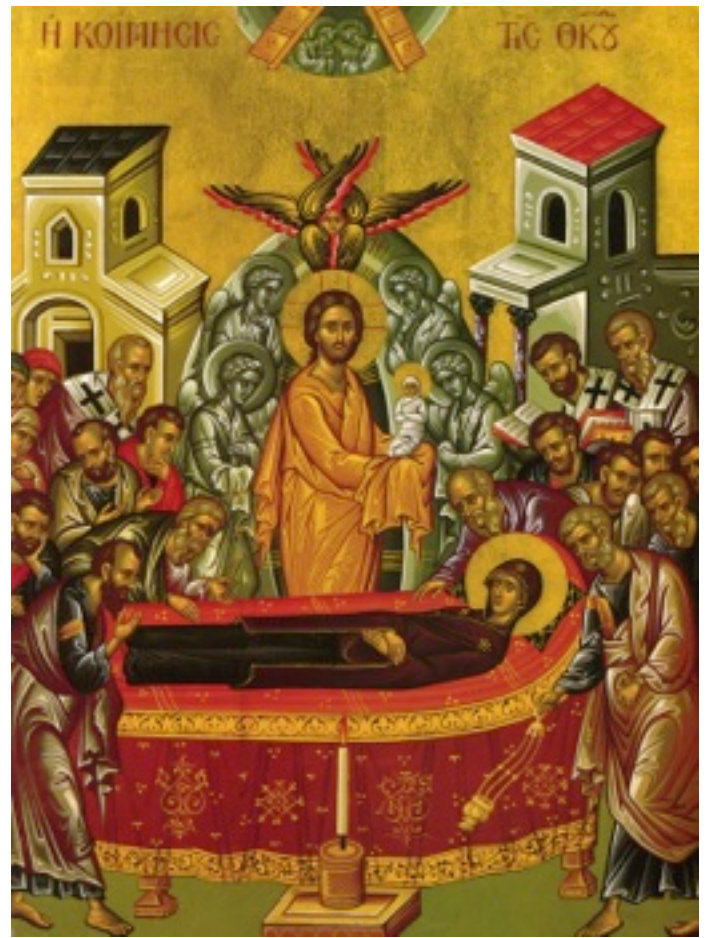
Come, O gathering of those who love to keep the feasts, come and let us form a choir. Come, let us crown the Church with songs, as the Ark of God goes to her rest. For today is heaven opened wide as it receives the Mother of Him who cannot be contained. The earth, as it yields up the Source of life, is robed in blessing and majesty. The hosts of angels, present with the fellowship of the apostles, gaze in great fear at her who bore the Cause of life, now that she is translated from life to life. Let us all venerate and implore her: Forget not, O Lady, your ties of kinship with those who commemorate in faith the feast of your all-holy Dormition.

Now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Sing, O ye people, sing ye the praises of the Mother of our God: for today she delivers her soul, full of light, into the immaculate hands of Him who was made incarnate of her without seed. And she entreats Him without ceasing to grant the inhabited earth peace and great mercy.

From the Aposticha. Fourth Tone.

Come, O ye people, and let us sing the praises of the pure and most holy Virgin, from whom the Word of the Father ineffably came forth incarnate. Let us cry aloud and say: Blessed are you among women and blessed is your womb that held Christ. Having delivered your soul into His holy hands, do you, O most pure, entreat Him for the salvation of our souls.



From the Aposticha.

Tone Plagal of the 4th (by Sergios of the Holy City)
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

At your departing, O Virgin Theotokos, to Him who was ineffably born of you, James the first bishop and brother of the Lord was there, and so was Peter, the honored leader and chief of the disciples, and the whole sacred fellowship of the apostles. In discourses that showed forth heavenly things they sang the praises of the divine and amazing mystery of the dispensation of Christ our God; and they rejoiced, O far-famed Virgin, as they buried your body, the origin of the Life and holder of God. On high the most holy and venerable of the angelic powers bowed in wonder before this marvel, and said one to another: 'Open wide your gates and receive her who bore the Creator of heaven and earth. With songs of praise let us glorify her precious and holy body, dwelling-place of the Lord on whom we may not gaze.' Therefore we too, as we keep your feast, cry out to you, O far-famed Lady: Raise up the Christian horn and save our souls.

The Beheading of St. John the Forerunner and Baptist

Celebrated on August 29

Hymn of the Feast

Apolytikion of the feast

(Second Tone)

The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner; for thou hast proved to be truly even more venerable than the Prophets, since thou was granted to baptize in the running waters Him Whom they proclaimed. Wherefore, having contested for the truth, thou didst rejoice to announce the good tidings even to those in Hades: that God hath appeared in the flesh, taking away the sin of the world and granting us great mercy.

Commentary: The divine Baptist, the Prophet born of a Prophet, the seal of all the Prophets and beginning of the Apostles, the mediator between the Old and New Covenants, the voice of one crying in the wilderness, the God-sent Messenger of the incarnate Messiah, the forerunner of Christ's coming into the world (Esaias 40: 3; Mal. 3: 1); who by many miracles was both conceived and born; who was filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb; who came forth like another Elias the Zealot, whose life in the wilderness and divine zeal for God's Law he imitated: this divine Prophet, after he had preached the baptism of repentance according to God's command; had taught men of low rank and high how they must order their lives; had admonished those whom he baptized and had filled them with the fear of God, teaching them that no one is able to escape the wrath to come if he do not works worthy of repentance; had, through such preaching, prepared their hearts to receive the evangelical teachings of the Savior; and finally, after he had pointed out to the people the very Savior, and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, Which taketh away the sin of the world" (Luke 3:2-18; John 1: 29-36), after all this, John sealed with his own blood the truth of his words and was made a sacred victim for the divine Law at the hands of a transgressor.

This was Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch of Galilee, the son of Herod the Great. This man had a lawful wife, the daughter of Arethas (or Aretas), the King of Arabia (that is, Arabia Petraea, which had the famous Nabatean stone city of Petra as its capital. This is the Aretas mentioned by Saint Paul in II Cor. 11:32). Without any cause, and against every commandment of the Law, he put her away and took to himself Herodias, the wife of his deceased brother Philip, to whom Herodias had borne a daughter, Salome. He would not desist from this unlawful union even when John, the preacher of repentance, the bold and austere accuser of the lawless, censured him and told him, "It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife" (Mark 6: 18). Thus Herod, besides his other unholy acts, added yet this, that he apprehended John and shut him in prison; and perhaps he would have killed him straightway, had he not feared the people, who had extreme reverence for John. Certainly, in the beginning, he himself had great reverence for this just and holy man. But finally, being pierced with the sting of a mad lust for the woman Herodias, he laid his defiled hands on the teacher of purity on the very day he was celebrating his birthday. When Salome, Herodias' daughter, had danced in order to please him and those who were supping with him, he promised her -- with an oath more foolish than any foolishness -- that he would give her anything she asked, even unto the half of his kingdom. And she, consulting with her mother, straightway asked for the head of John the Baptist in a charger. Hence this transgressor of the Law, preferring his lawless oath above the precepts of the Law, fulfilled this godless promise and filled his loathsome banquet with the blood of the Prophet. So it was that that all-venerable head, revered by the Angels, was given as a prize for an abominable dance, and became the plaything of the dissolute daughter of a debauched mother. As for the body of the divine Baptist, it was taken up by his disciples and placed in a tomb (Mark 6: 21 - 29). Concerning the finding of his holy head, see February 24 and May 25.



Commentary courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Brookline, MA

Apolytikion courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Brookline, MA

The Mission Statement of our Parish

Our Parish is the local eucharistic community of the Church in this locality;

The aims and purposes of our Parish are to keep, practice and proclaim the Orthodox Christian Faith pure and undefiled.

The diakonia (ministry) of the Parish includes proclaiming and teaching the Gospel in accordance with the Orthodox Faith; sanctifying the faithful through God's grace in worship, the Divine Liturgy and the other sacraments; enhancing its parishioners' spiritual life; and adding to the numbers of the faithful by receiving persons into the Church through instruction, Baptism and/or Chrismation. In addition, the Parish has established educational and philanthropic activities to foster the aims and mission of the Parish and to edify its parishioners in the Faith and ethos of the Church.

The ultimate goal of our Parish is to lead its members into the Kingdom of God.

See UNIFORM PARISH REGULATIONS. CHAPTER ONE, ARTICLE 15

The Practice of "Confession" In the Bible

Old Testament

"He shall confess his sin that he has committed. And he shall make full restitution for his wrong, adding a fifth to it and giving it to him to whom he did the wrong." Num. 5:7

"Those of Israelite descent separated themselves from all foreigners, and they stood and confessed their sins and the guilt of their fathers. While they stood in their places, they read from the book of the law of the LORD their God for a fourth of the day and spent another fourth of the day in confession and worship of the LORD their God." Nehemiah 9:2-3

New Testament

"Confessing their sins, they were baptized by John in the Jordan River." Matthew 3:6

"And there went out unto John all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized by him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins." Mark 1:5

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." James 5:16

"Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices." Acts 19:18

"Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses." 1 Timothy 6:12

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

The Holy Sacrament of Forgiveness

How to Prepare for Confession

- a. Find a quiet place where you can be alone and where you can concentrate on the love of God; His love for the world and for you. Think of the Christmas story and how Our Lord became Man because He loved us, how He experienced death on the cross because He loved us, and how, at Easter, He resurrected, because He loves us.
- b. Think of what God wants you to be and where you are in life, at this very moment. Ask yourself: Am I worthy to be called a creation of God? When Christ returns at the second coming, will we be able to tell him that in spite of our failures in life, we sincerely tried to make amends in our shortcomings?
- c. Once we have gone through (a) and (b), we are now ready to face the most difficult question of all: How have we offended God? In examining ourselves, what sins have been committed? One easy way of doing this is to put down on a piece of paper all the sins committed recently, or since your last confession. Details and unnecessary descriptions should be avoided.
- d. Once you have completed your list, check them with the following "self-examination" questions based on the Ten Commandments, which will also help you to crystallize your thinking before you share your feelings with your Father confessor. (These were basically taken from a little Archdiocesan pamphlet entitled, "The Neglected Sacrament, A Practical Guide to Confession and Happiness.")

First Commandment

"I Am The Lord Thy God; Thou Shalt Have No Other Gods Before Me." Have I loved God as much as I should? Have I been more interested in myself than in God? Have I tried to serve God and keep His Commandments? Have I been vain about my personality, personal appearance, clothes, possessions, my family, ability, success in games or in accomplishments? Have I given way to anxiety instead of turning to God for help? Have I failed to trust in God and His mercy? Have I failed to pray to God sincerely and faithfully? Have I put my self before God?

Second Commandment

"Thou Shalt Not Make Unto Thee Any Graven Image. "

Have I put another person before God's law; by not going to Church, or by committing some other sin to please that person? Have I neglected my duties to God through fear of ridicule? Have I been insincere about my religion? Have I been receiving Holy Communion without the appropriate preparation?

Third Commandment

"Thou Shalt Not Take Thy Name of The Lord Thy God in Vain . " Have I profaned the Holy Name of God? Have I misused the Holy Name of Jesus'? Have I cursed anyone or sworn a false oath? Have I paid proper attention to holy persons and things? Have I broken any solemn vow or promise?

Fourth Commandment

"Remember The Sabbath Day, to Keep it Holy. " Have I missed Church on Sundays? Have I always kept Sunday as it ought to be kept? Have I done unnecessary work on Sundays? Have I been irreverent during Church Services? Have I caused anyone to profane the Lord's day? Have I been ashamed of my religion or my Church?

Fifth Commandment

"Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother."

Have I respected my parents and been grateful enough for all they have done for me? Have I disobeyed them or neglected them? Have I contributed as much as I should to the support and happiness of my parents? Have I tried to bring my children up properly? Have I given as much care as possible to the religious life of my family; with regard to daily prayer, church going, etc? Have I honored God, my Heavenly Father, by working or treating my employers as well as other co-workers honestly and diligently?

Sixth Commandment

"Thou Shalt Not Kill. "

Have I killed if not in outward deed, perhaps in my heart? Have I wished for some one's death? Have I been angry unjustly? Have I harmed others by ridicule or contempt? Have I defamed anyone who needed help? Have I gossiped about people? Have I been cruel to anyone? Have I failed to forgive anyone? Have I shown proper respect toward life?

Seventh Commandment

"Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery. "

Have I been impure in thought, word, or deed? Have I committed unworthy actions alone or with others? Do I dwell on pornography and obscenity? Have I committed any sin with regard to my wife (husband) or other member of my family? Have I caused others to commit sinful acts?

Eighth Commandment

"Thou Shalt Not Steal ."

Have I ever stolen anything, or shared in stolen goods. Have I cheated in business, games or school? Have I kept things that did not belong to me? Have I given as much as I am able to charitable causes and to the Church?

Ninth Commandment

"Thou Shalt Not Bear False Witness."

Have I lied often? Have I concealed the truth? Have I exaggerated too much? Have I let others receive blame for my faults? Have I judged others for sins which I also have committed? Have I been deceitful, unfair, hypocritical?

Tenth Commandment

"Thou Shalt Not Covet. "

Have I been jealous of others? Have I envied them because they have more money; or are better looking; or more successful; or because people pay more attention to them? Have I been grieved at the prosperity of the others? Have I ever wished the downfall of anyone? Have I failed to thank God for what He has already given me? Have I thought that God is partial?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - AUGUST

8/1/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:33-40; 12:1-2	Gospel: Matthew 10:16-22
8/2/2012	Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60	Gospel: Mark 12:1-12
8/3/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 14:26-40	Gospel: Matthew 21:12-14; 17-20
8/4/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 14:6-9	Gospel: Matthew 15:32-39
8/5/2012	Matins: John 20:19-31 Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34	Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 3:9-17
8/6/2012	Matins: Luke 9:28-36 Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9	Epistle: St. Peter's Second Universal Letter 1:10-19
8/7/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 15:29-38	Gospel: Mark 9:2-9
8/8/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 16:4-12	Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32
8/9/2012	Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 1:12-17, 21-26	Gospel: Matthew 21:43-46
8/10/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 1:12-20	Gospel: Matthew 22:23-33
8/11/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 15:30-33	Gospel: Matthew 17:24-27; 18:1-4
8/12/2012	Matins: John 21:1-14 Gospel: Matthew 17:14-23	Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 4:9-16
8/13/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 2:3-15	Gospel: Matthew 23:13-22
8/14/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 2:14-17; 3:1-3	Gospel: Matthew 23:23-28
8/15/2012	Matins: Luke 1:39-49, 56 Gospel: Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28	Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 2:5-11
8/16/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy 3:13-16; 4:1-5 Gospel: Luke 9:51-57, 10:22-24, 13:22	
8/17/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 4:13-18	Gospel: Matthew 24:27-33, 42-51
8/18/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 1:3-9	Gospel: Matthew 19:3-12
8/19/2012	Matins: John 21:14-25 Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35	Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 9:2-12
8/20/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 5:10-15	Gospel: Mark 1:9-15
8/21/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 5:15-21	Gospel: Mark 3:13-21
8/22/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:11-16	Gospel: Mark 1:23-28
8/23/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 2:5-11	Gospel: Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28
8/24/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 7:10-16	Gospel: Mark 2:18-22
8/25/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to Titus 1:1-5; 2:15; 3:1-2, 12-15	Gospel: Matthew 5:14-19
8/26/2012	Matins: Matthew 28:16-20 Gospel: Matthew 19:16-26	Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 15:1-11
8/27/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 8:7-15	Gospel: Mark 3:6-12
8/28/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 8:16-24; 9:1-5	Gospel: Mark 3:13-21
8/29/2012	Matins: Matthew 14:1-13 Gospel: Mark 6:14-30	Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 13:25-33
8/30/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 10:7-18	Gospel: Mark 3:28-35
8/31/2012	Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 9:1-7	Gospel: Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

You are a Member of the Church!

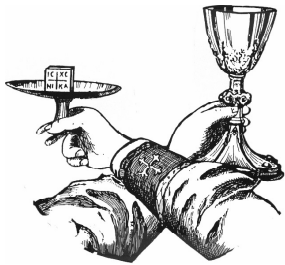
Are you a Steward also?

A question always asked by our parishioners is "How can I be a member of the Parish? I am already an Orthodox Christian. Isn't that enough?"

The answer to this is very simple: All people baptized and chrismated (confirmed) in the Orthodox Church are automatically members of the Church, but it takes a little more to be "members in good standing" in the Orthodox Church and in the Parish. First, it is required that a person be married in the Church and live their life as an Orthodox Christian, participating in the Holy Sacraments, in order to be in good standing within the Orthodox Church. If one has been married outside the Orthodox Church or has gone through a civil divorce and has not obtained a Church divorce may not be in good standing with the Church. Please check with the priest of the parish in order to find out where you are.

How can one be a member of the Parish?

It takes participation in the parish by supporting the operation and ministries of the parish to be a member in good standing. In order to do that, you have to fill out the Membership/Stewardship Form and indicate on it how you are going to participate in the Parish with your Time, Talents and Treasure. When you join the Parish in this way you make a Pledge to God that you will support the work of the Church with the gifts He has given you so that the Gospel may be preached and people may be saved through the ministries of the Church. **Please join us at Holy Transfiguration and serve God with us!**



*"YOUR OWN GIFTS,
OF YOUR OWN,
WE OFFER UNTO YOU."*

WHAT IS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE PARISH'S STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY?

Most of the parishioners seem to think that the primary purpose of the Stewardship Ministry is to collect money for the operation of the parish. However that is not what Stewardship is about – the collection of funds is a secondary purpose of stewardship.

Stewardship is about our relationship with God and our desire to connect with Him. It is about our Love for God and His work of Salvation. It is about our salvation and the salvation others.

Stewardship is also about our sharing of what God has given us to spread the Gospel and help others to come to Him. We do this by donating our time and talents to serve His Church, but we also donate money to support the ministries of the Church for the salvation of all. Our Stewardship enables the Local as well as the Universal Church to do the work of salvation.

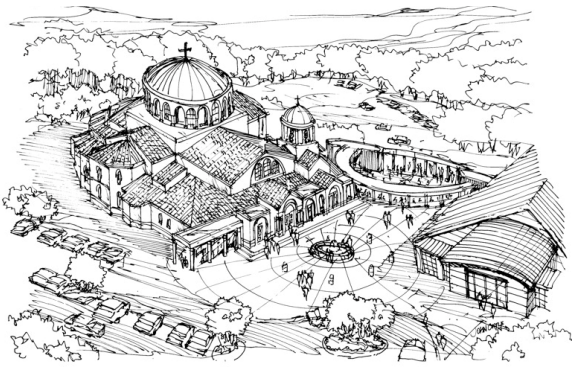
The Necessity of Stewardship

Our Parish depends on the Stewardship of its members. Our Parish is funded by us.

Let us offer to our Parish from the Gifts of God to us. Let us offer in proportion of His Gifts to us. Let us bring our offering with a joyful heart.

You will be Blessed greatly if you support the work of our Parish and the work of His Church.

Have you submitted your Stewardship Form? If not, please do so today.



Come and See

MEMBERSHIP/STEWARDSHIP FOR 2012

THANK YOU TO THE FAITHFUL STEWARDS WHO
HAVE SUBMITTED FORMS FOR 2012!

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Adamson	Mr. Arthur Costakis	Mrs. Diana Honey
Mr. Michael Adare	Ms. Cathy Costarides	Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Alberts	Ms. Margaret Csonka	Houstoulakis
Mr. & Mrs. George Andros	Mr. & Dr. Shawn Dalton	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Isaac
Mr. & Mrs. John Asimakos	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Danos	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jacobs
Mr. & Mrs. Gianis Asprakis	Mr. & Mrs. Constantinos Dascalos	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Jacobs
Mr. & Mrs. Amir Azarvan	Mr. Mike Davino	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Johansen
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Azimzadeh	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Davis	Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Johnston
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Bafas	Mr. & Mrs. William Dennison	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Jones
Miss Dorian Bafas	Ms. Eleni Dodys	Mr. & Mrs. Radostin Jordanov
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Bakatsas	Mr. George A. Dracos	Mrs. Niki Kakissis
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Barke	Mr. & Mrs. Bob Driscoll	Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kanelos
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bass	Mr. & Mrs. Drew Dudley	Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Kapsalis
Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Basto	Mr. & Mrs. Cedric Dunkerly	Ms. Michele Karetas
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Bates	Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Duvlaris	Dr. & Mrs. Steve Kargas
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Bell	Ms. Marjorie Economopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. David Kay
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Bennett	Ms. Marilyn Eleftheriou	Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kipreos
Mr. & Mrs. George Bilson	Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Elias	Mr. & Mrs. Manolis Kipreos
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bilson	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Farina	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Kipreos
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Bilson	Mr. & Mrs. Ken Farrey	Mrs. Irene Kipreos
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Bilson	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Fernandez	Mr. Steve Kipreos
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Blasetti	Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Fleshman	Mr. & Mrs. Phil Kiritsy
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Bliss	Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Frangis	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Klementzos
Mr. & Mrs. George Bogdan	Mr. & Mrs. Stratton Frank	Mr. & Mrs. Alan Knuchel
Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Bond	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Frank	Mr. Scott Knuchel
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Botni	Ms. Eva Gaitanoglou-Arp	Mr. & Mrs. Athanasios Kollias
Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Bourgeois	Mr. & Mrs. Joe Gavalas	Ms. Connie Kollias
Mr. & Mrs. John Brewer	Mr. Michael Gavalas	Mr. & Mrs. Zach Kollias
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bridgers	Mr. & Mrs. Victor Gavalas	Ms. Natalie Konstadinidis
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Brooks	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gavrielides	Mrs. Athena Kontrafouris
Mr. & Mrs. Theodoros Brotsis	Mr. & Mrs. Evan Gekas	Mr. James Kontrafouris
Dr. & Mrs. Dan Brown	Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Georgacopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kopsias
Mr. & Mrs. Travis Brown	Mr. & Mrs. Leslie George	Mrs. Mary Koss
Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Buchan	Dr. & Mrs. Larry Gess	Dr. & Mrs. Michael Kostas
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Bundros	Mr. & Mrs. George Gianaris	Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kourafas
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Burke	Mr. & Mrs. Philip Giannaris	Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Koutouzis
Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Bylos	Mr. John Gianopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. Dionyssios
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Cable	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gilbert	Koutsoukalis
Mr. & Mrs. George Caras	Miss Martha Gingles	Mr. & Mrs. Ed Krause
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Carlos	Mr. & Mrs. Ted Gormanos	Ms. Amanda Kudratov
Ms. Helen A. Carlos	Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Haggart	Mr. & Mrs. Cristos Kyprianou
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Castro	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Hairitis	Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Lake
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Catrakilis	Dr. & Mrs. James Hammond	Dr. Anne Lambros
Miss Irene Ceisel	Mr. & Mrs. Steven Hanes	Mr. Brian Lasenyik
Mrs. Mary Anne Chanos	Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Hansard	Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lawson
Mr. & Mrs. Sotir Christopher	Ms. Catie Harrah	Ms. Anna Lerios
Mr. & Mrs. Grigorios	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Harrah	Mr. & Mrs. Stamatis Levantis
Chryssopoulos	Mr. Patrick Hartnett	Mr. & Mrs. Smith Levenson
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Clement	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hayes	Mr. & Mrs. Alan Levine
Ms. Marianna Constantinou	Mr. & Mrs. Joe Hennenfent	Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Lilly
Ms. Cherie Cookorinis	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hondras	Mr. & Mrs. David Linebaugh
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Copses		Mr. & Mrs. Jim Linos

MEMBERSHIP/STEWARDSHIP FOR 2012

Mr. George Lisgaris
 Mrs. Sylvia Lisgaris
 Mr. Drew Logothetis
 Mr. & Mrs. Elton Longshore
 Mr. & Mrs. George Lopos
 Mr. & Mrs. Carlos Lozano
 Mr. & Mrs. Jay Lozier
 Mr. & Dr. David Lukens
 Mr. & Mrs. Demetrius
 Lymberopoulos
 Dr. & Mrs. Allen Macris
 Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Macris
 Mr. & Mrs. Craig Mallie
 Mr. Angelo Mallis
 Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Maniatis
 Mrs. Xenia Mantgiaris
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Marianos
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Markley
 Mrs. Xanthippe Marsico
 Mr. & Mrs. Mike Mavridis
 Mr. & Mrs. Filipos Mavromatidis
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Mavromatidis
 Ms. Melissa Maya
 Mr. & Mrs. Francis McAteer
 Ms. Judie Johnson McCall
 Mr. & Mrs. John McCarty
 Mrs. Sophia McClurd
 Mr. & Mrs. Glenn McCollum
 Ms. Autilia McGovern
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael McLean
 Mr. John McQueary, Jr.
 Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Melissas
 Mr. & Mrs. John Miller
 Mr. & Mrs. Alex Miltiades
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Miltiades
 Mr. & Mrs. Demetri Miltiades
 Mr. & Mrs. Leo Modenos
 Miss Megan Moore
 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Moorehead
 Mr. & Mrs. John Moraitakis
 Mr. Paul Moustoukas
 Mr. Michael Moustoukas
 Mr. & Mrs. John Moustoukas
 Mr. & Mrs. Theofilos Moyssiadis
 Mr. & Mrs. Erik Musto
 Mr. & Mrs. George Nakos
 Mr. & Mrs. George Nasr
 Mr. & Mrs. Costa Neocleous
 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Niarchos
 Miss Katina Niarchos
 Mr. Iancu Nica
 Mr. & Mrs. Chris Nichols
 Mr. & Mrs. Evans Nichols
 Mr. & Mrs. Marc Nichols
 Mr. & Mrs. Caryl Nielsen
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael O'Brien
 Mr. & Mrs. Bill O'Connor
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Olympiadis
 Mr. & Mrs. Gus Orogas
 Ms. Nikki Palamiotis
 Fr. George and Presbyteria Pallas
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pallas
 Mr. Tasi Pallas
 Mr. & Mrs. Jon Papadimitriou
 Mr. & Mrs. Spyros Papadimitriou

Mr. & Mrs. Konstantine
 Papadimitriou
 Mr. & Mrs. Aristotle Papadopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Pete Papadopoulos
 Fr. Panayiotis and Presbyteria
 Papageorgiou
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Papastavrou
 Mr. & Mrs. Jon Papastrat
 Mr. & Mrs. Nick Pappleacos
 Miss Christina Pappas
 Ms. Elizabeth Pappas
 Mr. Dean Pappas
 Dr. Maria Paradisis/Walter
 Dorawa
 Mr. & Mrs. Casey Pater
 Mr. Alex Paulson
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Paulson
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Paulson
 Mr. & Mrs. Keith Paxten
 Mr. & Mrs. George Pentzakis
 Mr. & Mrs. John Peppas
 Mr. & Mrs. James Peters
 Mr. & Mrs. James Pierce
 Mr. & Mrs. Brandon Pittman
 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Pohlman
 Mr. & Mrs. Tony Porter
 Fr. George E. Prassas
 Ms. Vickye Prattes
 Mr. & Mrs. Francesco Quinterno
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Richards
 Dr. & Mrs. Lambros C. Rigas
 Mr. & Mrs. Randy Rogers
 Mr. & Mrs. Tim Rudy
 Dr. & Mrs. Angelo Sambunaris
 Mr. & Mrs. Ted Sampanes
 Mr. & Mrs. Jay Sarmir
 Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Sarris
 Mr. & Mrs. George Sarris
 Mr. & Mrs. Gheorghe Schipor
 Mr. & Mrs. Constantine
 Seraphim
 Mr. Mike Serkedakis
 Ms. Pamela Server
 Mr. & Mrs. Vasileios Sfyris
 Mr. & Mrs. David Shelby
 Mr. & Mrs. Takanori Shoji
 Ms. Nicole Sigalos
 Ms. Patricia Simms
 Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Skarpelis
 Mr. & Mrs. Russell Smallwood
 Mrs. Mary Smith
 Mrs. Vasiliki Smith
 Ms. Robbin Sotir/Alton Simms
 Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri Soulios
 Mr. & Mrs. Ron Sprouse
 Mr. & Mrs. Ben Starks
 Mr. & Mrs. Steve Steffas
 Mrs. Mary Stiakakis
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Strakes
 Mrs. Connie Stratigos

Mr. & Mrs. Brett Strauch
 Mr. & Mrs. Stoyan Sugarliev
 Ms. Christina Synoyannis
 Mr. & Mrs. Zack Taoushiani
 Mr. & Mrs. Tim Tassopoulos
 Mr. & Mrs. Ovidiu Teodorescu
 Mr. & Mrs. John Thomas
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean Thomas
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Thompson
 Mr. & Mrs. Zachary Thornbury
 Mr. & Mrs. Steve Thorne
 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Tidwell
 Mrs. Helen Tiliacos
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Tiller
 Mr. Steve Tingas
 Mr. Athan Tsarouhas
 Mr. Diamandis Tsirnikas
 Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Tsoukalas
 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Tucker
 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Turner
 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Turner
 Mrs. Eleni K. Tzortzis
 Mr. & Mrs. Chris Vachtsevanos
 Dr. & Mrs. George Vachtsevanos
 Ms. Rebecca Valagohar
 Mr. & Mrs. Plutarch Vamvakias
 Ms. Elaine Vasilas
 Mr. & Mrs. Vaios Vlachos
 Dr. Phillip Vodas
 Mr. Tim Vouloupos
 Mr. & Mrs. Marc Westmoreland
 Mr. & Mrs. Barry Williams
 Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Worden
 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Wysmierski
 Ms. Peggy Yeotis
 Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Yiannovits
 Mr. Basile Zafiroulis
 Mr. & Mrs. Matt Zakreski
 Mr. & Mrs. Marco Zavala

Total Members: 312

Membership in the Parish has its Privileges

If you have submitted your Membership/Stewardship Form to the parish you are entitled to participate in the Parish Assembly and vote for decisions regarding the life of the parish. You may also be eligible to become a member of a committee or even a member of the Parish Council.

**Please submit your
Membership/Stewardship
Form today and serve God
in the way you are able.**

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our families back from summer vacation. August will be a month of focusing our attention towards getting back to a regular routine as our children begin school again. As a Parish, we are also focusing on the new Ecclesiastical year and the things we have to do get our Church ready.

With a refocus in mind, I would like to share some of the messages and information we obtained through our participation in the 41st Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress, held in Phoenix, AZ from July 1st through July 5th.

The theme for this session was ***Chosen and Appointed by God to Go and Bear Fruit***. This message prevailed in every workshop we attended. This also ties into our goal as a Parish to *Grow Spiritually*. To help our Parishioners to grow more, the message we heard over and over again was that we need to make sure that we gather ourselves regularly in services and ENGAGE ourselves in serving our Church and its ministries.

So to ENGAGE ourselves, some of us may wonder what that means and what we can do. Are we setting ourselves as good examples of our Orthodox Faith? Are we serving the church in a manner that demonstrates our stewardship by sharing our time and talent? Are we growing our Church and welcoming newcomers to participate to share their time and talent?

What about our youth? Are we providing the examples to help them become the next generation of leaders of our Church? I invite you all to become personally responsible for Outreach and Stewardship participation. If you see someone you have not met, introduce yourselves. Find out more about one another - Do you have a family? What are your interests? What do you like to do? Let's invite each other to participate in ministry events.

With the Council of Ministries coming up on August 21st, please think about how you want to involve yourself in the Parish to grow spiritually through participation in our liturgical services and ministries. There are always opportunities to grow more and more spiritually.

In His Service,

Maria Alberts, President



41ST BIENNIAL CLERGY-LAITY CONGRESS JULY 1-5 IN PHOENIX, AZ

The 2012 Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress was held in Phoenix, AZ on July 1st – July 5th. Officiated by Archbishop Demetrios, this event is held on a national level every two years. This year it was hosted by Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco, who oversees the Phoenix parishes. Also, in attendance with Metropolitan Sotirios of Toronto, representing his All Holiness Partriarch Bartholomew.



Archbishop Demetrios



Metropolitan Sotirios of Toronto



Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

The Clergy-Laity Congress this year was attended by 790 participants, 651 of which were registered delegates from 326 parishes. The National Philoptochos Convention had the second highest participation record with 372 delegates. The grand banquet was attended by over 1400 people.

We would like to thank the following delegates for representing our church:

Father Panayiotis

Ron Sprouse, Christopher Hansard, Maria Alberts (Parish Delegates)

Christine Sprouse, Leslie Hansard (Philoptochos Delegates)

The theme for this session was ***Chosen and Appointed by God to Go and Bear Fruit***. As was shared in Archbishop Demetrios's welcome message... *"We have been chosen and appointed by God to offer a witness of Him through our worship and service, through our lives and before all people so that as Saint Paul said, the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in us, and us in Him (II Thessalonians 1:11-12). In addition, as God has chosen and appointed us, He gives us all that we need to do this great work. He equips us with the grace, the power, the ability, the wisdom, and the resources to develop effective means for reaching others with the Gospel of healing truth and peace."*

Please visit www.goarch.org to read more about the resolutions, photos and information shared. Click on the link for the 41st Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress.



Your delegates at the Plenary Session



His Eminence with
with Maria Alberts



Group Picture after the "Hoe Down"

TREASURER'S CORNER

Welcome to the Treasurer's Corner, your monthly updated on Holy Transfiguration's finances. The Parish Council thanks you for your generous support of the parish. We encourage you to keep your donations current so that cash flow obligations can be met.

General Fund	Budgeted Income	Actual Income	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses
June 2012	\$58,077	\$28,505	\$43,522	\$53,938
Year-to-Date	\$549,094	\$287,941	\$542,492	\$284,302

Building and Iconography Fund	Budgeted Income	Actual Income	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses
June 2012	\$110,000	\$11,092	\$19,580	\$6,580
Year-to-Date	\$405,220	\$278,584	\$170,260	\$115,679

Reminders

Council of Ministries groups will need to begin formulating their needs and budgets for the forthcoming year so that they can be discussed at the Council meeting in August.

When making your donations, please write a separate check for each church fund to which you donate (i.e. General, Building, Iconography, Pew, etc.). In the memo section of each check, please indicate the fund you are donating to along with your church PIN (e.g., General Fund PIN 234).

You can monitor your donations online through the IconCMO system. To get your PIN and setup your account, ask Anne (770-924-8080, holytrans@comcast.com), and she will send you an email from the IconCMO website which will provide your PIN and a temporary password which you can use to setup your IconCMO account.

If you ever have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours in Christ,

Steve Steffas
Treasurer

Christopher Hansard
Assistant Treasurer



Catechism Workshop



The Teacher of Teachers
Twelve-year-old Christ teaching the teachers at the Temple

Understanding & Engaging our Students

What: A workshop for all religious educators, including parents, led by

Who: Dr. Anton Vrame, Director of the Dept. of Religious Education
of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

When: August 18th, 9am–2pm (breakfast and lunch will be provided)

Where: Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church
3431 Trickum Road NE in Marietta, Georgia

This event is free for all who wish to attend.

If you plan to join us or want more information, please contact the church office.
770-924-8080 or holytrans@comcast.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CROWN THEM WITH GLORY
& HONOR

Christina Pappas and Justin Harrell - June 9, 2012
Angela Theodoridis and Carlos Lozano - July 14, 2012



ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED IN
CHRIST HAVE PUT ON CHRIST. ALLELUIA.

Abigail (Aglaia) Hennefent - June 10, 2012

Nikolas Giannaris - June 30, 2012

Aidan (Stavroula) Knuchel - June 30, 2012

Isabelle (Ann) Server - July 8, 2012

Nadia and Luca Quinterno - July 15, 2012

Braxton (Andrew) Pittman - July 28, 2012

Save the dates - August 5th and 6th!



August 5th - 7:00 pm - Great Vespers for the Transfiguration of the Savior, Metropolitan Alexios presiding, followed by a reception in the Parish Life Center.

August 6th - Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior

8:30 am Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy

UPDATE ON THE PEW FUND

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

We have completed the installation of pews in our sanctuary. Through our Lord's blessings and your generous donations, this work has been accomplished in record time. We are still planning to install appropriate seating in the choir area and purchase some chairs. Both will compliment the pew design and complete the seating needs of the sanctuary. We hope to have all of this completed by late fall. To date, we have spent \$87,373.32, and we have raised \$67,485.00. Pledges towards the total campaign are now at \$85,700.00. When all is complete, we expect to have spent \$100,000 which was our initial projection.

As you can see, the pledged amount of \$85,700.00 will not cover the total campaign amount of \$100,000. We have a short fall of \$14,300. If you have not made a pledge to this campaign, please do so if you are able. We are all enjoying the pews, and it would be great if we all contribute.

In His service,

Jimmy Carlos and Alex Miltiades





To All Parishioners:

Scan to view our Website

Thank you again to those who volunteered during our recent Marietta Greek Festival. Hopefully, you have all had a chance to recover and catch up on your other responsibilities.

Final Festival results have been compiled. We hosted a record 16,670 attendees over the weekend, with no major incidents. The Festival grossed a record \$355,248, with a resulting net profit of \$162,197. As in past years, \$15,000 of this net profit will be paid to the church operating fund to cover incurred costs such as utilities, repairs, cleaning, etc.

In addition to our record profit numbers, the Festival was a success in many other respects. We estimate that a record 3,000 of our attendees took advantage of our sanctuary tours. Our new church bookstore gave us an additional opportunity to share our Greek Orthodox religious beliefs with our community through the sale of literature. The new cafeteria-style food service was successful in serving our guests faster and more efficiently than in the past and, therefore, will enable us to serve greater numbers in the future. Italian/Greek Ice was hugely popular, grossing over \$5,000 in its first year. And, our Visitor's Guide set a record for sales, grossing \$30,806.

I am so proud of our community and its leadership for again coming together to host a successful Festival. Although this is the time of year for us to rest, please consider volunteering for a leadership position in next year's Festival. If you are willing to do so, please call me at 770-845-5045 to discuss opportunities. We now look forward to another successful Festival in 2013.

Sincerely,

Steve Tingas
2012/2013 Festival Chairman

HELLENIC STUDIES



Save the date - The 2012-2013 academic year for Hellenic Studies begins on **Tuesday, September 18th**. Students currently enrolled in the program will be contacted in the month of August to register for the coming year and update their contact information. They will be provided with a registration application via email. Once the application has been submitted, they will be provided with a registration package including the academic calendar and student handbook.

NEW students wishing to enroll for the first time are asked to contact Eleni Clement at 404-783-5103 or liebel7@yahoo.com for more information and a registration application. We will also accept and register students on the first day of class (September 18th) -- for both youth and adult students.

HELLENIC DANCE

HELLENIC DANCE NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



On Wednesday June 27 the Hellenic Dance Ministry along with the Lykion Chapter Atlanta hosted the Lykion Megara Attikis dancers in our amphitheater. The event was supported by many, considering it was a summer weekday. We started the event with a Workshop in our Parish Life Center, then a Meze and Cocktail hour followed by a wonderful performance. If you missed the event, you really missed out! It was a lovely evening of fellowship with the beauty of our Greek Traditions on display. The Lykion Megara performance was simply amazing!

The Dance Ministry would like to thank the following people for their hard work through the planning and execution of the event; Peggy Dunkerly and Angela Skarpelis for welcoming and hospitality, Strati Papageorgiou for video and music and a VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOOD TEAM – Theofilios Moyssiadis, Beth Moyssiadis, and Vaios Vlahos. We received the most compliments on our food! JOB VERY WELL DONE – WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!!!



THANK YOU TO THE LYKION MEGARA FOR COMING AND GIVING US A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!!!

DON'T BE LEFT IN THE DARK

COME TO THE DANCE PARENT MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22nd During Regular GOYA MEETING time –
DANCER & PARENT MEETING FOR ALL DANCERS 6th GRADE AND UP
– YOU MUST ATTEND!!!!**

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED; INFORMATION ABOUT OUR DANCE PROGRAM AND NEW CHANGES WILL BE DISCUSSED! PLEASE DO NOT MISS THIS ALL IMPORTANT MEETING!!

FIRST PRACTICE – ALL PHOENIX AND ELEFThERIA DANCERS

SUNDAY AUGUST 26

lunch will be provided after church, practice will start promptly at 1pm – No Greek Time! BE THERE!

- SAVE THE DATE -

SEPTEMBER 21 -23 THEOHARIS XIROUHAKIS WORKSHOP HERE IN MARIETTA!

Kretan dancing done all weekend ending with a Big PANEGYRI at our church with the whole community invited.

FRIDAY 21st Beginners workshop – 6pm – 9pm dinner included in workshop price. All ages and all levels welcome! Welcoming DJ party Friday night.

SATURDAY 22nd - Workshops ALL DAY, workshop and food tickets will be available

SUNDAY 23rd - Worship, Workshop and PANEGYRI

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!



Basement apartment that has 3 big rooms, walk-in closet and 2 bathrooms is available in the Woodstock area: Separate entrance, kitchen and laundry room, 9 foot high ceiling. Note: this is an indoor basement so there are no windows in the rooms.

There is also a guest room on the main floor with its own bathroom and walk-in closet as well as 2 rooms on the top floor with walk-in closets; each room has its own bathroom. Renter of basement apartment would also be able to utilize these rooms.

Owner would like \$1000 a month for apartment (utilities included). Should more than one person wish to rent the apartment, the cost would be \$500 a month per person. If interested, please call the church office - 770-924-8080.



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer – we will be meeting again soon. Look out for information in the weekly bulletins.

All Ladies of the Parish are welcome in Philoptochos. Come join the fun, fellowship and Philanthropy!

Soup Kitchen will be on **August 23rd**. Anyone who would like to help cook, serve or make a monetary donation, please contact Athena Burke at ibgreek@bellsouth.net or 770.973.3111.

The next **Book Club** is scheduled for **August 23rd** at the home of Thalia Thompson. The book is *Cleopatra and Anthony: Power, Love and Politics in the Ancient World* by Diana Preston.

Save the Date!! The **Philoptochos Fall Fundraiser** will be **October 27th** in the PLC. More details will be coming soon.

To be eligible for the **Philoptochos Panagia Scholarship**, students must meet the following requirements:

- 1) An applicant must be either a currently enrolled undergraduate college student with at least a C average or a high school senior planning on beginning this fall at an accredited school and working toward the completion of an undergraduate degree.
- 2) An applicant must be a member of Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church. A college student living outside Marietta while attending college, but whose family is still a parish member is considered eligible.

For more details, please contact Nancy Barke at nbark36@gmail.com

I would like to offer my service by joining the Philoptochos in its philanthropic efforts:

Name _____

Address/City/State/Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

In gratitude for God's blessings, I pledge the following for Christ's work as a Philoptochos member:

Your Philoptochos donation will be allocated as follows:

National Donation per member	<u>\$15.00</u>
Metropolis Donation	<u>\$7.00</u>
Panagia Chapter (local Social Services program)	_____
My Total Philoptochos Donation (total for all three lines)	_____

I would like to offer my talents to the following Philoptochos efforts (please check)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Soup kitchen for Must Ministry (4 th Thursday lunch each month)
<input type="checkbox"/>	End of Year Luncheon
<input type="checkbox"/>	Preparing Meals for Sick
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resurrection Supper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Easter Egg Dyeing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Decorate the Epitaphios
<input type="checkbox"/>	Godparents Luncheon
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fall Fundraiser for Social Services



"As Iron Sharpens Iron, One Man Sharpens Another" (Proverbs 27:17)

Upcoming Events--BLOCK YOUR CALENDAR!

**Sept. 9
Sept. 11**

**AHEPA Coffee Hour-PLC
Fall Kick Off Meeting w/traditional steak dinner-PLC**

We would like to congratulate our college students who were awarded AHEPA scholarships.

Questions about AHEPA? Interested in being a member of this great organization? Please contact any Board Member.

Your Board: Harry Kipreos, Jim Tidwell, Zack Kollias, and Dr. Phil Votas

Vice-Presidents: Alan Levine, Michael Gavalas, Theodore Georgacopoulos, and Ron Sprouse

Prime Timers BBQ



**Sat., Sept. 8, 2012
(Rain or Shine)**

4:00 P.M.

\$10/person

(Payment due by Sept. 1)

**Parish Life Center or Patio
Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church**

RSVP by Aug. 25

**Dorothy Botni
Linda Lopos**

**770-971-9956
678-445-3556**

Summer Day Camp



Clockwise from top-left:
Eliana offers a ride; Mr.
Harry teaches about
baptism; Sophia and
Julian in the sponge
relay; Alex running
down the water slide.



Summer Day Camp



On the Path of Salvation through Christ

Vacation Church School 2012

Above: Mrs. Lea teaches eager learners how to make tasty Greek cookies. Below: Gabriel and Melina in the sponge relay, and Mrs. Lea and her helpers.

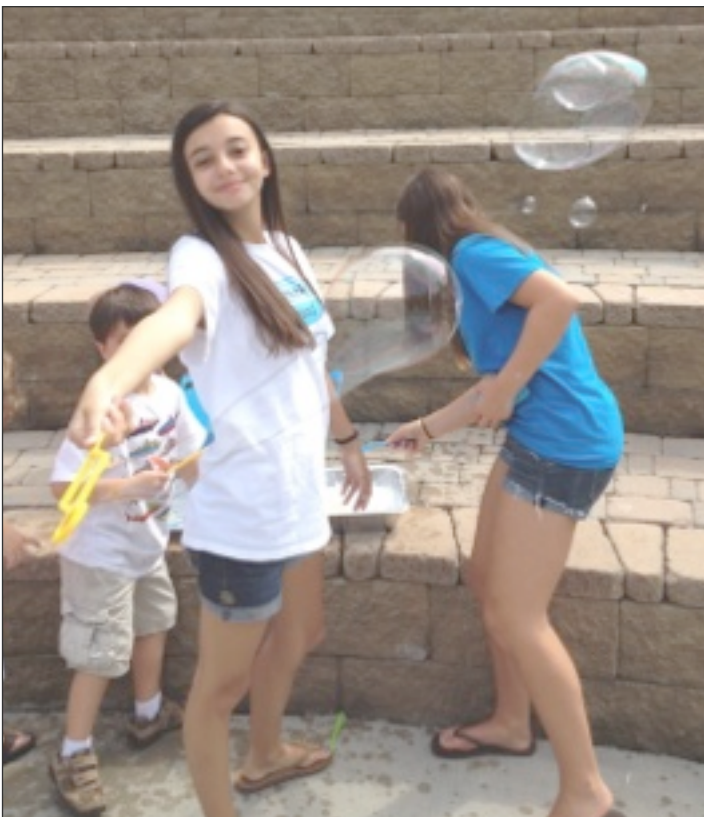
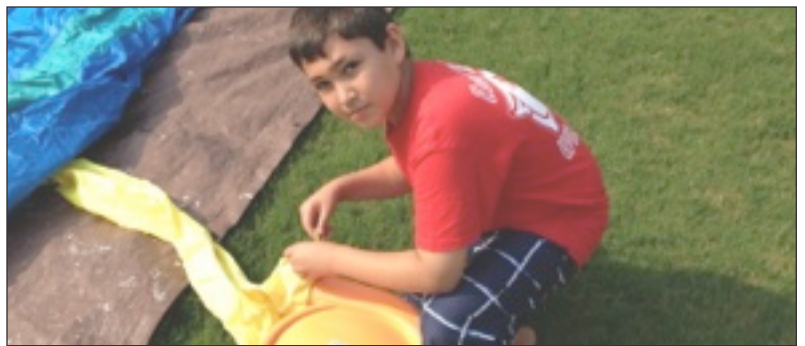


Summer Day Camp



Let the little children come to
Me, and do not forbid them;
for of such is
the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 19.14



DEKAPENTAUGOUSTOS PANIGYRI

*The Kolokotronis-Peloponnesian Society and
the Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church of
Marietta*

**INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN
THE GREAT FESTIVE CELEBRATION
TO HONOR THE FEAST DAY OF
THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS
DEKAPENTAUGOUSTOS**

Traditional Greek Cooking
Roast Pig (gourounopoula), Chicken Kontosouvli,
Traditional Salad Xoriatiki, Patates, Fasolakia, Karpouzi, Wine, etc.

Traditional Greek Music
(Laika, Dimotika, Kritika, Nisiotika, etc.)

Dancing at the Amphitheater
Proceeds will be used to support Church Ministries

When: Saturday, August 18, 2012, starting at 6:00 pm (following Great Vespers)

Where: Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church, Marietta

Cost: Adults: \$15; Children under 12 years: \$6; under 5 years: free

Families of immediate members under 18 years old: \$50

For more information call: Dimitrios Lymberopoulos 770-944-1334 or Theodore Georgacopoulos 770-993-8002

Η ΚΟΙΜΗΣΙΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ 15 ΑΥΓΟΥΣΤΟΥ

Bethlehem sites given Unesco World Heritage status

29 June 2012



Some two million people visit the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem each year

The UN's cultural agency, Unesco, has voted to add the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem and its pilgrimage route to the list of World Heritage Sites.

The Palestinian delegation welcomed the approval of its bid to get protected status for the church, built on a site some believe was Jesus's birthplace.

Israel and the US opposed the move, saying it was politically motivated.

It was the first such approval since Palestine was controversially granted membership of Unesco last year.





Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity - originally constructed in 399 above a cave traditionally believed to be the birthplace of Jesus and rebuilt after fire in the 6th Century - is among the holiest sites in Christianity

The short section of the pilgrimage route from Jerusalem to Bethlehem - following the historical route believed to have been taken by Mary and Joseph - is used for the procession of the Patriarchs at Christmas.

An estimated two million people visit the two sites every year.

At a meeting in the Russian city of St Petersburg on Friday, Unesco delegates voted 13 to six in favour of giving both of them World Heritage Site status "on an emergency basis", entitling them to UN protection and funding for restoration work the Palestinians say is urgent.

August 2012

-  Sacraments
-  US Holidays
-  Ministry Meetings
-  Divine Services

July 2012




















































S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2012

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Eighth Sunday of Matthew  8:30 AM Orthros  10:00 AM Divine Liturgy  11:30 AM A 40 Day Memorial Service is given by  11:40 AM A Memorial Service is given by Mary Wyszynski  12:00 PM Catechism: High	30	31	1  11:00 AM Blessing of the Water  6:00 PM Service of Supplication to the Theotokos  7:00 PM GOYA Meeting	2  6:00 PM Service of Supplication to the Theotokos	3  6:00 PM Service of Supplication to the Theotokos	4  5:00 PM Great Vespers
Ninth Sunday of Matthew  8:30 AM Orthros  10:00 AM Divine Liturgy  7:00 PM Great Vespers for the Transfiguration of the Savior  8:00 PM Name Day Reception	6  Transfiguration...Jesus Christ  8:30 AM Orthros  10:00 AM Divine Liturgy  6:00 PM Service of Supplication to the Theotokos	7  6:00 PM Service of Supplication to the Theotokos  6:30 PM Parish Council Meeting	8  6:00 PM Service of Supplication to the Theotokos  7:00 PM GOYA Meeting	9  6:00 PM Service of Supplication to the Theotokos	10  6:00 PM Service of Supplication to the Theotokos	11  5:00 PM Great Vespers
Tenth Sunday of Matthew  8:30 AM Orthros  10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	13  6:00 PM Service of Supplication to the Theotokos	14  Forefeast of...the Theotokos  5:00 PM Great Vespers, Dormition of the Theotokos	15  Dormition of the Theotokos  8:45 AM Orthros  10:00 AM Divine Liturgy  7:00 PM GOYA Meeting	16	17	18  9:00 AM Catechism Workshop-Tony Vrame  5:00 PM Great Vespers  6:00 PM Panigyri for the Dormition of the Theotokos
Eleventh Sunday of Matthew  8:30 AM Orthros  10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	20	21  6:30 PM Council of Ministries Meeting	22  7:00 PM GOYA Meeting	23	24	25  5:00 PM Great Vespers
Twelfth Sunday of Matthew  8:30 AM Orthros  10:00 AM Divine Liturgy  1:00 PM Phoenix/Eleftheria Dance Practice  6:30 PM Spiritual Book Club	27	28  6:00 PM Great Vespers, Beheading of St. John the Fore-Runner	29  Remembrance...ner (Baptist)  9:00 AM Orthros  10:00 AM Divine Liturgy  7:00 PM GOYA Meeting	30	31	1  11:00 AM Blessing of the Water  5:00 PM Great Vespers

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United We Stand

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30 am-5:30 pm

770.924.8080, Fax - 770.924.3030

Email: holytrans@comcast.net

Web Page: www.holytransfiguration.info/

Web Page: www.mariettagreekfestival.org

Rev. Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou, Ph.D., Protopresbyter

Rev. Fr. George Pallas, Protopresbyter

Paul Lundberg, Pastoral Assistant

Anne Willcocks, Parish Secretary



Scan to view our Website

DATE	PARISH COUNCIL DUTY	ACOLYTES	GREETERS	PROSFORO
Aug. 5, 2012	E. Linebaugh/J. Tidwell	Team I	TBA	L. Lopos/F. Mavridis
Aug. 12, 2012	G. Lopos/A. Miltiades	Team II	TBA	K. Melissas/M. Miltiades
Aug. 19, 2012	C. Costarides/P. Bilson	Team I	TBA	K. Niarchos/E. Turner
Aug. 26, 2012	M. Alberts/C. Hansard	Team II	TBA	R. Peppas/M. Papadimitriou

Team 1: Chris Alberts, Nicholas Azimzadeh, Christopher Bilson, Anthony Bundros, Yanni Costarides, Chris Danos, Leo Frangis, Nicholas & Alex Gekas, Alexander Georgacopoulos, Yanni Gormanos, Paul Jacobs, Morgan Lilly, Michael Marianos, Zach Melissas, Michael Papadimitriou, Evan Papadopoulos, Will Papeacos, Matthew Paulson, Stratton Paulson, Dylan Rogers, Matthew Shanahan, Alex Skarpelis, Yianni Turner

Team 2: Alex & Nick Brewer, Chris, Daniel, & Michael Bridgers, Christos Costarides, Nick Danos, Alex Elias, Jacob & Stephen Harrah, Eli & Evans Nichols, Dean Papastrat, Lucas Porter, Michael Sarris, Mike Steffas, Luke & Nicholas Tassopoulos, Nicholas Zakreski