SYNDIAKONIA

THE MONTHLY BULLETIN

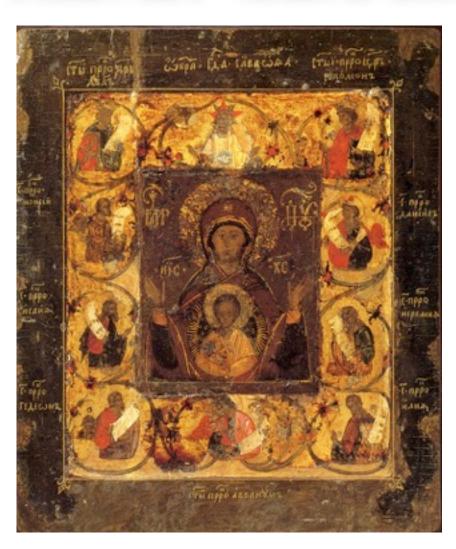
OF THE

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΜΕΤΑΜΟΡΦΩΣΕΩΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ

Marietta, GA

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2016



THE HOLY ICON OF PANAGIA OF KURSK ROOT

Having obtained thee as an unassailable rampart and wellspring of miracles,O Most Pure Mother of God, thy servants quell the assaults of enemies. Wherefore, we pray to thee:Grant peace to our land, and to our souls great mercy.

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 3431 Trickum Road Marietta, GA 30066

Tel. 770 924-8080 Fax 770 924-3030

Website: www.holytrans.org

CHURCH OFFICE

Open Monday-Friday, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm Secretary: Anne Willcocks 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

Rev. Father Paul Lundberg, Presbyter

PARISH COUNCIL-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President.......Steve Tingas
Vice-President.....Alex Miltiades
Treasurer.....Georgia O'Brien
Assistant Treasurer....Steve Steffas
Secretary.....Casey Pater

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dennis Christopher, Paul Markley, Marc Nichols, Randy Rogers, Athan Tsarouhas, Becky Valagohar, Tim Voulopos

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/

February/March 2016

GOD IS PRESENT!



The Icon of Kursk Root is now in the blue Case for protection

We always wonder how and when God is present in our lives! We know that He was present in the events of the Old Testament from the miracles and powerful things He did for the Hebrew people. We know that He was present in the person of Jesus from the miracles He did, from His life, death and resurrection. We know that He was also present with the Apostles. But how is He present in our times, is the question. Can we know that He is present today for us?

The answer is, "Yes, indeed"! He has opened windows into His realm for us through the lives of the Saints and many times even through their holy relics. Once in a while, His presence is made manifest also through holy icons. Certain

icons stand out as miracle-working Icons. There are a few that stand out more than others!

We had the great blessing to receive at our church this past Saturday (February 13) the holy icon of the Panagia of Kursk. This miracle-working icon had made its way out of Kursk, Russia, in the middle of the Communist revolution as the communists destroyed the monastery and the church of Kursk and now resides in New York. Many miracles are recorded relating to this icon. It has been said that God's presence is felt wherever the icon is taken. 200,000 Russians gathered to venerate it when it was brought back to Russia a few years ago. I was very excited when it was offered to us to have this holy icon visit our parish even for a few hours.

The service on Saturday morning was very beautiful. The church filled with people each seeking their own gift from the Lord. We sang the Salutation to the Theotokos and then the Paraklesis (Supplication). At the end of the services all three priests commemorated the names of people given to us, praying for their salvation, the healing of their souls and bodies, while the chantors sang "Kyrie Eleison".

As we were finishing, I placed my face on the icon and prayed for our parish, for specific people who I know need prayers, for my family, all the people that were present and also for those who were unable to attend. In the end, I asked God for a sign of His presence, a sign that He heard our prayers.

I know that many times holy icons and holy relics exhume a very beautiful fragrance. I have experienced that in many places. So, I breathed in as I kissed the Icon of Kursk wondering if I will have the same experience here, but there was nothing. I continued to pray for a sign of God's presence for our parish as we move forward with our new buildings and the many new ministries that we are hoping to implement in the near future. I then lifted up the icon to bring it to the Parish Hall to bless the new building and proceeded to exit the church. I held the icon up in front of my face, and as I came closer to the Narthex, suddenly a cloud of fragrance filled the air and surrounded my face. It was the same beautiful fragrance I had experienced when I venerated holy relics on Mount Athos and Cyprus. It was the answer to my prayer. Just like in the case of Elijah the Lord came as a small little breeze, so also for us at Holy Transfiguration, He visited us in the beautiful fragrance. He is blessing the works of our hands. He is encouraging us to do everything we can to bring people to salvation. "The Lord is with us!"

I spoke about this on Sunday during my sermon and several people came up to me later to tell me that they had the same experience. This was not only my gift alone, but the gift to the parish. God is indeed present in our lives. It is true that the Icon of Panagia of Kursk is one of those windows of God's presence.

Glory be to God for His gift and reassurance for us all!

J.Fr. Panagistis



3431 Trickum Road Marietta, GA 30066

Tel. 770-924-8080, Fax 770-924-3030

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

February 2016

February 1, Monday, Blessing of the Water 11:00 am **Evening:** Great Vespers, Feast of the Presentation of the Lord 6:00 pm

February 2, Tuesday, Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Temple Orthros 8:45 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am.

February 6, Saturday, Great Vespers, 5:00 pm

February 7, Sunday, 16th Sunday of Matthew Orthros 8:30 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

February 9, Tuesday, Great Vespers, 6:00 pm

February 10, Wednesday, Feast of St. Haralambos Orthros 9:00 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

February 13, Saturday, Great Vespers 5:00 pm

February 14, Sunday, Seventeenth Sunday of Matthew Orthros 8:30 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

February 20, Saturday, Great Vespers 5:00 pm

February 21, Sunday, 16th Sunday of Luke - Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee - Triodion begins Orthros 8:30 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am.

This week, we do not fast on Wednesday and Friday on account of the hypocrisy of the Pharisee and acknowledging that fasting alone is not acceptable to God if it is not accompanied by humility and repentance.

February 27, Saturday, Great Vespers, 5:00 pm

February 28, Sunday, 17th Sunday of Luke - Sunday of the Prodigal Son Orthros 8:30 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am



Orthodox Divine Services are designed to help us enter into the holiness of God. They open a window into the eternal worship at the Throne of God.

"You shall be holy to me; for I the LORD am holy" (Lev. 20:26). God is calling us to become holy like He is Holy. Our Sanctuary is where we begin to receive God's holiness. It is in the worship services, the holy sacraments and especially in the Divine Liturgy that we receive the Grace of God, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, sanctification and holiness. When we immerse ourselves in prayer we connect with the lifeline of Eternal Life, we participate in the Kingdom of God, even in the here and now. Let's use this sacred time to make our lives holy.



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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

March 2016

March 1, Tuesday, Blessing of the Water 11:00 am

March 4, Friday, Great Vespers, 5:00 pm

March 5, Saturday of the Souls, Memory of all the departed Orthodox Christians

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

Evening: Great Vespers 5:00 pm

March 6, Sunday, Sunday of the Last Judgement - Meat-fare Sunday

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

March 12, Saturday of the Souls, Memory of all who have shone forth in ascesis.

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

Evening: Great Vespers 5:00 pm

March 13, Sunday, Cheese-Fare Sunday. Κυριακή τῆς Τυρινῆς (Τυροφάγου).

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

Evening: Vespers of Forgiveness, 5:00 pm

March 14, Clean Monday, Beginning of Great Lent. Great Compline, 6:00 pm

Καθαρά Δευτέρα. 'Αρχή Μ. Τεσσαρακοστῆς. Μέγα 'Απόδειπνο, 6:00 μμ

The Great Compline will be offered on Mondays and Thursdays at 6:00 pm.

March 16, First Wednesday of Great Lent. Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 5:45 pm

A Lenten Dinner will be offered at 7:00 pm followed by a **Presentation and Discussion.**

March 17, Thursday, Great Compline 6:00 pm

March 18, Friday. First Salutation to the Theotokos 7:00 pm. Πρῶτοι Χαιρετισμοί, 7:00 μμ

March 19, Saturday. Divine Liturgy. Miracle of St. Theodore with the Kollyva

Orthros 9:00 am & Divine Liturgy 10:00 am.

Saturday Evening: Great Vespers 5:00 pm

March 20, Sunday of Orthodoxy. Κυριακή τῆς Ὀρθοδοξίας.

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

At the end of the Divine Liturgy we will have the procession of the Holy Icons.

Evening: Pan-Orthodox Vespers at St Elias in Atlanta, 6:00 pm

March 21, Monday, Great Compline 6:00 pm

March 23, Second Wednesday of Great Lent. Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 5:45 pm.

A Lenten Dinner will be offered at 7:00 pm followed by Parish Oratorical Festival.

March 24, Thursday. Great Vespers of the Annunciation of the Theotokos 6:00 pm

March 25, Friday, Annunciation of the Theotokos. Εὐαγγελισμός τῆς Θεοτόκου.

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

Today we eat fish. Σήμερα γίνεται κατάλυσις ἰχθύος.

Evening: Great Vespers, Apodosis of the Feast of the Annunciation 7:00 pm followed by the Second Stanza of the **Salutations to the Theotokos.**

March 26, Saturday. Great Vespers 5:00 pm

March 27, Second Sunday of Great Lent. St. Gregory Palamas.

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

March 28, Monday, Great Compline 6:00 pm

March 30, Third Wednesday of Great Lent. Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 5:45 pm A Lenten Dinner will be offered at 7:00 pm followed by a **Presentation and Discussion**

March 31, Thursday. Great Compline 6:00 pm



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

April 2016

April 1, Friday. Third Salutation to the Theotokos 7:00 pm. Τοίτοι Χαιοετισμοί 7:00 μμ

April 2, Saturday. Great Vespers 5:00 pm

April 3, Third Sunday of Great Lent - Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross.

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

At the end of the Divine Liturgy we will hold the procession of the Holy Cross.

April 4, Monday. Great Compline 6:00 pm

April 6, Fourth Wednesday of Great Lent. Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 5:45 pm A Lenten Dinner will be offered at 7:00 pm followed by a **Presentation and Discussion.**

April 7, Thursday. Great Compline 6:00 pm

April 8, Fourth Salutation to the Theotokos 7:00 pm. Τέταρτοι Χαιρετισμοί 7:00 μμ.

April 9, Saturday. Great Vespers 5:00 pm

April 10, Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, St. John of Climacus.

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

April 11, Monday. Great Compline 6:00 pm

April 13, Fifth Wednesday of Great Lent. Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 5:45 pm A Lenten Dinner will be offered at 7:00 pm followed by a **Presentation and Discussion**

April 14, Thursday, Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete 6:00 pm

April 15, Friday, The Akathist Hymn 7:00 pm

April 16, Saturday. Great Vespers 5:00 pm

April 17, Sunday, Fifth Sunday of Great Lent. St. Mary of Egypt Orthros 8:30 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

April 18, Monday. Great Compline 6:00 pm

April 20, Sixth Wednesday of Great Lent. Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 5:45 pm. A Lenten Dinner will be offered at 7:00 pm followed by a **Presentation and Discussion.**

April 21, Thursday, Great Compline 6:00 pm

April 22, Friday, Great Vespers, Resurrection of St. Lazarus 6:00 pm

April 23, Saturday, The Resurrection of St. Lazarus

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

Making of the palm crosses and Confession for children follows the Divine Liturgy.

Evening: Great Vespers for Palm Sunday 5:00 pm

April 24, Palm Sunday. The Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem Orthros 8:30 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

For Services from Palm Sunday Evening to the Sunday of Pascha (May 1), please see the Holy Week Services Schedule provided in a special flyer.

The Prayer of Saint Ephraim the Syrian

To be used throughout the Great and Holy Lent

Lord and Master of my life grant me not a spirit of slothfulness, meddling, ambition, and vain talk. (*Prostration*)

Bestow upon me, Your servant, the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love. (*Prostration*)

Yea, Lord and King, grant that I may see my own sins, and not judge my brother, for you are blessed unto the ages of ages. Amen. (*Prostration*)



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Divine Services for Holy and Great Week and Pascha 2016

April 24, Sunday. Palm Sunday. Κυριακή τῶν Βαΐων.

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

Today we eat fish. Σήμερα γίνεται κατάλυσις ἰχθύος.

Evening: Bridegroom Service 7:00 pm. 'Ακολουθία τοῦ Νυμφίου 7:00 μμ.

April 25, Holy and Great Monday. ΄Αγία καί Μεγάλη Δευτέρα.

Evening: Bridegroom Service 7:00 pm. 'Ακολουθία τοῦ Νυμφίου 7:00 μμ.

April 26, Holy and Great Tuesday. ΄Αγία καί Μεγάλη Τοίτη.

Evening: Bridegroom Service 7:00 pm. 'Ακολουθία τοῦ Νυμφίου 7:00 μμ.

April 27, Holy and Great Wednesday. Αγία καί Μεγάλη Τετάρτη.

Morning: Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 9:00 am. Λειτ. Προηγιασμένων Δώρων 9:00 π μ

Afternoon: Holy Unction (the service of Holy Oil for Healing) 3:00 pm. ἀκολουθία τοῦ ἀγίου Εὐχελαίου 3:00 μμ.

Evening: Small Compline 6:45 pm, Holy Unction (the service of Holy Oil for Healing) 7:00 pm. ᾿Ακολουθία τοῦ ʿΑγίου Εὐχελαίου 7:00 μμ.

April 28, Holy and Great Thursday, `Αγία καί Μεγάλη Πέμπτη.

Remembrance of the Last Supper and the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Morning: Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 9:00 am. Θεία Λειτουργία Μ. Βασιλείου 9:00 πμ

Evening: The Service of the Passion of Christ 7:00 pm. ἀκολουθία τῶν Παθῶν 7:00 μμ

April 29, Holy and Great Friday. ΄Αγία καί Μεγάλη Παρασκευή.

The Crucifixion and Burial of Christ. Ἡ Σταύρωσις καί Ταφή τοῦ Κυρίου

Morning: The Great Hours 9:00 am, Μεγάλες "Ωρες 9:00 $\pi\mu$.

Afternoon: The lowering of the Body of the Lord from the Cross and preparation for His Burial 3:00 pm. ἀΑποκαθήλωσις τοῦ Κυρίου 3:00 μμ.

Evening: The Burial of Christ--Lamentations at the Tomb of the Lord (Epitaphios) 7:00 pm, followed by Procession of the Tomb of Christ. Επιτάφιος Θοῆνος 7:00 μμ.

April 30, Holy and Great Saturday. Μέγα Σάββατο. Θ. Λειτουργία Μεγ. Βασιλείου 9:30πμ **Morning:** Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 9:30 am. The Descent of Christ into Hades.

Midnight Resurrection Services: The Canon of Easter 11:00 pm,

12:00 Midnight, The Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Η ΔΝΑCΤΑCΙC **12:30 am,** Orthros and Divine Liturgy of Pascha. "Ορθρος, Θεία Λειτουργία 'Αναστάσεως

MAY 1, The Holy and Great Sunday of Pascha (the Bright Day). Τό Αγιον Πάσχα.

Noon: Great Vespers of Love 12:00 pm. During this Service the Gospel is read in various languages. A Paschal Picnic follows! Also Feast of St. George (moved from April 23).

May 2, Renewal Monday, Orthros 9:00 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am. Feast of St. George.



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Memory Celebrated March 4

On this day we celebrate the memory of our venerable father Gerasimos of Jordan.

St. Gerasimos lived during the reign of king Constantine Pogonatos in 670, as Sophronios of Jerusalem, who wrote his life, attests. He had the fear of God since childhood and, after he became a monk, he went to the deepest parts of the desert of Thebais. He reached such a height of virtue and was graced with such intimacy with God, because he had preserved his image and likeness so pure, that he even had authority over wild beasts. A lion used to attend upon him and among other things this lion used to graze the donkey



which fetched water to the saint. Once some merchants passed from that place with a caravan of camels. When they saw the donkey, they stole it. The lion was sleeping and did not feel a thing. So, in the evening he returned to the saint without having the donkey with him, as usual.

When the saint's servant saw the lion alone, he told the elder that the lion had eaten the donkey. So, the poor lion was condemned to carry the pitchers on his back and fetch water from the river instead of the donkey, for as long as the merchants kept it. However, the same merchants happened to pass from that place again with their caravan and they had the donkey with them. As soon as the lion saw the donkey, he recognised it and rushed at the merchants with a loud roar. The merchants got scared and run for thier lives. The lion led the donkey to St. Gerasimos' cell along with the camels which were tied on it. Knocking with his tail on the door of the saint's cell, he acted as if to show that he was offering them to the elder as game.

When the saint saw this thing, he smiled a bit and said to his disciple: "We wrongly accused the innocent lion that he had eaten the donkey. So, now we have to liberate him from his labour and allow him to go and graze at his usual place." Then the lion bowed his head, as if he understood, and taking his leave from the saint he went to the wilderness. Once every week he used to come and bow before the saint. After the saint had died, the lion came, as his habit was, and asked to venerate him. However, when he did not find him, he seemed to be sad and angry. With many signs the saint's disciple helped him understand that the elder had died. The lion lamented the elder's death with a fine roar and seemed to be looking for the saint's grave. When the disciple led him to it, the lion fell on it and with a loud roar he breathed his last due to his extreme pain which he suffered from his love for the saint. This is how God glorifies those who glorify Him and makes wild beasts submit to those who keep His image and likeness pure







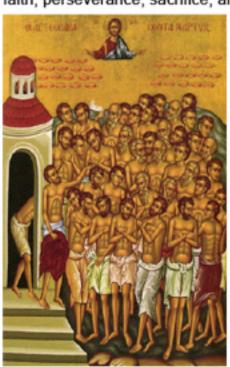




THE HOLY 40 MARTYRS OF SEBASTEIA

Memory Celebrated on MARCH 9

The martyrdom of the Holy 40 Martyrs of Sebasteia is a powerful lesson in Christian faith, perseverance, sacrifice, and friendship. The story of this martyrdom begins in the



early part of the 4th century when the persecution of Christians was still active. There were 40 soldiers of the Roman army who possessed sincere faith in Jesus Christ. When it was realized that they would not deny their belief in the Lord, they were brought to trial before their commander who threatened to have them discharged from the military dishonorably. One of the soldiers responded: "Do not take only our military status, but also our bodies; nothing is dearer or greater honor to us than Christ our God." Following a number of failed attempts to torture them, they were finally stripped, tied, and thrown into a lake. It happened to be wintertime and the temperature was extremely cold. To tempt the soldiers to deny Christ. the torturers lit fires near the lake to entice them to deny Christ. One soldier actually did come out of the water and headed for the fire, but before he could get there, he died. During the night, a light from heaven came down and heated the lake and warmed these Christian witnesses. At the same time, thirty-nine

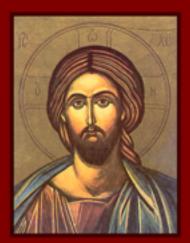
crowns were sent from heaven and rested upon each of them. One of the soldiers torturing them saw this and, moved by this event, confessed the Christ as Lord and Savior and joined the others in the lake. A fortieth crown appeared and descended upon him at that very moment. In the morning, the commander was furious when he learned of the events and ordered that their legs be broken and they be thrown back into the lake. On the third day following their drowning, the martyrs appeared to the local bishop and told him to search beneath the water and recover their relics. In the middle of the night, the bishop, along with his priests, went to the lake where they found the relics glowing in the water and, gathering them together, they gave them a proper burial.

The process of our salvation is achieved by proclaiming Jesus Christ as Savior and by doing the will of God the Father. Our Christian Orthodox Stewardship is experienced in this manner; our actions must support our words of faith in Christ our Lord and Savior. This is what the Holy 40 Martyrs of Sebasteia understood and we, too, are called, not just as individuals, but as the entire assembly of believers, i.e. the Church, to give our Time, Talents and Treasure so that: "...we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God..." (Hebrews 12:1-2).



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FIND YOUR SPIRITUAL HOME



ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM
~ All are Welcome ~

The Orthodox Church has preserved the original Apostolic Faith pure and unblemished.

The Orthodox Church did not experience a reformation or counter reformation because the Faith was kept untouched by time and people. That does not mean all Orthodox people are always perfect, but that the Faith has remained perfect.

If the Orthodox Church in America is to succeed in its primary mission to bring the Gospel of Salvation and Sanctification to the world--we must continually return to the core Faith, to the prime theological teachings of the divinity of Christ and the salvation offered through Him.

We also need to establish our own schools where we will cultivate in our children the Orthodox Christian principles of life as the early Christians did. We cannot shape souls effectively unless we undertake a serious effort of immersion of our people from a young age in the Faith and Orthodox way of life. A serious Christian education is the way to do that. An Orthodox Christian education in particular is the only way to counter the intellectual onslaught of the secular society upon the minds of our people.

For years, as immigrants (Greeks, Russians, Serbs and others), we sought to establish ourselves as a respectable minority in America. We have succeeded and surpassed most other minorities. We now stand at a crossroads: we either continue to seek further political and societal acceptance through the use of the wealth God has given us, or we turn our focus to the greatest treasure we have, the ORTHODOX FAITH, and find ways to effectively share it with those around us.

We can either use our wealth to further impress the secular world with our successes so that we can continue to gain their respect and recognition, or we can seek ways to present the treasure of ancient Christianity that has been handed down to us by creating opportunities for theological education for those around us, especially those who are looking for authentic Christian teaching. Do we become anchored citizens of this world through our secular successes, or do we cultivate our citizenship in heaven through a witness of authentic Christian life?

This is a critical moment in the life of our Parish, as well. We have established ourselves by the grace of God as a respectable "faith group" in this corner of the earth. People are now ready to listen to us if we do have a serious message to offer. But we need to first understand what this message really is and make it an integral part of our own lives. As a group of people who claim to be followers of Christ, we need to begin living according to His teaching. People around us have to recognize us from our love for each other and our good works. We need to make a mark in the local community as both philanthropists as well as lovers of God. Then we will be able to make a difference in American Society, not through monetary wealth, but rather through the Wealth of the Orthodox Faith and Traditions that we have inherited.

 $Let's\ become\ Ambassadors\ of\ Orthodox\ Christianity, the\ Ancient\ Faith, the\ Faith\ of\ the\ Apostles!$

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

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - MARCH

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3/1/2016
              Epistle: St. John's First Universal Letter 3:9-22
                                                                             Gospel: Mark 14:10-42
3/2/2016
              Epistle: St. John's First Universal Letter 3:21-24; 4:1-11
                                                                             Gospel: Mark 14:43-72; 15:1
3/3/2016
              Epistle: St. John's First Universal Letter 4:20-21; 5:1-21
                                                                             Gospel: Mark 15:1-15
3/4/2016
              Epistle: St. John's Second Universal Letter 1:1-13
                                                                             Gospel: Mark 15:20,22,25,33-41
3/5/2016
              Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians 4:13-17
                                                                             Gospel: <u>Luke 21:8-9,25-27,33-36</u>
3/6/2016
              Matins: <u>John 20:1-10</u>
                                          Epistle: St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 8:8-13; 9:1-2
              Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46
3/7/2016
              Epistle: St. John's Third Universal Letter 1:1-15
                                                                             Gospel: Luke 19:29-40; 22:7-39
3/8/2016
              Epistle: St. Jude's First Universal Letter 1:1-10
                                                                      Gospel: Luke 22:39-42, 45-71; 23:1
3/9/2016
                                          Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 12:1-10
              Matins: <u>Luke 21:12-19</u>
              Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16
3/10/2016
              Epistle: St. Jude's First Universal Letter 1:11-25
                                                                             Gospel: Luke 23:1-31, 33, 44-56
3/11/2016
              Vespers OT1: Zechariah 8:7-17
                                                                      Vespers OT2: Zechariah 8:19-23
3/12/2016
              Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 5:22-26; 6:1-2
                                                                             Gospel: Matthew 6:1-13
3/13/2016
              Matins: John 20:11-18
                                          Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4
              Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21
3/14/2016
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 1:1-20
                                          Vespers OT1: Genesis 1:1-13
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 1:1-20
3/15/2016
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 1:19-2:3 Vespers OT1: Genesis 1:14-23
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 1:20-33
3/16/2016
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 2:3-11
                                           Vespers OT1: Genesis 1:24-2:3
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 2:1-22
3/17/2016
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 2:11-21
                                           Vespers OT1: Genesis 2:4-19
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 3:1-18
3/18/2016
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 3:1-14
                                           Vespers OT1: Genesis 2:20-3:20 Vespers OT2: Proverbs 3:19-34
3/19/2016
              Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 2:1-10
                                                                             Gospel: Mark 2:23-28; 3:1-5
3/20/2016
              Matins: John 20:19-31
                                          Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40
              Gospel: John 1:43-51
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 4:2-5:7 Vespers OT1: Genesis 3:21-4:7
3/21/2016
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 3:34-4:22
3/22/2016
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 5:7-16
                                          Vespers OT1: Genesis 4:8-15
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 5:1-15
3/23/2016
              Orthros OT: <u>Isaiah 5:16-25</u> Vespers OT1: <u>Genesis 4:16-26</u>
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 5:15-6:3
3/24/2016
              Orthros OT: <u>Isaiah 6:1-12</u> Vespers OT1: <u>Genesis 5:1-24</u>
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 6:3-20
3/25/2016
              Matins: Luke 1:39-49, 56
                                          Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 2:11-18
              Gospel: <u>Luke 1:24-38</u>
3/26/2016
              Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 2:2-10
                                                                             Gospel: <u>Luke 10:16-21</u>
              Matins: <u>John 21:1-14</u>
Gospel: <u>Mark 2:1-12</u>
3/27/2016
                                          Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 1:10-14; 2:1-3
3/28/2016
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 8:13-9:7 Vespers OT1: Genesis 6:9-22
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 8:1-21
3/29/2016
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 9:9-10:4 Vespers OT1: Genesis 7:1-5
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 8:32-9:11
3/30/2016
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 10:12-20 Vespers OT1: Genesis 7:6-9
                                                                             Vespers OT2: Proverbs 9:12-18
3/31/2016
              Orthros OT: Isaiah 11:10-12:2 Vespers OT1: Genesis 7:11-8:3 Vespers OT2: Proverbs 10:1-22
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HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

3431 Trickum Road • Marietta, GA 30066-4660

January 31, 2016

Dear Beloved Parishioners:

As a valued steward and supporter of Holy Transfiguration we lovingly remind you to return your 2016 membership/stewardship form if you have not done so. Your stewardship provides the foundation for our parish ministries and our efforts in meeting the challenge of spreading of our Orthodox Faith.

Stewardship is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and to grow in grace. It allows us to participate in the work of God. Bearing fruit in the world is the visible result of our abiding in Christ, the True Vine.

You are encouraged to offer your prayerful thanks and continue in the fulfillment of your commitment to Christ's Church in thanksgiving for His many blessings to you. Your Stewardship Commitment is a testimony of your dedication to your own spiritual growth and the spreading of our beloved Orthodox Faith. For those who have not turned in their membership/ stewardship form, another Blessing of the Forms will be done on Sunday, February 28th, the day of the Parish Assembly.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou, Ph.D.

Protopresbytr

Becky Gess Valagohar Stewardship Chair



MEMBERSHIP/STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES **FOR 2016**

THANK YOU TO THE FAITHFUL STEWARDS WHO HAVE **SUBMITTED PLEDGE CARDS FOR 2016!**

Ms. Maria Agriostathis Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Alberts

Mr. Panaviotis Antoniades

Mr. Chiron Antoniades

Ms. Eva Arp Mr. Hayden Arp

Mr. & Mrs. Amir Azarvan Mr. & Mrs. Ben Azimzadeh

Ms. Dorian Bafas Ms. Eleni Bafas

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Bafas Mr. & Mrs. Nick Bakatsas

Mr & Mrs. Trey Bane Mrs. Nancy Barke Ms. Julia Šarke

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bethune

Mrs. Evelyn Bilson Mr. & Mrs. Pete Bilson Ms. Miranda Black Mrs. Betty Bliss

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Botni

Mr. & Mrs. George Boudouris Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Bourgeois Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Bourquin Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bridgers Mr. & Mrs. Lee Brooks

Ms. Toula Brotsis Ms. Anne Bruno

Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Buchan Mr. & Mrs. Tom Bundros Mr. & Mrs. Jim Burke

Ms. Melina Burke Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Bylos Mr. & Mrs. John Cacavias Mr. & Mrs. George Caras Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Carlos

Mrs. Mary Anne Chanos Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Christopher

Mr. Charles Coleman Mr. & Mrs. Tom Comsudes Mrs. Cherie Cookorinis-O'Connell

Ms. Cathy Costarides Ms. Athena Costarides Ms. Margaret Csonka Dr. Despina Dalton

Mr. & Mrs. Chris Davis Mr. & Mrs. Harry Demakis

Ms. Eleni Dodys

Mr. & Mrs. John Doulgerakis

Mrs. Marty Driscoll

Mr. & Mrs. Cedric Dunkerly Mr. & Mrs. John Dymond Ms. Marilyn Eleftheriou Ms. Lauren Farmer Mr. & Mrs. Stratton Frank

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Gavalas

Mr. Michael Gavalas

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gavrielides Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Georgacopoulos

Dr. & Mrs. Larry Gess Mr. & Mrs. Chase Geyer Miss Martha Gingles

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Gormanos

Mr. Andy Green

Dr. & Mrs. Jim Hammond

Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Hansard

Mr. Patrick Hartnett

Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hondras Ms. Sheila Howington

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Imbeault

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Jacobs

Miss Katie Jacobs Mr. Paul Jacobs

Mr. & Mrs. Brian Jansma Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Kapsalis

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kipreos Mrs. Irene Kipreos Mr. & Mrs. Manolis Kipreos Mr. & Mrs. Mike Kipreos

Mr. Steve Kipreos

Mr. & Mrs. Nick Klementzos Mr. & Mrs. Alan Knuchel Mr. & Mrs. Athanasios Kollias

Ms. Connie Kollias Mr. & Mrs. Zach Kollias Mrs. Athena Kontrafouris Mr. James Kontrafouris Dr. & Mrs. Michael Kostas Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Kostulakos Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kourafas

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Koutouzis Dr. Anna Lambros Mr. Blake Lawson Mrs. Elyse Lawson Ms. Anna Lerios

Mr. & Mrs. David Linebaugh Miss Sophia Linebaugh Mr. & Mrs. Michael Loeser Mr. Drew Logothetis Mr. & Mrs. George Lopos Mr. & Mrs. David Lukens

Fr. & Mrs. Paul Lundberg Mr. & Mrs. Demetrius Lymberopoulos

Dr. & Mrs. Allen Macris Dr. & Mrs. Bobby Macris

Mr. Angelo Mallis

Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Maniatis Mr. & Mrs. Dean Marianos

Mr. Bobis Markatos Mr. & Mrs. Paul Markley Mrs. Xanthippe Marsico Mr. George Matthews

Mr. & Mrs. Filipos Mavromatidis

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mayk Mr. & Mrs. John McCarty Mr. & Mrs. Glenn McCollum

Ms. Maria McGovern

Ms. Patricia Morris

Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Menke

Dr. Stella Michael-Makri Mrs. Ioanna Michaels Mr. & Mrs. Alex Miltiades Mr. Andrew Miltiades

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Miltiades Mr. & Mrs. Demetri Miltiades Mr. & Mrs. Leo Modenos

Mr. & Mrs. John Moustoukas Mr. & Mrs. Paul Moustoukas

Ms. Deborah Nagel Mr. & Mrs. George Nakos Mr. & Mrs. Costa Neocleous Mr. & Mrs. Jim Niarchos

Mr. Iancu Nica

Mr. & Mrs. Carl Nicholas Mr. & Mrs. Marc Nichols Mr. & Mrs. Michael O'Brien Fr. & Mrs. George Pallas

Mr. Tasi Pallas

Mr. & Mrs. Konstantine Papadimitriou

Mr. & Mrs. Pete Papadopoulos Fr. & Mrs. Panayiotis Papageorgiou

Mr. & Mrs. Jon Papastrat Mrs. Elizabeth Pappas

Mr. Casey Pater Mr. & Mrs. John Peppas Mr. & Mrs. Brandon Pittman

Mr. & Mrs. Tony Porter

Mrs. Poly Potter

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Reale Dr. & Mrs. Lambros Rigas Mr. & Mrs. Randy Rogers Mr. & Mrs. Ted Sampanes Mr. & Mrs. George Sarris Mr. & Mrs. Gheorghe Schipor

Mrs. Andigone Seraphim Mr. Mike Serkedakis Ms. Natalia Shteynborn

Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Simpson Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Skarpelis

Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Sklikas Mr. & Mrs. Eric Smith

Mr. & Mrs. Alton Sotir-Simms Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri Soulios Mr. & Mrs. Peter Spanos Mr. & Mrs. Ron Sprouse Mr. & Mrs. Steve Steffas Mrs. Mary Stiakakis Ms. Connie Stratigos

Mr. & Mrs. Stoyan Sugarliev Mr. & Mrs. Zacharias Taoushiani

Mr. & Mrs. Tim Tassopoulos Mr. & Mrs. Ovidiu Teodorescu

Mr. Michael Thomas Mr. Steve Tingas Mr. Athan Tsarouhas

Mr. & Mrs. Adam Tsirnikas

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Tsoukalas

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Tucker

Mr. & Mrs. Stavros Vacratsas

Ms. Rebecca Valagohar Mr. Gregory Vassilious Mr. & Mrs. Luigi Vattelana Mr. Maria Vatzakas

Mr. & Mrs. Danny Vlahiotis Mr. Benjamin Whitener

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Xanthakis Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Yiannovits

Ms. Elefteria Young Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Zakreski

TOTAL: 190

OUR FAITH, OUR FUTURE Update

The Capital Campaign for HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Become a part of the "Our Faith, Our Future" building fund campaign in 2016! The walls are rising up, built on the strong foundation of our Faith!

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Alberts Mr. Panayiotis Antoniades Mr. Hayden Arp Mr. & Mrs. Ben Azimzadeh Ms. Dorian Bafas Ms. Eleni Bafas Mr. & Mrs. Tom Bafas Mr & Mrs. Trey Bane Mrs. Nancy Barke Mr. & Mrs. Peter Basis Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bethune Mrs. Evelyn Bilson Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Bilson Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bilson Mr. & Mrs. Pete Bilson Mr. & Mrs. Tony Blasetti Mr. & Mrs. Terry Bliss Mr. & Mrs. Bob Botni Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Bourgeois Mr. & Mrs. Francis Bourgeois Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Bournias Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bridgers Mr. & Mrs. Lee Brooks Ms. Toula Brotsis Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Buchan Mr. & Mrs. Tom Bundros Mr. & Mrs. Jim Burke Ms. Melina Burke Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Bylos Mr. & Mrs. George Caras Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Carlos Mr. & Mrs. Greg Cassimus Mr. & Mrs. Harry Catrakilis Ms. Maria Ceisel Ms. Mary Chiotellis Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Christopher Mr. & Mrs. Grigorios Chryssopoulos Mr. Charles Coleman Mr. & Mrs. Tom Comsudes Ms. Marianna Constantinou Mrs. Cherie Cookorinis-O'Connell Ms. Cathy Costarides Ms. Margaret Csonka Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Davis Mr. & Mrs. Harry Demakis Mr. & Mrs. John Doulgerakis Mrs. Marty Driscoll Mr. & Mrs. Cedric Dunkerly Ms. Katina Dunkerly Mr. & Mrs. John Dymond Ms. Marilyn Eleftheriou Mr. & Mrs. Paul Farina Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Frangis Mrs. Maria Frangis Mr. & Mrs. Joe Gavalas Mr. Michael Gavalas Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gavrielides Dr. & Mrs. Larry Gess Mrs. Stephanie Gianaris Miss Martha Gingles Mr. & Mrs. Ted Gormanos Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Hansard Mr. Patrick Hartnett Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hondras

Ms. Diana Honey

Mr. Charles Honey

Ms. Sheila Howington Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hutt Mr. & Mrs. Richaed Imbeault Mr. & Mrs. Mike Jacobs Miss Katie Jacobs Mr. Paul Jacobs Mr. & Mrs. Brian Jansma Mr. & Mrs. Andy Johansen Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kanelos Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Kapsalis Mr. & Mrs. Manolis Kipreos Mr. & Mrs. Mike Kipreos Mr. & Mrs. Nick Klementzos Mr. & Mrs. Alan Knuchel Ms. Connie Kollias Mr. & Mrs. Zach Kollias Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Koozer Dr. & Mrs. Michael Kostas Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Kostulakos Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Koutouzis Mrs. Elyse Lawson Ms. Anna Lerios Mr. & Mrs. Smith Levenson Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Lilly Mr. & Mrs. David Linebaugh Ms. Maria Linebaugh Miss Sophia Linebaugh Mr. & Mrs. Michael Loeser Mr. Drew Logothetis Mr. & Mrs. George Lopos Mr. & Mrs. David Lukens Fr. & Mrs. Paul Lundberg Dr. & Mrs. Bobby Macris Mr. & Mrs. Craig Mallie Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Maniatis Mr. & Mrs. Dean Marianos Mr. Bobis Markatos Mr. & Mrs. Paul Markley Mrs. Xanthippe Marsico Mr. George Matthews Mr. & Mrs. Filipos Mavromatidis Mr. & Mrs. Harry Mavromatidis Ms. Autilia McGovern Mr. & Mrs. Michael McLean Mr. & Mrs. John McQueary Mr. Andy Melissas Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Menke Mr. Panayiotis Michael Mrs. Ioanna Michaels Mr. & Mrs. Alex Miltiades Mr. Andrew Miltiades Mr. & Mrs. Charles Miltiades Mr. & Mrs. Demetri Miltiades Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Moorehead Mr. & Mrs. John Moraitakis Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Morgan Ms. Patricia Morris Mr. & Mrs. John Moustoukas Mr. & Mrs. Paul Moustoukas Mr. & Mrs. George Nakos Mr. & Mrs. Jim Niarchos Mr. & Mrs. Chris Nichols Mr. & Mrs. Marc Nichols

Ms. Eleni Nikolas

Mr. Jason Orologas

Mr. & Mrs. Michael O'Brien

Mr. Tasi Pallas Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pallas Fr. & Mrs. George Pallas Mr. & Mrs. Pete Papadopoulos Fr. & Mrs. Panayiotis Papageorgiou Mr. & Mrs. Jon Papastrat Dr. Maria Paradisis Mr. Casey Pater Mr. Alex Paulson Mr. & Mrs. Dean Paulson Mr. John Paulson Mr. & Mrs. Michael Paulson Mr. Statton Paulson Mr. & Mrs. Keath Paxten Mr. & Mrs. George Pantzakis Mrs. Mimi Pohlman Mr. & Mrs. Tony Porter Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Purdy Mr. & Mrs. Francesco Quinterno Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Reale Dr. & Mrs. Lambros Rigas Mr. & Mrs. David Roberts Mr. & Mrs. Ted Sampanes Mr. & Mrs. George Sarris Mr. Mike Serkedakis Mr. & Mrs. David Shelby Mr. & Mrs. Taka Shoji Ms. Natalia Shteynborn Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Simpson Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Skarpelis Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Sklikas Mr. & Mrs. Eric Smith Mr. & Mrs. Manning Smith Mr. & Mrs. Ron Sprouse Mr. & Mrs. Ben Starks Mr. & Mrs. Steve Steffas Mrs. Mary Stiakakis Mr. & Mrs. Michael Strakes Ms. Connie Stratigos Mr. & Mrs. Brett Strauch Mr. & Mrs. Stoyan Sugarliev Mr. & Mrs. Zacharias Taoushiani Mr. & Mrs. Tim Tassopoulos Mr. & Mrs. Steve Thorne Mr. John Tiliacos Mr. & Mrs. Peter Tiller Mr. Steve Tingas Mr. Athan Tsarouhas Mr. & Mrs. Jim Tucker Mr. & Mrs. Ray Turner Mr. & Mrs. Stavros Vacratsas Ms. Becky Valagohar Mr. Gregory Vassilious Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri Vastakis Mr. & Mrs. Vaios Vlachos Mr. & Mrs. Danny Vlahiotis Mr. Julian P. Wade Mr. Benjamin Whitener Mr. & Mrs. Richard Xanthakis Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Yiannovits Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Zakreski **TOTAL: 194**

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL....

With the coming of the new year comes a new Parish Council to serve our Parish in 2016. Please welcome our new members – Paul Markley and Dennis Christopher – and our re-elected members, Georgia O'Brien and Steve Tingas. The four of us will be serving 3-year terms. The Council has met and elected its officers and has assigned ministry responsibilities. For your reference, they are as follows:

Executive Board

President Steve Tingas
Vice President Alex Miltiades
Treasurer Georgia O'Brien
Assistant Treasurer Steve Steffas
Casey Pater

Ministry Liaisons

Parish Life - Athan Tsarouhas, Paul Markley, Dennis Christopher

Events sponsored by Parish Council

Festival

Coffee Hour

General Assembly

Agape Picnic

Christmas Eve

Transfiguration Name Day

Lenten Dinners

Misc.- Metropolitan visits, Clergy Name Days

Facilities - Alex Miltiades, Dennis Christopher

New Facilities Construction

Facility Maintenance & Repairs

Rental Committee

New Property Acquisitions and Management

Stewardship, Outreach & Welcoming (SOW)

Becky Valagohar, Tim Voulopos

General Fund

Building Fund

Capital Campaign

Community Outreach

Homecoming Picnic

Sunday Greeters

Special Projects – Randy Rogers

Education, Youth & Culture (EYC) –

Marc Nichols

Catechism

Hellenic Studies

Youth Activities

Hellenic Culture

Dance

Philanthropy - Randy Rogers

Jacob's Garden

Food Pantry

Reverse Offerings

Philoptochos

Religious - Casey Pater

Church Services

Ushers

Narthex Duty Scheduling

Religious Supply Procurement

Festival Liaison – Athan Tsarouhas

Feel free to contact any of the Parish Council Members/Ministry Liaisons directly if you have questions or input, or would like to volunteer your time and talent. This will be an exciting year for our Parish, with the new facilities becoming available. I look forward to speaking with many of you about our plans and progress toward our goals for the community throughout the year. Thank you.

Sincerely, Steve Tingas 770-845-5045

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Once Again...Coffee Hour Hosts Are Needed!



The truth of the matter is, hosting coffee hour is an easy way to offer your service to our church. Please go to the Sign up Genius website: http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4cabad23a2fe3-coffee and choose your date to play the part of the magical elves for the rest of us, then email Anne Willcocks at hottps://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4cabad23a2fe3-coffee and https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4cabad23a2fe3-coffee and <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4cabad23a2fe3-

If you are new and need an invitation to join the group, contact Stephanie Lukens at <u>dsclukens@gmail.com</u>. Stephanie can also send you detailed directions for hosting.

Thank you for your service,

Parish Life Ministry Outreach Ministry

We're looking for Prosforo bakers!



If you would like to prepare the bread for the Divine Liturgy service, please contact Anne in the parish office (770.924.8080). The more bakers we have, the fewer weeks you will be needed during the ecclesiastical year.

SOUP KITCHEN - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All Church members are invited to participate in a wonderful giving experience! On every 4th Thursday of the month, Philoptochos provides a nutritious lunch to needy men, women and children at Must Ministries in Marietta. Volunteers are needed to prepare either baked chicken, rice or salad. Help is also needed for the serving of the food. Even doing this just once a year or every month will be an enriching experience for you as you serve those in need, as Christ called us to do. Philoptochos generously serves over 1,200 meals a year! Please consider being part of this Christian outreach service by contacting Athena Burke at 770 973-3111 or email ibgreek@bellsouth.net .

SHOP for the Diakonia Retreat Center and for our YOUTH!

The Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos invites you to shop online at Smile. Amazon to join a Metropolis-wide effort to pay off the mortgage of the Diakonia Retreat Center.

This beautiful natural acreage in Salem, SC offers invaluable opportunities to instill and strengthen the spiritual growth of all ages, most importantly our Metropolis YOUTH. Beginning now, in 2016, the Diakonia Retreat Center needs our focus!

With little effort and at **no cost** to the individual, all Metropolis of Atlanta shoppers can impact the future of our beloved Diakonia Center Retreat by shopping "charitably" at AmazonSmile to help pay off the mortgage. For every purchase, 0.5% of purchase price is donated to the Diakonia Center.

Follow these easy steps for "charitable" online shopping:

- 1) Go to www.smile.amazon.com and create account. (You can use your existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile if you have one, or create a new one if you don't.)
- 2) Choose the charity **Diakonia Center of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta**
- 3) Begin shopping! REMINDER: Each time you want to shop, go to **www.smile.amazon.com** and your charitable account will automatically come up.

Please join Philoptochos in supporting this Metropolis-wide effort to make the Diakonia Retreat Center mortgage free!

(For more details: martydriscoll@bellsouth.net)

The show MUST go on...It's business as usual at this year's...



Mark Your Calendars

May 13-15, 2016

"always the weekend after Mother's Day"

Here's how YOU can help -

Use the power of Email and Social Media ...

- ✓ Ask your friends and neighbors to save the dates and invite them to come.
- ✓ Use free advertising through community websites, school bulletins, etc.

Volunteer...

- Baking/ Cooking
 - Will commence once the PLC and Kitchen re-open Look for schedule
 - Any time you can commit, however brief, would be appreciated
 - No experience needed; fun for all
- > Sign up to work during the festival
 - Invite a friend or two to work with you
 - For families with young children, consider splitting shifts with a spouse

Look for more information to come. If you have questions or can offer your time and talent during the planning phase, please contact Danny Vlahiotis at 678-643-0343 or dnvlah@bellsouth.net.



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

AHEPA Marietta Chapter #519 News & Notes—February 2016

Upcoming Events--BLOCK YOUR CALENDAR!

February 9 Regular Monthly Mtg Location TBD

February 20 Casino Night Time InfoMart Banquet Room, Marietta

March 8 Regular Monthly Mtg PLC April 12 Regular Monthly Mtg PLC

May 10 Regular Monthly Mtg Location TBD

CASINO NIGHT: This is our ONLY fundraiser for the year. Your total support is necessary to help make this successful. With construction underway, we have been very limited in our scholarship fundraising efforts this year...we are "all in" on this event. Please plan on coming, and bring your friends. Spouses are welcome! See the flyer for additional information.

2016-2017 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS: The applications for Chapter, District, and National Scholarships will be released in January 2016 with due dates beginning March 1. Be on the lookout, and get your son/daughter/ Godchild/ niece/ nephew/ grandchild/ student prepared. There is money available!

FACEBOOK & HOLY TRANSFIGURATION WEBSITE.: Be sure to check out AHEPA #519 on Facebook and the AHEPA section of our church website for new photos, updates, and fresh content. Utilize these areas for additional information/details for our Marietta Chapter #519.

Questions about AHEPA? Interested in being a member of this great organization? Please contact any Board Member: Zack Kollias, Ted Sampanes, Keath Paxten, Ron Sprouse

Hellenic Dance

Practice will start in February for the 2016 Marietta Greek Festival for ALL age groups. Please make sure you are on the email list for important announcements like change in location for practices. If you are not on the email list, please email Dorian Bafas at mariettahellenicdance@gmail.com or DorianBafas@yahoo.com

Please notice that we have changed some day/times for groups. These locations are to start (while it is still cold).

Group	Grade	Day	Time	Location
Pitsirikia	Pre-K	Sunday	12:30-1:00	Basement of house
Palamakia	K & 1	Sunday	12:30-1:15	Basement of house
Asteria	2 & 3	Tuesday	4:30-5:15	PLC
Petaloudes	4 & 5	Tuesday	7:15-8:00	PLC
Phoenix	Middle	Sunday	1:30-3:30	PLC
Eleftheria	High	Sunday	1:30-3:30	PLC

Please work with us this year to make up for the late start due to construction! If you are planning on dancing, please try to make as many practices as possible. We need to know your commitment by March 1st in order to plan for costumes and other festival arrangements. We will have make up practices for those who cannot attend practice; please contact Paulina Vastakis for any type of arrangements for missed practices.

Mark your calendar for the dates we will NOT have practice due to school breaks and Easter:

NO PRACTICE: SUNDAY TUESDAY
Winter Break Feb. 14 Feb. 16
Spring Break Apr. 3 Apr. 5
Holy Week Apr. 24 Apr. 26
Pascha May 1

Hellenic Studies



ARCHIMEDES SCHOLARSHIP: Applications are now being accepted for the Next Generation Initiative's Archimedes Award Scholarship, offered to outstanding high school seniors of Hellenic heritage intending to pursue studies in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) related fields at a university in the United States. To be considered for a 2016–17 scholarship, please **apply by March 25, 2016**. For more information, and to <u>apply online</u>, please go to <u>www.hellenext.org</u>.

https://www.hellenext.org/career-resources/next-generation-scholarships/archimedes-award-application/

ABOUT THE ARCHIMEDES AWARD The Archimedes Award and accompanying scholarship is offered to graduating high school seniors of Hellenic heritage who are on track to be first-year university students, and who will be pursuing studies in science, technology, engineering or math at a recognized institution of higher learning in the United States.

The Award guidelines call for candidates to <u>apply online</u> and complete their applications by **March 25, 2016**, in order to be considered for a 2016–17 scholarship. Finalists will be selected by an independent committee of university professors and experts with records of experience in STEM education.

The Archimedes Award was established in 2014 through the Next Generation Initiative by Dr. Andrew Economos to encourage Greek American students to excel in STEM fields. More information about the Next Generation Initiative, the Archimedes Award, previous winners, and coverage in the press, is available online at www.hellenext.org.

Youth Ministries



Above: Fr. Panayiotis receives the trophy won at the Winter Youth Rally by the tenacious girls' basketball team. Below: Fr. Panayiotis tells the altar servers what it means to be tonsured and how to prepare.



Youth Group







Clockwise from top: the youth group version of "The Voice" at the Vastakis home; seniors gathered to assemble care packages for college students at the Jacobs home; Maria caught in the game she planned for GOYA; youth solving a puzzle at the Vattelana home. Many thanks to our hosts during construction!



Transfiguration Gardens Orthodox Cemetery at Green Lawn Cemetery, Roswell, GA



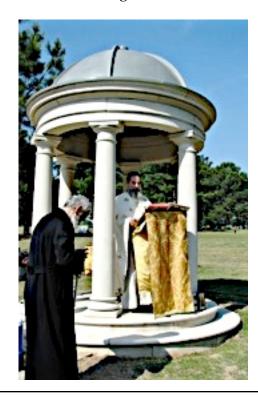
Our Parish has purchased an additional 105 plots, which we are making available at a price of \$3,200.00, which includes one plot and a vault.

Our parish is blessed to be able to provide a resting place for our people - a place where you can have an upright headstone with a cross and the names of the deceased; and where the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on a regular basis and our people will be commemorated for centuries to come.

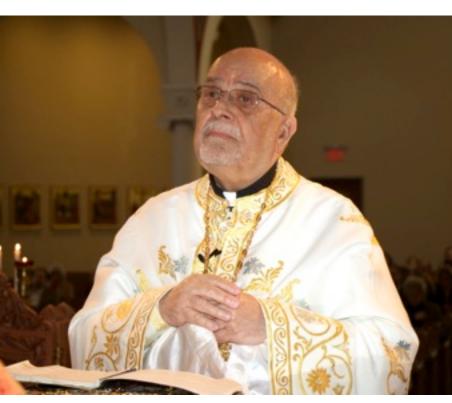
The family of Betty & Tikie Paulson (Paulson & Jacobs families) has contributed a monument in the center of this Orthodox Cemetery, providing an Altar for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.

You may purchase plots through the church office - No interest financing is available.





Fr. George Pallas, Protopresbyter CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD



Glory be to God for the 60 years of service Fr. George has offered to the Church and the 18 years he has been serving our parish



Fr. George Pallas was born on May 6, 1930 in Ano Dorion, Messinia, Greece. He received his secondary education at the High School of Kyprarissia, attended the High Church Seminary in Patras, and completed his military service. In 1956 he was ordained a deacon and later a priest. Fr. George served parishes in Greece and in the Republic of Panama before immigrating to the United States in 1959.

His first parish in the U.S. was St. Elias the Prophet in Dubuque, Iowa. Then in 1967, he moved to the parish of St. George in Des Moines, Iowa where he served until his retirement in 1996. During his thirty-seven years of service to the Diocese of Chicago, Father was bestowed with the distinctions of Spiritual Father Confessor, Steward, and Protopresbyter. Fr. George also served on the Archdiocesan Mixed Council.

He earned both a Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Master of Arts (MA) degrees in American Education from Loras College, in Dubuque. He was awarded a lifetime certification by the State of Iowa for his studies in Pastoral Education and Clinical Pastoral Education along with Graduate Studies at Drake University in Des Moines. While serving the parish in Des Moines, Fr. George also worked as a counselor, for several years, at Dowling Catholic High School, then at the Central Iowa Alcoholism Center, and finally for nineteen years at the United States Department of Veterans Affair's Alcohol and Drug Dependency unit.

Fr. George is married to Presbytera Toula., who is also from Ano Dorion. They have three children (Tasi, Dean and Vicki), one son-in-law (Evan), one daughter-in-law (Christina), and four grandchildren (Nicholas, George Alexander, Dimitra and George). In 1998, Father and Presbytera moved to Woodstock, Georgia. While retired, Fr. George remains active at Holy Transfiguration both through the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and other Services, as well as the offering of his advice and guidance to the church's various ministries.

March 2016

Saturday	Saturday of the Souls = 8.45 AM Orthros = 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy = 11:00 AM A Memorial Service is given by Habib Kan = 11:30 AM Rental: Kandalaft = 12:00 PM Karamitros Bap = 3:00 PM Moustoukas Harris = 5:00 PM Great Vespers	Saturday of the Souls = 8:45 AM Orthros = 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy = 12:00 PM Lisgaris Baptism (Theodora) = 2:00 PM Vespers Service / Wedding Reception (Fr. Anwedding R	8	= 4:00 PM Byzantine Liturgy Choir Rehearsal = 5:00 PM Great Vespers		- 12:00 PM McLean Baptism (Katherine)	4:00 PM Byzantine Liturgy Choir Rehearsal 5:00 PM Great Vespers	= 4:00 PM Byzantine Liturgy	Cnoir Kenearsal
Friday		11	1	Metropolis Philoptochos Retreat 7:00 PM First Salutation to the Theotokos		Annunciatiothe Theotokos	 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM Great Vespers-Apodosis of the Feast of the Annunciation; Salutations to the Theotokos 	= 7:00 PM Third Salutation to	THE OLONGOS
Thursday	3 7:00 PM NO Patristic Theology Seminar	10 Foard Meeting	17	= 6:00 PM Great Compline	24	= 11:30 AM Soup Kitchen (Philontochos)	Company of the control of the Annunciation of the Theotokos Company of the Theotokos Manunciation of the Theotokos Company of the Club	31 = 6:00 PM Great Compline	
Wednesday	2 (GOYA) - 7:00 PM NO Bible Study to-day	9 (GOYA)	16	First Wednesof Great Lent = 5:45 PM Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts = 7:00 PM Lenten Dinner/ Presentation/Discussion	- 7:00 PM Youth Group (GOYA)	Second Wedof Great Lent	= 5:45 PM Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts = 7:00 PM Youth Group (GOVA) = 7:00 PM Lenten Dinner/Or- atorical Festival	30 Third Wedneof Great Lent	= 5:45 PM Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts = 7:00 PM Lenten Dinner/ Presentation/Discussion = 7:00 PM Youth Group (GOYA)
Tuesday	1 = 10:30 AM Prime Timers' Board Meeting = 11:00 AM Blessing of the Water = 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies = 7:00 PM NO Intro to Orthodoxy = 7:00 PM Choir Practice	8 = 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies = 6:30 PM AHEPA Chapter Meeting = 7:00 PM Choir Practice = 7:00 PM Intro to Orthodoxy = 7:00 PM ECY Meeting	_	 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Choir Practice 	200	 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Choir Practice 		29 = 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies	7.00 PM Chair Practice
Monday	29	7:00 PM Education Devel- opment Committee	14	Clean MondaLent begins. 6:00 PM Great Compline 7:00 PM Parish Council Meeting	21	= 6:00 PM Great Compline 7:00 PM Education Devel-	opment Committee	28 =6:00 PM Great Compline	
Sunday	28 SeventeenthProdigal Son 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:15 AM Catechism 12:30 PM Pitsirikia Dance Practice (Pre-K) 12:30 PM Palamakia Dance Practice (K & 1st) 12:30 PM Parish Assembly 12:30 PM Schumacher Wed-	Sunday of tht-fare Sunday = 8:30 AM Orthros = 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy = 11:15 AM Catechism = 12:30 PM Pitsirkia Dance Practice (Pre-K) = 12:30 PM Philoptochos Godparents' Luncheon	13	Cheese-Fare Sunday Daylight Saving Time starts = 8:30 AM Orthros = 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	= 5:00 PM Vespers of Forgiveness	Sunday of Orthodoxy	 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy; Procession of the Holy Icons 6:00 PM Pan-Orthodox Vespers 	27 Second Sundgory Palamas	Baster Sunday Baster Sunday Baster Sunday 10:00 AM Orthros 11:15 AM Catechism 12:00 PM Hellenic Studies - Greek Independence Day Celebration

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Rev. Fr. George Pallas, Protopresbyter Rev. Fr. Paul Lundberg, Presbyter Anne Willcocks, Parish Administrator



Scan to view our Website

DATE	PC DUTY	ACOLYTES	GREETERS	PROSFORO		
Feb. 28	C. Pater/A. Tsarouhas	St. James	K. Johnson/P. Koutouzis	S. Gianaris/N. Kakissis/ E. Kay		
Mar. 6	M. Nichols/R. Rogers	St. John	M. Alberts/D. Levine	P. Koutouzis/L. Lopos/ P. Miltiades		
Mar. 13	P. Markley/S. Tingas	St. Peter	C. Kollias/D. Smith	J. Miltiades/M. Miltiades/ K. Niarchos		
Mar. 20	S. Steffas/T. Voulopos	St. James	L. Sampanes/M. Zavala	K. Panov/R. Peppas/ C. Sprouse		
Mar. 27	A. Miltiades/B. Valagohar	St. John	S. Gianaris/S. Lukens	I. Steffas/S. Tidwell/ M. Tingas		

St. James Altar Servers: Paul Jacobs-Captain

Chris Bridgers, Evan Bilson, Matthew Buchan, Constantine Gavalas, Alex Goldsholl, Jack Goldsholl, Yianni Gormanos, Gabriel Hennenfent, Kris Kollias, Nicholas Levantis, Nicholas Lukens, Gabriel Mavromatidis, Jacob Mavromatidis, Aubrey Moraitakis, George Moraitakis, Angelo Nichols, Matthew Paulson, Alexander Skarpelis, Mitchell Starks, Niko Tiller, Nick Zakreski

St. John Altar Servers: Nicholas Tassopoulos-Captain

Christopher Alberts, Matthew Azimzadeh, Andrew Bass, Christopher Bilson, Theo Bliss, Anthony Bundros, Christian Coleman, Carter Copses, Jay Copses, Mason Copses, Nick Danos, Cole Foster, Alex Gekas, Nicholas Gekas, William Jansma, Angelo Makris, Michael Marianos, Alexander Morgan, Tommy O'Brien, Evan Papadopoulos, Alexander Thorne, Braden Thorne, Csaba Wagner, Romeo Wagner

St. Peter Altar Servers: Lucas Porter-Captain

Zach Bethune, Hal Bradford, III, Christos Costarides, Yianni Costarides, Michael Farina, Leo Frangis, Manuel Frangis, Stephen Harrah, Andrew Levine, Morgan Lilly, Luke Melissas, Alek Nikolich, Matthew Shanahan, Evan Strakes, Michael Tsogas, Luke Turner, Matthew Turner, Jianni Vacratsas, Stefano Vacratsas, Michael Vastakis, Panayiotis Vlachos.

Note: If your son is not listed and should be, please contact Fr. Paul.