

# ***SYNDIAKONIA***

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***THE MONTHLY BULLETIN***

*OF THE*

**HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΜΕΤΑΜΟΡΦΩΣΕΩΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ**

**Marietta, GA**

**FEBRUARY 2018**



The Return of the Prodigal Son

# **HOLY TRANSFIGURATION**

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

*3431 Trickum Road  
Marietta, GA 30066*

Tel. 770 924-8080

Fax 770 924-3030

**Website:** [www.holytrans.org](http://www.holytrans.org)

## **CHURCH OFFICE**

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

Secretary: Anne Willcocks

E-mail: [holytrans@comcast.net](mailto: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 John Brown, Protopresbyter*

*Rev. Father Paul Lundberg, Presbyter*

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Ken Bilson-Education, Youth, Culture

Terry Bliss-Philanthropy

Dennis Christopher-Parish Life

Mike Jacobs-Stewardship

Zack Kollias-Ass't Treasurer

Dennis Koutouzis-Facilities

Ellen Linebaugh-VP / Parish Life-Lead

Paul Markley-Secretary / Liturgical

Harry Mavromatidis-Parish Life

Jon Papastrat-Outreach

Steve Tingas-President

Danny Vlahiotis-Treasurer

### **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. You can't miss it!**

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

### fasting - A Personal Ascesis



**On Monday, February 19** we enter the period of Great Lent, the Great Fast. This is always a challenging time for many people, especially those who have not seriously tried to fast in the past. Many people, faced with this challenge ask the question: Is fasting necessary?

The practice of fasting is indeed a most ancient one. The most profound example of fasting in the Old Testament was that of Moses as he ascended Mount Sinai purifying his body, soul and mind in order to be able to meet God and converse with Him: "He was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water". (Exod. 34:28) As he ascended the mountain he left behind every worldly care. When he returned to the Jewish people bearing the plaques of the Ten Commandments inscribed by the finger of God he was filled with the Glory of God. His face was shining like the sun and the people could not

even look at him (Exod. 34:29ff). This came about as Moses reached the ultimate state of purification (Catharsis) which allowed him to become a dwelling place of the Uncreated Light of God. Fasting was an essential personal ascesis leading to this purification. His desire to talk with God led him to do it. This is the main reason for which we need to fast, as well! It's a personal effort with the goal of connecting with God intimately. As we fast thinking of God's Love and praying to Him, He is present in our lives.

The New Testament period began with a man who lived on locusts and wild honey, St. John the Baptist (Matt. 3:4; Mark 1:6). St. John embraced this personal discipline, transforming himself to serve as a witness to the Messiah. Our fasting can make us also witnesses of God's love.

Finally, the practice of fasting was sanctioned by our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, when He fasted for forty days in the desert before he embarked on His earthly ministry; He began His fight against the devil (Matt. 4:2) with a strict form of fasting accompanied by prayer. Through our personal fasting we may also defeat the devil and his temptations. Christ is always there to help us.

The ultimate goal of fasting is to help us keep the commandments of God. It is a form of spiritual training or askesis, which helps us acquire spiritual discipline. Fasting helps us detach ourselves from the earthly pleasures of the flesh. It helps us discipline our desires and take control of our passions. By managing to control what goes into our mouth and stomach we train ourselves to be able to control what comes out of our mouth and heart. Through the discipline of fasting we may also become able to control our eyes and avoid looking at things which will aggravate our passions and desires further. Fasting will also enable us to control our fleshly desires, our anger and jealousy and above all our pride.

According to St. John Chrysostom, fasting is to the soul what food is to the body. In the same way as material food nourishes the body, so also fasting strengthens the soul and makes its wings lighter and able to move more easily; fasting helps lift the soul above this world and bring her to communicate uninhibited with the Creator, having freed her from her attachment to the pleasures and lusts of this life.

Fasting, however, should always be accompanied by (i) Prayer, (ii) Repentance for our sins, (iii) Forgiveness of others, (iv) Reading of the Bible and other spiritual books and (v) Almsgiving.

Let's try it again this year. We can only gain from it!

***Let us keep the fast as much as each one is able!***

*Fr. Panayiotis*



**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 2018**

**February 1, Thursday,** Blessing of the Water 11:00 am

**Evening:** Great Vespers, Feast of the Presentation of the Lord 6:00 pm

**February 2, Friday,** Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Temple

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

**February 3, Saturday,** Great Vespers, 5:00 pm

**February 4, Sunday,** 17th Sunday of Luke - Sunday of the Prodigal Son

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

**February 5, Monday Evening:** Great Vespers, Feast of St. Photios 5:00 pm

**February 6, Tuesday.** Feast of St. Photios Patriarch of Constantinople

Orthros 9:00 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**February 9, Friday,** Great Vespers for 1st Saturday of the Souls, 6:00 pm

**February 10, Saturday,** Feast of St. Haralambos and **1st Saturday of the Souls**

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

**Saturday Evening:** Great Vespers, 5:00 pm

**February 11, Sunday,** Sunday of the Last Judgement - Meat-fare Sunday. **Κυριακή τῆς Ἀπόκρεω**

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

**Evening:** Great Vespers for St. Christos the Gardener the Neomartyr (+1748)

**February 12, Monday,** Feast of St. Christos the Gardener the Neomartyr (+1748)

Orthros 9:00 am and Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**February 16, Friday,** Great Vespers for 2nd Saturday of the Souls 6:00 pm

**February 17, Saturday of the Souls,** Memory of all who shone forth in asceticism.

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

**Evening:** Great Vespers 5:00 pm

**February 18, 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

**February 19, Clean Monday, Beginning of Great Lent.** Great Compline, 6:00 pm

**Καθαρά Δευτέρα.** Ἀρχὴ Μ. Τεσσαρακοστῆς. Μέγα Ἀπόδειπνο, 6:00 μμ

**February 21, Wednesday,** 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.**

**February 22, Thursday,** Great Compline 6:00 pm

**February 23, Friday,** First Salutation to the Theotokos 7:00 pm. **Πρῶτοι Χαιρετισμοί, 7:00 μμ**



**February 24, 3rd Saturday of the Souls, 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

**February 25, First Sunday of Great Lent. Sunday of Orthodoxy. Κυριακή τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας.**  
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 the Cathedral in Atlanta, 6:00 pm

**February 26, Monday, Great Compline** 6:00 pm

**February 28, Wednesday, Feast of St. Cassian, 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.**

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



## A Lenten Meditation



“Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand.”

With these words our Lord began His earthly ministry, in order to show how important this act of repentance is for the person who is looking for a higher meaning in his life. Repentance means cleansing of one's self from all evil thoughts, desires and habits. Repentance means reconciliation with one's brother and sister. It means sitting down and honestly examining one's self critically; it means a complete change of mind and life (μετάνοια).

But one could still ask: “Why do I have to do all this?”: Because there is only one higher meaning in life. One that goes beyond the beauty of art, the ecstasy of music, the joy of intellectual achievement. It goes beyond earthly power or human honor. It transcends the desire for a happy family life and a respectful social status. It reaches high into the heavens and touches God. There is no meaning to life if this life is not infiltrated by the

presence of the power, the joy, the strength and above all the love generated from the source of all life, God Himself.

You may ask: “How can I have that?”: Cleanse yourself! Repent! Change your life! Recommit yourself - your whole being - to God daily. Ask Him to unite Himself to you. Call out to Him, cry out with all your heart asking for His Holy Spirit to come and dwell in you. Then, you will grasp the fullness of life, not just the meaning of it.



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## **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**March 1 - April 1, 2018**

**March 1, Second Thursday of Great Lent.**

Blessing of the Water 11:00 am      Great Compline 6:00 pm

**March 2, Friday.** Second Salutation to the Theotokos 7:00 pm. Δεύτεροι Χαιρετισμοί, 7:00 μμ

**March 3, Saturday.** Great Vespers 5:00 pm

**March 4, Second Sunday of Great Lent.** St. Gregory Palamas.

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

**March 5, Monday,** Great Compline 6:00 pm

**March 7, 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 8, Thursday,** Great Compline 6:00 pm

**March 9, Friday,** Third Salutations to the Theotokos 7:00 pm. Τρίτοι Χαιρετισμοί 7:00 μμ

**March 10, Saturday.** Great Vespers 5:00 pm

**March 11, 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. **We have a piece of the Original Cross of Christ that people will have a chance to venerate.**

**March 12, Monday,** Great Compline 6:00 pm

**March 14, 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**

**March 15, Thursday.** Great Compline 6:00 pm

**March 16, Friday.** Fourth Salutation to the Theotokos 7:00 pm. Τέταρτοι Χαιρετισμοί 7:00 μμ

**March 17, Saturday.** Great Vespers 5:00 pm

**March 18, Fourth Sunday of Great Lent,** St. John of Climacus.

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

**March 19, Monday.** Great Compline 6:00 pm

## **Schedule of Services - March 1 - April 1, 2018**

**March 21, 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.**

**March 22, Thursday. The Great Canon** of St. Andrew of Crete 6:00 pm

**March 23, Friday, The Akathist Hymn** 7:00 pm

**March 24, Saturday, Great Vespers** of the Annunciation of the Theotokos 5:00 pm.

**March 25, Sunday, Annunciation of the Theotokos.** Εὐαγγελισμός τῆς Θεοτόκου.

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

*Today we eat fish.* Σήμερα γίνεται κατάλυσις ἰχθύος.

**March 26, Monday.** Great Compline 6:00 pm

**March 28, 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.**

**March 29, Thursday,** Great Compline 6:00 pm

**March 30, Friday, Great Vespers,** Resurrection of St. Lazarus 6:00 pm

**March 31, 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 1, 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 (April 8), please see the Holy Week Services Schedule provided in a special flyer.*

### **The Entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem**

*Hymn of the Feast of Palm Sunday (First Tone)*

“To confirm the general resurrection before Your Passion, You resurrected Lazarus from the dead, O Christ our God. Therefore imitating the children, carrying the symbols of victory, we cry out to You the Victor over death: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are You, the One, who comes in the name of the Lord.”



## **Entering the Great Fast - Great Lent**

*"The arena of virtues is open. Let all who are willing to compete enter, girding themselves. For those who genuinely compete will be deservedly crowned. Let us do battle with the enemy. Let us take on the armor of the Cross, having Faith as an invincible rampart, prayer as our breastplate, and charity as our helmet."*

### **Fasting through the centuries:**

All the righteous before Christ fasted. Fasting was precursory to meeting with God or to a revelation. Moses climbed up Mount Sinai after forty days of non-eating and then spoke with God. The New Testament is not at all different, it begins with a fastener - John the Baptist. Even Christ Himself fasted for forty days before beginning His earthly ministry.

All the holy men and women of the church fasted on a regular basis. Christians have been fasting for the last 2,000 years. We fast every Wednesday remembering the betrayal of Christ and every Friday remembering His crucifixion. We fast during Great Lent, the Lent of Christmas and the Lent of August. By doing so we honor Christ and also exercise control over our passions.

## **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



# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2018

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS		THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week <b>JANUARY 28th</b>		<i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> <b>Publican and the Pharisee</b> Reading: 2 Timothy 3: 10-15 Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14	Trust in God, not yourself! Ask for His help before every task this week!
Normal Fast Week <b>FEBRUARY 4th</b>		<b>The Prodigal Son Returns!</b> Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20 Gospel: Luke 15: 11-32	Schedule a Confession. Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare <b>FEBRUARY 11th</b> FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY		<b>The Last Judgment</b> Reading: 1 Corinthians 8: 8-9: 2 Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare <b>FEBRUARY 18th</b> FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY		<b>Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!</b> <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Reading: Romans 13: 11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6: 14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent <b>FEBRUARY 25th</b>		<i>GREAT FAST BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> <b>SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY</b> Reading: Hebrews 11: 24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1: 43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 4th</b>		<b>ST GREGORY PALAMAS</b> Reading: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2: 1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 11th</b>		<b>VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</b> <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Reading: Hebrews 4: 14-5: 6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9: 1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 18th</b>		<b>ST JOHN of the LADDER</b> Reading: Hebrews: 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 25th</b>		<b>ST MARY of EGYPT</b> Reading: Hebrews 9: 11-14 & Heb 2:11-18 Gospel: Mark 10: 32-45 & LK 1:24-38	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! <b>April 1st</b> GREAT WEEK BEGINS		<i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> <b>ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM</b> Reading: Philippians 4: 4-9 Gospel: John 12: 1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <b>APRIL 6th</b>		<b>GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY</b> <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet, & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! <b>APRIL 8th</b> NO FASTING!		<i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> <b>HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)</b> Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1: 1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!



## **RAISING CHILDREN IN TODAY'S SOCIETY**

### **Fr. Panayiotis's "Recipe" of Orthodox Christian parenthood**

Child bearing/rearing is one of the most noble of privileges we received from God: We have become co-creators with Him and we have the opportunity to shape the souls of our children and offer them back to God.

Through marriage we learn how to love and be loved, how to sacrifice, how to be patience, how to be humble, how to control our own urges and place the other person's needs ahead of our own.

But by having children we also complete ourselves in the image of God as Trinity. We learn how to come out of ourselves (the conditional love of the two) and learn to love the third (our children) in an unconditional way. This sharing of love is in the image of the love shared by the three persons of the Holy Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

#### **Shaping our children spiritually:**

We need to teach our children how to exercise self-control, how to moderate their own urges and take control over their passions.

We need to teach them the value of truthfulness, honesty, keeping of the commandments of God, chastity and purity, honor and respect. We need to help them be humble and not egotistical; help them overcome their self-centeredness and become social human beings.

We need to establish boundaries for our children so that they may learn to recognize and avoid excesses.

We need to teach them to see themselves as Temples of the Holy Spirit, so that they may treat their bodies with respect and reverence and avoid actions that will defile and desecrate this Holy Temple of their soul and body.

Prayer, fasting, Confession, almsgiving, regular attendance of church worship and participation in the Holy Sacraments (with Holy Communion at the center) are necessary ascetic practices for the building up of their souls and the establishment of their spiritual and mystical experiences with God.

The children copy us, their parents. We are the primary role models for them. We must not behave in ways we want them not to.

Finally:

Let's surrender our children to the hands of God every day in our prayers. They are His gift to us. Let's offer them back in prayer every day, asking that He may guide and protect them always.

May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ guide us and strengthen us to always do our best.

## **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

### ***Let's make Holy Week truly Holy this year***

**It so happens that this year Spring Break for the Cobb County Schools (and other Counties') as well as Kennesaw State University coincide with our Holy Week!**

**Hence, I would like to ask all parents (and our college students) to take this opportunity to expose themselves and their children to Holy Week and Pascha by a full immersion in the daily Services of the Church. For almost 2000 years, Orthodox Christians have immersed themselves in Holy Week and Pascha, thus receiving a deeper understanding and appreciation of the events that led to the Cross and the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. These services are filled with hymns and theology explaining from many perspectives the Salvific Act of Redemption through Christ's life, death and Resurrection. A full immersion for the whole week in these services will have a transformational effect on the young people in particular. These kinds of experiences shape the soul and provide powerful antibodies to the damaging effects of the secular and messed-up world in which we live. These blessed experiences will enhance the possibilities that our children will stay close to the Church and retain their Faith as they are confronted by the challenges of the world.**

**I cannot emphasize enough how critical it is that we focus our children on Holy Week this year.**

**Hence, as you begin your planning for the next school break, please keep these thoughts in your mind.**

**May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God the Father and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you today and always.**

**In Christ's Love,**

**Fr. Panayiotis**

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS - FEBRUARY

2/01/2018	Thursday:	Romans 8:28-39	Luke 10:19-21	
2/02/2018	Friday:	Luke 2:25-32	Hebrews 7:7-17	Luke 2:22-40
2/03/2018	Saturday:	Hebrews 9:11-14	Luke 2:25-38	
2/04/2018	Sunday:	Mark 16:1-8	I Corinthians 6:12-20	Luke 15:11-32
2/05/2018	Monday:	I John 2:18-29;3:1-8	Mark 11:1-11	
2/06/2018	Tuesday:	John 10:1-9	Hebrews 7:26-28;8:1-2	John 10:9-16
2/07/2018	Wednesday:	I John 3:21-24;4:1-11	Mark 14:43-72;15:1	
2/08/2018	Thursday:	Ephesians 2:4-10	Matthew 10:16-22	
2/09/2018	Friday:	II John 1:1-13	Mark 15:20,22,25,33-41	
2/10/2018	Saturday:	II Timothy 2:1-10	John 15:17-27;16:1-2	
2/11/2018	Sunday:	Mark 16:9-20	I Corinthians 8:8-13;9:1-2	Matthew 25:31-46
2/12/2018	Monday:	III John 1:1-15	Luke 19:29-40; 22:7-39	
2/13/2018	Tuesday:	Jude 1:1-10	Luke 22:39-42, 45-71; 23:1	
2/14/2018	Wednesday:	Joel 3:12-21	Joel 2:12-26	
2/15/2018	Thursday:	Philemon 1:1-25	Luke 23:1-31,33,44-56	
2/16/2018	Friday:	Zechariah 8:7-17	Zechariah 8:19-23	
2/17/2018	Saturday:	II Timothy 2:1-10	Luke 20:46-47;21:1-4	
2/18/2018	Sunday:	Luke:1-12	Romans 13:11-14;14:1-4	Matthew 6:14-21
2/19/2018	Monday:	Isaiah 1:1-20	Genesis 1:1-13	Proverbs 1:1-20
2/20/2018	Tuesday:	Isaiah 1:19-2:3	Genesis 1:14-23	Proverbs 1:20-33
2/21/2018	Wednesday:	Isaiah 2:3-11	Genesis 1:24-2:3	Proverbs 2:1-22
2/22/2018	Thursday:	Isaiah 2:11-21	Genesis 2:4-19	Proverbs 3:1-18
2/23/2018	Friday:	Isaiah 3:1-14	Genesis 2:20-3:20	Proverbs 3:19-34
2/24/2018	Saturday:	Luke 7:17-30	II Corinthians 4:6-15	Matthew 11:2-15
2/25/2018	Sunday:	Luke 24:13-35	Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40	John 1:43-51
2/26/2018	Monday:	Isaiah 4:2-5:7	Genesis 3:21-4:7	Proverbs 3:34-4:22
2/27/2018	Tuesday:	Isaiah 5:7-16	Genesis 4:8-15	Proverbs 3:34-4:22
2/28/2018	Wednesday:	Isaiah 5:16-25	Genesis 4:16-26	Proverbs 5:15-6:3



# STEWARDSHIP CORNER

## Christian Stewardship Is...

*...learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.*

*...our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.*

*...caring for the needs of others.*

*...offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.*

*...what a person does after saying "I believe...", as proof of that belief.*

*...devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as parish, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal.*

*From Oriented Leadership by Williams & McKibben*

**Thank you** to the families who have submitted their 2018 Membership/Stewardship Pledge. May God continue bless you and your families for your dedicated stewardship to Him.

For those who have not done so, **please send in your 2018 Membership/Stewardship Pledge in as soon as possible.**

**Father Panayiotis will have a blessing of the Stewardship/Membership Cards on Feb. 11th.**



### 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.**

## THE ROLE OF STEWARDSHIP IN PARISH MANAGEMENT

By Dr. Larry Gess

Each Orthodox parish is part of the Body of Christ, the Universal Church, thus every parish belongs to God and tries to lead its members to the Kingdom of God. However, the collective membership of each parish has the ability to decide the direction of their parish on this earth. They typically exercise their collective authority through their votes in the election of the Parish Council members and the decisions of the Parish Assemblies. The Parish Assembly decisions include the approval of the Local Parish By-Laws and their amendments, the purchase and sale of property, the approval of contracts to build and maintain facilities, the approval of annual budgets, and other similar actions which impact the daily life and future of the parish.

Every parish is headed by a duly ordained Orthodox Priest, whose role is to oversee and nurture the life of the parish for the spiritual development of its members while he serves as a father, spiritual leader and vessel of the Holy Spirit to impart the Grace of God on His people. The priest and the parish are under the authority of the local Orthodox bishop, in our case the Metropolitan of Atlanta, who is the teacher and keeper of the Holy Orthodox Faith and Traditions. All major decisions of the Parish Assembly have to be approved by the local bishop. The parish priest, as the direct representative of the Metropolitan at the parish, guides the parish away from actions that are counter to Holy Tradition and the Regulations of the Archdiocese.

The role of the Parish Council with the Parish Priest is the daily management of the parish in a fashion that reflects the Holy Traditions, Archdiocese Regulations, and, very importantly, the direction that has been decided by the collective parish membership – both for the current year and historically. Thus each Parish Council member is required to continually acquire knowledge and be mindful of the Holy Traditions, the Archdiocese Regulations, and the current and historical actions of the Parish Assembly.

Every Orthodox faithful has a responsibility to assist in making the parish management process effective on an ongoing basis. **First and foremost, each faithful person in the parish must annually renew his/hers active membership in the parish by completing and returning the annual Stewardship Form.** The Parish Council cannot effectively plan an annual budget, nor can it effectively manage the parish's expenses without the fiscal input reflected on each member's annual Stewardship Card – this is particularly true with regard to the youth ministries. Also, the Parish Council and the ministry leaders cannot effectively implement the parish ministries without the volunteering of members' time and talent that is also reflected on the Stewardship Forms. The second important responsibility of the parishioners in the management of the parish is their participation in the Parish Assemblies and the election of Parish Council members. Finally, the degree of success of the parish depends largely upon the extent to which the members unselfishly donate their time, talent, and treasure (money) towards the operation and development of the parish. The more we donate, the sooner we will realize our collective dreams for our parish.

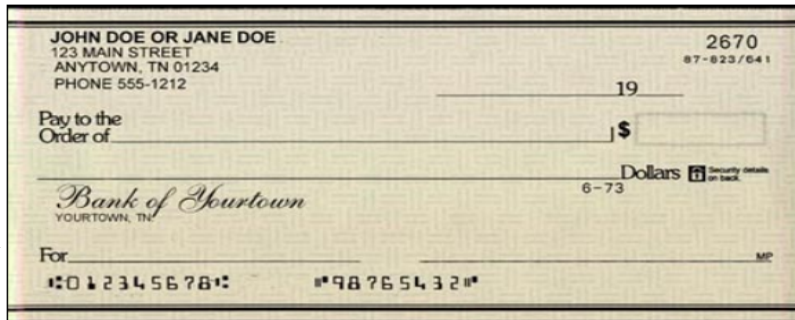
***If you have not yet completed your 2018 Stewardship Form, please do so and mail it back today.***

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *A Note From the Treasurer....*

Please note in the Memo section of your check what your check is for:

Operating/General Fund  
Building Fund  
Iconography Fund  
Candles  
Any other general  
donation... For ex.  
luncheons, GOYA, etc.

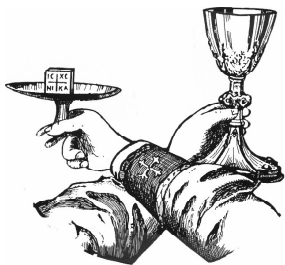


Please write separate checks for each pledge you are contributing to - do not bundle various contribution payments onto one check. If for example you are contributing to both the Operating/General Fund and the Building Fund, please write 2 separate checks indication in the memo section what Fund each check should go towards.

If your check is for a contribution towards one fund and it does not specify what fund it should go to, it will be treated as a general donation only and will not be credited against any commitment you may have for the year.

***WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!!!***

**Stewardship is a Liturgical Act by which we offer ourselves to God because He offered Himself for us**



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

### **WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?**

Stewardship is the act of returning to God what is His. We offer ourselves and all creation to the Lord at every Divine Liturgy with the words, *"Your own gifts, of Your own, we offer to You."* We acknowledge that everything we offer to God is a gift from Him. We take what God has given to us and we return it to Him as an act of our thanksgiving and praise.

As stewards of God's gifts, we return to Him a portion of our time, talents and treasures so that Christ's work on earth might be accomplished through His Church.

Please join the Stewardship program so that you may receive the joy which He gives to those who love Him!

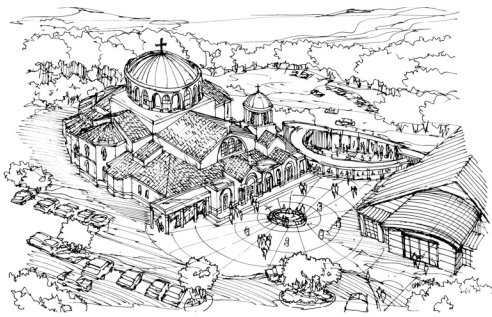


*Enabling our hearts to be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches through the understanding of the mystery of God. (Col. 2:2)*

**Please fill out your  
Stewardship Form today  
and bring your offering to  
the Lord.**

*"We praise you, we bless you,  
we thank you, O Lord and we  
pray to you O our God."*





## MEMBERSHIP/STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES FOR 2018

THANK YOU TO THE FAITHFUL STEWARDS WHO HAVE  
SUBMITTED PLEDGE CARDS FOR 2018!

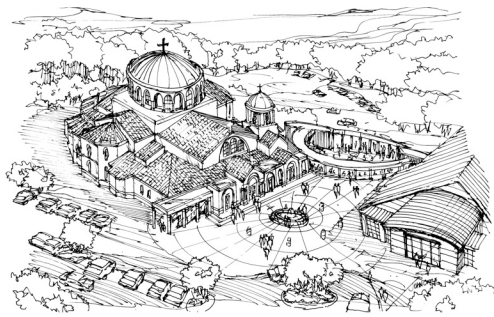
*(If you have not yet returned your pledge card for 2018, please  
do so; your personal commitment of time, talent and treasure  
is so important, and so appreciated.)*

Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Alberts  
Mr. Panayiotis Antoniadis  
Ms. Toula Argentis  
Mr. & Mrs. John Asprakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Athanasios Bafas  
Ms. Eleni Bafas  
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Bakatsas  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Baleno  
Mr. & Mrs. Trey Bane  
Mr. & Mrs. William Barber  
Mr. & Mrs. Grigoriy Barsky  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Basto  
Mr. & Mrs. Nathaniel Bell  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bethune  
Mr. Mark Bigelow  
Mrs. Evelyn Bilson  
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Bilson  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bilson  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Bilson  
Ms. Miranda Black  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Blalock  
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Blasetti  
Mrs. Betty Bliss  
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Bliss  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Botni  
Mr. & Mrs. George Boudouris  
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Bourgeois  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Bourquin  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bridgers  
Fr. & Mrs. John Brown  
Mr. & Mrs. Olen Bruce  
Ms. Anne Bruno  
Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Buchan  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bundros  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Burke  
Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Bylos  
Mr. & Mrs. John Cacavias  
Ms. Naomi Cardoso  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Carlos  
Ms. Maria Ceisel  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Christopher  
Mr. & Mrs. Grigorios  
Chrysopoulos  
Mr. Charles Coleman  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Comsudes  
Ms. Elizabeth Cook  
Mrs. Cherie Cookorinis-O'Connell  
Ms. Cathy Costarides  
Dr. Despina Dalton

Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Davis  
Ms. Judith Davis  
Ms. Eleni Dodys  
Mr. & Mrs. John Doulgerakis  
Mrs. Marty Driscoll  
Mr. & Mrs. Cedric Dunkerly  
Ms. Diana Dusa  
Mr. & Mrs. John Dymond  
Ms. Marilyn Eleftheriou  
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Farrey  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Frangis  
Mrs. Maria Frangis  
Mr. & Mrs. George Franji  
Mr. & Mrs. Stratton Frank  
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Frazier  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Gavalas  
Mr. Michael Gavalas  
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore  
Georgacopoulos  
Mr. Philip George  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Gess  
Ms. Stephanie Gianaris  
Ms. Martha Gingles  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Gormanos  
Mr. & Mrs. Tanyo Gospodinov  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hammond  
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Hansard  
Mr. & Mrs. George Haritatos  
Mr. Patrick Hartnett  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Hendrix  
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Herbert  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hondras  
Mr. Troy Horton  
Mrs. Tina Isaac  
Miss Katie Jacobs  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Jacobs  
Mr. Paul Jacobs  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Jansma  
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Johansen  
Mr. Kurk Johnson  
Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Kapsalis  
Dr. & Mrs. George Kargas  
Mr. & Mrs. David Kay  
Mr. & Mrs. Manolis Kipreos  
Mr. Phil Kiritsy  
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Klementzos  
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Knuchel  
Mr. & Mrs. Lazaros Kochilas  
Mr. & Mrs. Athanasios Kollias

Mr. & Mrs. Zack Kollias  
Mr. & Mrs. Konstantinos  
Konstantinidis  
Mrs. Athena Kontrafouris  
Mr. Jim Kontrakouris  
Dr. Michael Kostas  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Kostulakos  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kourafas  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Koutouzis  
Ms. Christine Lavey  
Mrs. Elyse Lawson  
Ms. Anna Lerios  
Mr. & Mrs. Stamatis Leventis  
Mr. & Mrs. David Linebaugh  
Mr. Drew Logothetis  
Mr. & Mrs. George Lopos  
Mr. & Mrs. David Lukens  
Fr. Paul Lundberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios  
Lymberopoulos  
Dr. & Mrs. Eftichia Macris  
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Macris  
Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Maniatis  
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Marianos  
Mr. Bobis Markatos  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Markley  
Mrs. Xanthippe Marsico  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Mavromatidis  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mayk  
Mr. & Mrs. Francis McAteer  
Mr. & Mrs. John McCarty  
Mr. & Mrs. John McQueary  
Mr. Andrew Melissas  
Dr. & Mrs. Adam Mellis  
Mr. & Mrs. Panayiotis Michael  
Ms. Ioanna Michaels  
Mr. & Mrs. Alex Miltiades  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Miltiades  
Mr. & Mrs. Demetri Miltiades  
Mr. & Mrs. John Moraitakis  
Ms. Patricia Morris  
Ms. Demetra Moshonas  
Mr. & Mrs. John Moustoukas  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Moustoukas  
Mr. & Mrs. Erik Musto  
Mr. & Mrs. George Nasr  
Mr. & Mrs. Costa Neocleous  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Niarchos  
Mr. Iancu Nica





## MEMBERSHIP / STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES FOR 2018

THANK YOU TO THE FAITHFUL STEWARDS WHO HAVE  
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*(If you have not yet returned your pledge card for 2018, please  
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is so important, and so appreciated.)*

Mr. & Mrs. Carl Nicholas  
Ms. Eleni Nikolas  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael O'Brien  
Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Opdyke  
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pallas  
Fr. & Mrs. George Pallas  
Mr. Tasi Pallas  
Mr. & Mrs. Konstantine  
Papadimitriou  
Fr. & Mrs. Panayiotis  
Papageorgiou  
Mr. & Mrs. Jon Papastrat  
Mr. & Mrs. Casey Pater  
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Paulson  
Mr. & Mrs. John Peppas  
Mr. & Mrs. Todd Poradzisz  
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Porter  
Mr. & Mrs. Francesco Quinterno  
Dr. & Mrs. Lambros Rigas  
Mr. & Mrs. David Roberts  
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Rogers  
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Rury  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Sampanes  
Mr. & Mrs. George Sarris  
Mr. & Mrs. Gheorghe Schipor  
Mrs. Andigone Seraphim  
Mr. & Mrs. Taka Shoji  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Simpson  
Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Skarpelis  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sklikas  
Mr. & Mrs. Manning Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Alton Sotir-Simms  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Spanos  
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Sprouse  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Steffas  
Mrs. Mary Stiakakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Strakes  
Mrs. Connie Stratigos  
Mr. & Mrs. Brett Strauch  
Mr. & Mrs. Stoyan Sugarliev  
Mr. & Mrs. John Szwest  
Mr. & Mrs. Zacharias  
Taoushiani  
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Tassopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Thomas  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Tiller, Jr.  
Mr. Steve Tingas  
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Tsoukalas  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Tucker

Mr. George Tzortzinakis  
Mr. Gregory Vassilious  
Mr. & Mrs. Luigi Vattelana  
Mr. & Mrs. Theodoros Vatzakas  
Mr. & Mrs. Danny Vlahiotis  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Xanthakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Yiannovits  
Ms. Elefteria (Rita) Young  
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Zakreski  
Mr. & Mrs. Marco Zavala  
Mrs. Angela Ziros

**TOTAL: 201**





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

AHEPA Marietta Chapter #519 News & Notes—December 2017

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

### **Upcoming Events -- Block your Calendar**

March 3rd Adopt-A- Mile

April AHEPA Fundraising Event - off site

**AHEPA Chapter Scholarships: The AHEPA chapter scholarship application for 2018- 19 is now available on-line at [www.ahepaatlsscholarship.org](http://www.ahepaatlsscholarship.org).** The application deadline is March 1,2018; if you need any additional information on the scholarship program, please contact: Ron Sprouse, Zack Kollias or Keath Paxten.

For those of you who are not members of AHEPA, consider joining our chapter. It's \$75 dollars a year and worth every cent in supporting our youth and the community. If you have any questions about AHEPA, please contact any of the following Board Members: Keath Paxten, Zack Kollias, Ron Sprouse, Jim Burke.





# Summer Day



## \*\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\*\*

Summer Camp at Holy Transfiguration is coming **JUNE 4-8th**

We will accept rising Kindergartners - 5th graders

Responsible GOYANs can be Volunteers!!

Drop off at 9:00 am and Pick up at 1:00pm. Lunch will be provided.

More details to come.

We need your help and commitment to make this event a success!

Volunteers, please contact Hazel at [hazolen@gmail.com](mailto:hazolen@gmail.com) or 757-870-5977 to pre-register your child.

Please join us for our planning meeting on **Sunday, Feb. 25th** at 1:00pm.

S U M M E R



**CAMP**

***Save the Dates...***



***May 18 - 20, 2018***

**This is the largest church fundraiser that benefits our building fund and local charities.**

**Here's how YOU can help –**

**Get the word out - Use the power of Email and Social Media ...**

- ✓ Spread the word using Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or your favorite media
- ✓ Distribute the flyer to your friends and neighbors via email; invite them to come.
- ✓ Use free advertising through community websites, school bulletins, etc.

**Join us for Festival Cooking and Pastry Assembly...**

- ✓ Look for Festival Cooking Dates coming up!
- ✓ We need many helping hands!!

**Sign up to work during the Festival...**

- ✓ Go to the Sign-Up Genius and fill as many slots as you are able, or complete a volunteer form.
- ✓ Invite your friends and family to help. It's fun!

If you can offer your time and talent during the planning phase or would like to chair a booth or committee, please contact Eleni Nikolas at 630-854-2174 or [enikolas68@gmail.com](mailto:enikolas68@gmail.com).





### Holy Week Flowers

If you would like to make a donation for the flowers that will decorate the church and its icons as well as the Epitaphio, please contact Anne in the church office, 770.924.8080, [holytrans@comcast.net](mailto:holytrans@comcast.net) or fill out this form and put it in the offering tray.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

or

For the Health of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

The names of donors and dedications will be published in the bulletin on Pascha, April 8th.

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Luminaria

Honor the memory of a loved one with a luminary on Holy Friday, April 6th.

Luminaries are sponsored by the Dance Ministry; suggested donation is \$5.00 per luminary.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Print - 1-2 names per luminary)

Please return this completed form with check (payable to HT Dance Ministry) in the tray during the Divine Liturgy on Sunday or to the church office by **Wednesday, April 4th**.

Thank you for your support.



# HELLENIC DANCE NEWS

## Festival Dancing Begins!

If you would like to dance in the May Festival, we are starting dance practice. If you are unable to make practice at this time, please let us know so we can work with you during make up sessions. If you are NOT receiving dance emails, it means you are NOT on our email list. PLEASE email Dorian at [MariettaHellenicDance@gmail.com](mailto:MariettaHellenicDance@gmail.com) with your contact information, your dancer's name and grade level.

GROUP	GRADE	DAY	TIME	TEACHER	LOCATION
Pitsirikia	Pre-K	Sunday	12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Alex M. / Tina	Classroom 126 (PreK Room)
Palamakia	K & 1st	Sunday	12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Eleni / Kiki	Classroom 128 (K Room)
Asteria	2nd & 3rd	Sunday	1:00 - 1:45 p.m.	Peggy / Karen	Classroom 131 (3/4th Room)
Petaloudes	4th & 5th	Sunday	1:00 - 1:45 p.m.	Maria / Mike / Alex S.	Classroom 129
Phoenix	Middle School	Sunday	1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	Ted / Elaine	Main Hall or alternate location
Eleftheria	High School	Sunday	1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Paulina / Demetra	Gym

## Hellenic Dance Festival:

We sent two teams to the Hellenic Dance Festival over MLK Weekend. Both teams worked very hard and did amazing! We are so proud of all the time and effort from our dancers, teachers, and dance parents. It was a wonderful weekend. Our Middle School group brought home the Folk Expression Award and a Bronze medal! Congratulations to both teams for making Holy Transfiguration so proud!!







Congratulations to our Dancers!



**HTGOC FOOD PANTRY:** Need a gift for someone special for Valentine's Day, we have the perfect gift: **GEORGIA ON MY MENU...A Medley of Southern Hits Cook Book!**

**(provided by The Jr. League of Cobb – Marietta.)** Cookbooks are on sale Sunday, January 28, thru Sunday, February 11, for \$20.00 with the option of having them gift wrapped. Stop by our table during coffee hour or you may call Isabelle Dymond at 404-502-8343 to make other arrangements to pick up a copy. **ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED.**

**Reverse Offering: THANK YOU** to all our parish families who participated in our *Reverse Offering Collection!* Your donations helped bring our inventory back up to a normal level; we had been running low since mid December. We will continue to pick up groceries from our designated area in the PLC for the next two weeks for anyone who has not yet dropped off their offering. If you missed the Reverse Offering Request a few Sunday's ago and wish to participate, please see John or Isabelle Dymond and they will provide you with a list of what is still needed; if your time is limited and you would rather give a monetary donation to the pantry, that will work too!

**Distribution Day: Please note that due to a government holiday, our Food Distribution Day will take place on WEDNESDAY, February 22.**

Volunteers needed: (for every distribution day)

(2) Shoppers

(3) Valets to help families bring the groceries to the cars.

(1) Stockroom helper who will bag frozen items and bring them to the shoppers

In addition to the six volunteers needed every month we have: Father John who welcomes all our families, and who is also there for spiritual support. Linda Lopos is responsible for registering or checking in the families who come to shop.

**\*\*As you can understand having a total of 8/9 volunteers between the two small rooms in addition to all the families, seating, shelving, and our children's play area, the pantry can get pretty cramped very quickly.**

**Due to this limited space, we request that only the volunteers who are signed up to be in attendance on Distribution Day be in the front two rooms of the pantry.** If you have a family member or friend with you that would like to assist, they are always welcome to come in and work in the stockroom or they are welcome to have a seat in our newly created gathering room on the upper level of the food pantry. We have comfortable seating, magazines, and water available for our visitors.

**\*\*Going forward we ask that you please notify Isabelle Dymond one week prior to distribution day if you would like to volunteer for distribution day.**

**\*For this month please notify Isabelle by February 15 if you would like to volunteer on February 22.**

**Isabelle's contact info: [icdymond1@gmail.com](mailto:icdymond1@gmail.com) or you may call or text her cell (404) 502-8343.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** to help re-stock the food pantry on Wednesday, February 28 from 12:45 to 2:45 pm.

**Families in NEED:** We have a Syrian family in East Cobb looking for a tutor to help their children with the English language. The children's ages are 7, 12, 15 & 16. Their school's have asked that the family find a tutor to assist the children in learning the proper way to speak, read and write. They all speak and understand English enough to communicate. The children are well behaved, and respectful. They live off Scufflegritt Rd.

"Thank you" to all our VOLUNTEERS/MEMBERS and DONORS of HTGOC Food Pantry!! It is because of YOU we are able to help so many of our local community families in need!





## FEBRUARY PHILOPTOCHOS NEWSLETTER

The **Philoptochos Panagia chapter** started off the new year with about 60 members joining for 2018 at the annual membership luncheon. During the general meeting, the new budget was introduced and passed. President Pat Koutouzis read a letter from the Greek Orthodox priest expressing his appreciation to the Holy Transfiguration community and Philoptochos for the generous donation of \$3,375, which was collected during the month of December. The money and gift cards will help replace the clothing and furniture the Priest, his wife and 4 children lost during the Florida hurricanes.

There was also a presentation from Live SAFE Resources by Paula Dobbs, who spoke of elderly abuse and Janice Page, who is an advocate for sexual assault and domestic violence. We will continue to support this group and other worthwhile causes in Cobb County.

Harvey Lawson and her son Blake gave a short presentation of the book they are republishing, Daddy, Why Are You Going to Jail? by Stephen Lawson. The book was originally published in 1992, but the new edition will include the family's journey to Orthodoxy. All proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry and Angel Tree, a ministry directed to children of incarcerated parents. More information will be available in the next few weeks.

In January, the **Philoptochos National commitments** included \$748 for St. Basil Academy, \$350 social services and \$250 for Cancer and other major illness fund, which totaled \$1348.

On **Sunday, February 4**, everyone is invited to a Souper Bowl Luncheon after Divine Liturgy in the Parish Hall. Profits will go to our local social services. Please see attached flyer for details.

Philoptochos, HOPE and JOY will pair up for the next general meeting on **Sunday, February 18** at 12:30 in the Parish Hall. There are 20 more blankets from our project last year that need to be completed. We will also be assembling packages for the food pantry. Lunch will be provided. Many hands are needed and all ages can help! Look for more information in the upcoming weeks. The completed blankets and assembled packets will be donated to local needy families.

Great Lent starts on February 19 and Philoptochos is offering two **Lenten retreats**. The local Panagia Chapter retreat is on **Saturday, March 3** in the Parish Hall, 9:30 am -1:00. The Metropolis Lenten Retreat at the Diakonia Center in South Carolina will be on **March 16-18**.

**Soup Kitchen** began the New Year serving 85 meals at Must Ministries on January 25th. Thank you to the following people who prepared and or served: Kally Niarchos, Thea Blalock, Fran Tucker, Elena Kay, Niki Gess, Marty Driscoll, Linda Lopes, Dorothy and Bobby Macris, Pat and Dennis Koutouzis and Athena Burke.

**February 22, 2018** Thursday, Soup Kitchen, MUST Ministry, 11:30 am. Please contact Athena Burke at [ibgreek@bellsouth.net](mailto:ibgreek@bellsouth.net) if you want to cook chicken or rice, donate salad, make a monetary donation or help serve.

**February 22, 2018**, Thursday, 6:30, Philoptochos Book Club, Atrium; Lenten Pot luck.

**Membership Form:** All women (and men) of the parish are invited to join Philoptochos for 2018. Please complete the form and return it to the Philoptochos table in the Parish Hall on Sundays, following Divine Liturgy during the month of February or to the church office. When completing the form, please check areas in which you would like to participate or write in a talent you can contribute!

---

### **Give your goods to Christ**

For Christ is telling us: "Give your goods to someone in need so that no one may steal them from you--for example, no calumniator, no devil, no thief, nor, after all the others, death. For as long as you hold on to it yourself, you are not safe in holding on to it. But if you give your goods to me through the poor, I will guard them all carefully for you and, at the fitting time, I will restore them to you with an abundant increase. I do not receive your goods to take them away from you. Rather, I receive them to increase them, to guard them more carefully, and to save them for you until that time when there is no one who lends at interest or can be moved by pity." *St. John Chrysostom*

# **SUPER BOWL LUNCHEON**

**Sunday, February 4, 2018**

**Following Divine Liturgy, Parish Hall  
\$8 Adult & \$5 Children 10 and under.**



**Join us for a Variety of  
Delicious Soups, Salad,  
Bread & Desserts!**



All Proceeds will go towards Philoptochos Social Services



**Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society**  
**Panagia Chapter #5070**  
**2018 Membership Form**  
**Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox**  
**Church**

*3431 Trickum Road,, Marietta 30066-4660*

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

<b>NAME:</b>	
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	
<b>CITY/STATE/ZIP:</b>	
<b>HOME PHONE:</b>	<b>CELL PHONE:</b>
<b>EMAIL:</b>	

In gratitude for God's blessings, I pledge the following for Christ's work as a Philoptochos member. My donation will be allocated to Local, Metropolis, and National Philoptochos as follows:

<b>1. Panagia Chapter (Local Philoptochos Stewardship)</b>  PLEASE CIRCLE: \$10   \$15   \$20   OTHER_____	\$_____ LOCAL CHAPTER
<b>2. National donation per member:</b>	\$15.00   NATIONAL
<b>3. Metropolis donation per member:</b>	\$ 10.00   METROPOLIS
<b>My total Philoptochos donation (total all three lines):</b> *tax deductible (501c3)	\$_____ <b>TOTAL</b>

I would like to offer MY TALENTS to assist the following Philoptochos efforts (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

	<b>Soup Kitchen: 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs. each month (Please circle)</b> Prepare food / Donate / Serve at MUST ministries
	Visit homebound
	Prepare meals for sick
	Help with Makaria (prepare and serve meal in PLC)
	<b>Baking (Please circle)</b> Koulouria   Paximadia   Vasilopita
	Calling Committee (Call members for meetings)

	<b>Godparents Luncheon (Please circle)</b> Co-chair   food prep   set-up   clean-up
	Easter Egg Dyeing
	Prepare the Epitaphion for Holy Friday
	Provide Desserts for Parish Events
	<b>Fall Fundraiser (Please circle)</b> Co-chair   serve on committee
	Provide snacks/beverages for general meetings



## NEWS YOU CAN USE!

Calling all seniors, time to get active. We have lots going on in the new year. So come join in on the fun....

Hope all of you will be at our VALENTINE PARTY on February 3rd at our Parish Hall. It starts at 11 am, and you will be our guests. Mary Ellen has planned some fun games (something different) for us to play. Prizes will also be available for the winners. We will have a chocolate fountain with different kinds of fruit and pound cake. SOUNDS LIKE YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS THIS ONE.

Our movie nights are starting up again, all beginning at 4:30 pm in the afternoon: Thursday, Feb. 15-*Mamma Mia*; Thursday, March 15-*Bucket List*; Thursday, April 19-*Love Story*. We plan to serve popcorn and go out to dinner afterwards. Someone has offered to cook for us either in March or April, and we appreciate the offer. HOW NICE!!

We plan to sponsor coffee hour on March 4th. Since people celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day, Prime Timers has decided to celebrate Children's Day, as we have done the last two years. We have been collecting games, books, stuffed animals, and this year we even have blankets. Children age 12 and under are eligible to participate. So please bring your little ones; each will receive a ticket, and if their name is drawn, they may choose whatever their heart desires. It will be a fun day for everyone!

We hope to start up a terrific brain game called "HAND AND FOOT". At our age, games like this are very helpful and important. Just as your body needs a workout, so does your brain. Right now we are in the planning stages....more info to come.

PLEASE JOIN!! DUES ARE JUST \$15. THANK YOU!! GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU!!!



## THREE HIERARCHS & GREEK LETTERS EVENT



### **The Feast of the Three Hierarchs and Hellenic learning:**

The Great theologians and preachers of Christianity from the 4th century, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom, stand out as the people who provided a transition from the pagan flavor of Classical Education to the Christian synthesis between Classical learning and the Gospel. Being themselves immersed in Classical Education, they were able to show the world how the writings of the ancient philosophers were filled with the Logos of God (Jesus Christ). These great thinkers were able to provide a way to look at the Classical writings of the ancient Greek Philosophers as precursors of the teaching of Christ in the Greek speaking world. They were able to show how this prepared the way for the Christianization of the Greek speaking and Classically trained peoples of their time. This was a major achievement brought about by the work of the Holy Spirit. Their contemporary (and classmate of Basil and Gregory, prince Julian the apostate) who became emperor, tried to stop the advancement of this synthesis of Classical learning with Christianity by forbidding Christians from teaching during his tenure as Emperor. Upon the death of Julian, however, Christianity proceeded to adopt the tools of Classical learning for the sake of the promotion of the Gospel. The Empire was soon converted to the Christian Faith.



**We were honored this year to have with us the Consul of Greece in Atlanta Mr. Emmanouil Androulakis for the celebration of the Three Hierarchs and Greek Letters who gave a beautiful and informative speech. The honorary Consul of Cyprus Ms Polly Potter was also present.**

## TRANSFIGURATION GARDENS ORTHODOX CEMETERY AT GREEN LAWN CEMETERY, ROSWELL, GA



Our Parish owns a large selection of burial plots, which we are making available to our parishioners 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.





# February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>168Sunday of the Fast... 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Catechism 12:15 PM Three Hierarchs Event-AHEPA/Hellenic Studies 12:45 PM Cretan Association Dance Practice</div>	<div>29 10:00 AM Young Children's Playdate 6:00 PM Great Vespers for the Feast of the Holy Three Hierarchs 7:00 PM Parish Council Meeting 7:30 PM Coed Volleyball Night</div>	<div>30 Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs 8:45 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 10:45 AM Kafention 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Intro to Orthodoxy 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM GOYA Advisors 7:00 PM Boy's Basketball</div>	<div>31 10:00 AM Bible Study (GOYA) 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:00 PM Philanthropic Ministry Meeting 7:00 PM Bible Study</div>	<div>1 10:00 AM Philoptochos Visitation Committee Mtg 11:00 AM Agiasmos—the Blessing of the Waters 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies Advanced Course 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies Advanced Course 6:00 PM Great Vespers—Feast of the Presentation of Christ 6:30 PM Men's Recreational</div>	<div>2 The Presentation of Christ in the Temple 8:45 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM Rental: Shiloh Hills</div>	<div>9:00 AM Bulgarian Divine Liturgy 11:00 AM Prime Timers' Valentine's Party 11:00 AM Rental: Bulgarian Church Committee 4:00 PM Byzantine Music Lesson 5:00 PM Great Vespers</div>
<div>4 176Sunday of the Fast... 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Catechism 11:40 AM A three year 12:30 PM Pitsirikia (Pre-K) 12:30 PM Philoptochos 12:30 PM Palamakia (K &amp; 1:00 PM Asteria (2nd &amp; 3 more...)</div>	<div>5 10:00 AM Young Children's Playdate 6:00 PM Great Vespers—Feast of St. Photios 7:00 PM AHEPA Board Meeting 7:30 PM Coed Volleyball Night</div>	<div>6 Feast of the Holy Hierarchs 9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 10:45 AM Kafention 11:30 AM Prime Timers' Meeting 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 6:30 PM HT Academy 7:00 PM Boy's Basketball 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Intro to Orthodoxy</div>	<div>7 10:00 AM Bible Study (GOYA) 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:00 PM Parish Life Ministry Meeting 7:00 PM Youth Education and Culture Committee 7:00 PM Bible Study</div>	<div>8 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies Advanced Course 6:30 PM Men's Recreational Basketball 7:00 PM Philoptochos Board Meeting</div>	<div>9 6:00 PM Great Vespers for the 1st Saturday of the Souls</div>	<div>10 Feast of the Holy Hierarchs 8:45 AM Orthros—First Saturday of the Souls 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy—First Saturday of the Souls 7:00 PM Great Vespers 6:00 PM Apokriatiko Glendi</div>
<div>11 Sunday of the Fast... 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Catechism 11:40 AM A Memorial Service 11:45 AM A three year 12:15 PM Parish Assembly 12:30 PM Palamakia (K &amp; 12:30 PM Pitsirikia (Pre-K) and 5 more...</div>	<div>12 Feast of the Holy Hierarchs 9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Young Children's Playdate 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 7:30 PM Coed Volleyball Night</div>	<div>13 10:45 AM Kafention 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Intro to Orthodoxy Class 7:00 PM Festival Committee Chair Meeting 7:00 PM Boy's Basketball Practice</div>	<div>14 Valentine's Day 10:00 AM Bible Study (GOYA) 7:00 PM Bible Study Youth Group</div>	<div>15 4:00 PM Prime Timers' Movie Night 6:30 PM Men's Recreational Basketball 7:00 PM Festival Board Meeting</div>	<div>16 4:00 PM Parish Council Retreat 6:00 PM Great Vespers for the 2nd Saturday of the Souls</div>	<div>17 Saturday of the Souls 8:45 AM Orthros 9:00 AM Parish Council Retreat 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM Great Vespers</div>
<div>18 Cheesefare Sunday 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Catechism 12:30 PM Philoptochos General Meeting 5:00 PM Vespers of Forgiveness</div>	<div>19 Clean Monday/Beginning of Lent Presidents' Day 10:00 AM Young Children's Playdate 5:30 PM Pantry Distribution 6:00 PM Great Compline 7:30 PM Coed Volleyball Night</div>	<div>20 No Classes—Hello, Winter! 10:45 AM Kafention 4:30 PM Rental: Les Martirios of Atlanta</div>	<div>21 5:45 PM Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 7:00 PM Lenten Dinner/Presentation/Discussion 7:00 PM Youth Group (GOYA)</div>	<div>22 11:30 AM Soup Kitchen (Philoptochos) 6:00 PM Great Compline 6:30 PM Philoptochos Book Club 6:30 PM Men's Recreational Basketball</div>	<div>23 7:00 PM First Salutation to the Theotokos</div>	<div>24 Saturday of the Holy Hierarchs 9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM Great Vespers</div>
<div>25 First Sunday of the Fast... 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy—12:30 PM Pitsirikia (Pre-K) 12:30 PM Palamakia (K &amp; 1:00 PM Asteria (2nd &amp; 1:00 PM Petaloudes (4th &amp; 1:30 PM Eletheria (High 1:30 PM Phoenix (Middle 6:00 PM Pan-Orthodox</div>	<div>26 10:00 AM Young Children's Playdate 6:00 PM Great Compline 7:30 PM Coed Volleyball Night</div>	<div>27 10:00 AM Festival Cooking (Keftefides) 10:45 AM Kafention 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 6:30 PM Parish Council Meeting</div>	<div>28 5:45 PM Feast of St. Cassian: Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 7:00 PM Lenten Dinner/Presentation/Discussion 7:00 PM Youth Group (GOYA)</div>	<div>1 11:00 AM Agiasmos—the Blessing of the Waters 6:00 PM Great Compline 6:30 PM Men's Recreational Basketball 7:00 PM Festival Board Meeting</div>	<div>2 8:00 AM Philoptochos Lenten Retreat/General Meeting 5:00 PM Great Vespers</div>	<div>3 8:00 AM Philoptochos Lenten Retreat/General Meeting 5:00 PM Great Vespers</div>



# HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Web Page: [www.mariettagreekfestival.org](http://www.mariettagreekfestival.org)

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

Rev. Fr. George Pallas, Protopresbyter

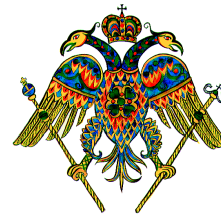
Rev. Fr. Paul Lundberg, Presbyter

Rev. Fr. John Brown, Presbyter

Anne Willcocks, Parish Administrator

Michael Gavalas, Liturgical & Facilities Support

Iancu Nica, Sexton



Scan to view our Website

DATE	PC DUTY	ACOLYTES	GREETERS	PROSFORO	USHERS
2/4	T. Bliss/D. Koutouzis	St. James	C. Vlahiotis/B. Valagohar	P. Christopher/C. Costarides/M. Driscoll	T. Argentis/D. Botni/K. Johnson/M. Strakes
2/11	D. Christopher/D. Vlahiotis	St. John	D. Poradzisz/M. Zavala	I. Dymond/N. Kakissis/I. Michaels	I. & J. Dymond/ R. Peppas/B. Reid
2/18	P. Markley/S. Tingas	St. Peter	I. and J. Dymond	E. Kay/P. Koutouzis/ L. Lopos	S. Kargas/K. & A. Lilly/ M. Zavala
2/25	M. Jacobs/J. Papastrat	St. James	P. Koutouzis/S. Linebaugh	S. Gianaris/J. Miltiades/M. Miltiades	P. Bilson/E. Nikolas/C. Sprouse/A. Zakreski

## **St. James Altar Servers:** Captain-Gabriel Mavromatidis

Chris Bridgers, Evan Bilson, Andrew Bourgeois, Aaron Brown, Matthew Buchan, Constantine Gavalas, Alex Goldsholl, Jack Goldsholl, Yianni Gormanos, Gabriel Hennenfent, Kris Kollias, Nicholas Levantis, Nicholas Lukens, Jeremy Mavromatidis, Jacob Mavromatidis, Aubrey Moraitakis, George Moraitakis, Angelo Nichols, Matthew Paulson, Angelos Powell, Mitchell Starks, Niko Tiller.

## **St. John Altar Servers:** Captain-Matthew Azimzadeh

Christopher Alberts, Steven Ardagna, Andrew Bass, Theo Bliss, Anthony Bundros, Christian Coleman, Carter Copses, Jay Copses, Mason Copses, Nick Danos, Cole Foster, Alex Gekas, Kaleb Hotnog, William Jansma, Alexander Morgan, Tommy O'Brien, Evan Papadopoulos, Alexander Thorne, Braden Thorne, Csaba Wagner, Romeo Wagner

## **St. Peter Altar Servers:** Captain-Morgan Lilly

Zach Bethune, Hal Bradford, III, Brody Brooks, Yianni Costarides, Nicholas Demakis, Manuel Frangis, Stephen Harrah, Zayne Isaac, Luke Melissas, Alek Nikolich, Matthew Shanahan, Evan Strakes, Michael Tsogas, Leo Tzavaras, Ted Tzavaras, Gianni Vacratsas, Stefano Vacratsas, Michael Vastakis, Panayiotis Vlachos.

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