

SYNDIAKONIA

THE MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF THE

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΜΕΤΑΜΟΡΦΩΣΕΩΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ

Marietta, GA

SEPTEMBER 2018



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

Parish Administrator: 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 John Brown, Protopresbyter

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/>

A GATE TO HEAVEN



Our parish of Holy Transfiguration has been very blessed. We have been able to build up our facilities and expanded them to serve us better. We have upgraded the older ones and raised up new ones. We are now expanding the land footprint of the parish thinking ahead for the future needs and future ministries.

But, is Holy Transfiguration just about land and buildings? Is Christianity just about erecting more structures on this earth? Is Orthodoxy just about land and edifices?

No, it is not! These buildings are tools to accomplish the Work of God on this earth.

The ultimate purpose of the Church is to build up the temple of God in each one of us. It is about building upon the foundation of

the Faith of the Apostles. We are the inheritors of the tradition of Faith established by the Apostles, the disciples of Jesus Christ. The Apostles are the witnesses of the miracles and teachings of Jesus who transmitted these experiences to the world in what we know as the Orthodox Faith. This Faith in Christ our God constitutes the best foundation for humanity: *"For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ"*. (1Cor 3:11)

We had found a bedrock at the corner of our property and upon this rock we built the foundation for the new edifice. With regard to Faith, we have found the rock that is none other than Jesus Christ and we are building *"upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone"*. (Eph. 2:20)

As a group of people, as a parish which represents the most ancient form of Christianity, we need to be building up ourselves with Christ as our bedrock in order to withstand the "earthquakes", "floods" and "hurricanes" of a world gone crazy. This personal construction begins in the worship services and especially in the Divine Liturgy. That is the place and time when we allow ourselves to become available to the Grace of God. We need to allow the Lord to build us up and make us strong. "Unless the Lord build the house those who build it labor in vain." (Psalm 127:1)

Invoking the Grace of God, we need to make sure that we are utilizing all means and tools (including land and buildings) in order to build up our people in *"the image and likeness of God"*. We will do this by filling these buildings on a daily basis with both children and adults who are learning the Faith, worshipping our Risen Lord and establishing strong connections with each other, with God and with the mother Church that nourishes them. These new buildings are a sacred platform to be used for the preparation of our people to enter the Kingdom of God; *these buildings are a gate to Heaven*.

This is a community effort. This is a project that looks to the future, providing opportunities for salvation and perfection to countless generations for many years to come. Let's *give Glory to God for allowing us this privilege to be part of His work on earth*.

In Christ's Love,





3431 Trickum Road

Marietta, GA 30066

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

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

September 2018

September 1, Saturday, Beginning of Ecclesiastical Year

Morning: Blessing of the Water 11:00 am.

Evening: Great Vespers 5:00 pm

September 2, Sunday, Fourteenth Sunday of Matthew

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

September 7, Friday Evening, Great Vespers for the Nativity of the Theotokos 6:00 pm

September 8, Saturday, The Nativity of the Theotokos

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

Saturday Evening, Great Vespers 5:00 pm

September 9, Sunday, Sunday Before the Elevation of the Holy Cross

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

September 13, Thursday Evening, Great Vespers for Elevation of Holy Cross 6:00 pm

September 14, Friday, The Universal Elevation of the Precious and Lifegiving Cross

Orthros 8:45 am & Divine Liturgy 10:00 am. *Today we hold a Strict Fast*

September 15, Saturday Evening, Great Vespers 5:00 pm

September 16, Sunday, Sunday after the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross

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

September 22, Saturday, Great Vespers 5:00 pm

September 23, Sunday, First Sunday of Luke

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

Evening: Great Vespers 5:00 pm

September 25, Tuesday Evening: Great Vespers for St. John the Evangelist 6:00 pm

September 26, Wednesday, The Falling Asleep of St. John the Evangelist and Theologian

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

September 29, Saturday, NO Vespers today

September 30, Sunday, Second Sunday of Luke - St. Gregory the Illuminator of Georgia

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

ON HUMILITY AND REPENTANCE

Humility should not be confused with weakness of mind. It is, rather, the desire to not be arrogant. Humility is exhibited when one lowers himself in order to help the other climb higher. It is the act of helping others improve themselves by accepting them where they are and lifting them up.

A New Saint for the Orthodox Church

ELDER AMPHILOCHIOS MAKRIS IS CANONIZED



The Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate resolved to canonize Elder Amphilochios (Makris) of Patmos (1889-1970) at its working session on Wednesday, August 29, 2018, reports **Fos Fanariou**.

Elder Amphilochios was a monk of the St. John the Theologian Monastery on the island of Patmos, where St. John the Evangelist received the Divine revelation, which became the Book of Revelation. The elder also served as the abbot of the monastery. He also established women's monasteries and an orphanage. He is one of the most beloved elders of the 20th century.

<http://basilica.ro/en/elder-amphilochios-makris-canonized-by-ecumenical-patriarchate/>

Elder Amphilochios has marked with his presence, faith and love the island of Patmos where he served as the abbot of the Monastery of St. John the Theologian for many years and was instrumental in the founding of the Monastery of the Annunciation for women on Patmos where he also established an orphanage for girls.

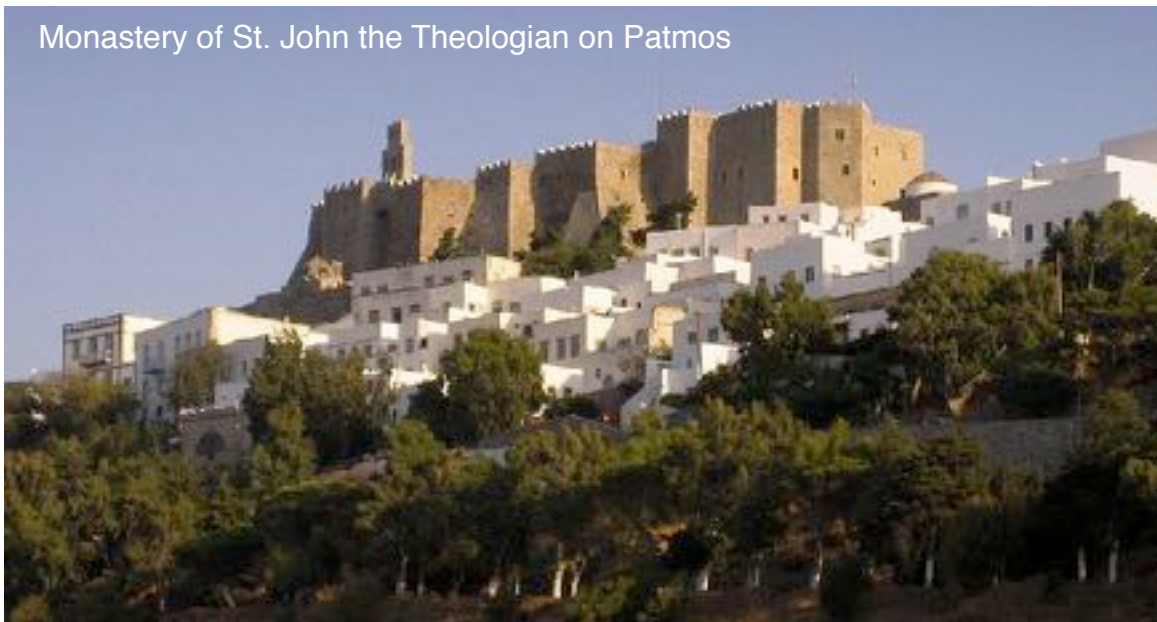
He was a disciple and friend of St. Nektarios of Aegina and the teacher and spiritual father of several prominent hierarchs of the 20th and 21st centuries including Metropolitan Kallistos Ware who testifies that his conversion to Orthodox Christianity was greatly affected by his encounter with Elder Amphilochios.

Elder Amphilochios was a great champion of Orthodox education and helped establish several Orthodox Schools on the Dodecanese islands during the Italian occupation when the Greeks were pressured to become Roman Catholic, thus helping them to preserve their Hellenic and Orthodox identity through education.

He was also a proponent of Orthodox missions and participated himself in missions in Africa.

He reposed on the island of Patmos on April 16, 1970 and is buried at the Monastery of the Annunciation on Patmos, which he helped establish.

Monastery of St. John the Theologian on Patmos



The Birth of the Virgin Mary the Blessed Theotokos Celebrated on September 8

On September 8 we celebrate the birth of Mary the Virgin Theotokos, the one who gave birth to our God and Savior Jesus Christ.

This is an important feast of the Church because the birth of the Virgin marks the beginning of our salvation. She was chosen by God among all women to bear His Son, and thus participate in the process of salvation of all humanity. She was chosen from among all women because of her faith and obedience to God. She has become an example for all of us to follow. This is one of the reasons she is honored by the Church and raised up for us to see. She is Blessed among women because the fruit of her womb is blessed.

HYMN OF THE FEAST

Your birth, O Theotokos, has brought joy to all the inhabited earth: for from you has shone forth the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. He has loosed us from the curse and given the blessing; He has made death of no effect, and bestowed on us eternal life.



The Birth of the Theotokos

The Elevation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

Celebrated on September 14

On September 14th, Orthodox Christians throughout the world commemorate the Elevation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross.

This feast commemorates the discovery of the Holy Cross of Christ by St. Helena in 325 A.D. and also the recovery of it in 628 A.D. by Emperor Heraclius after it was stolen by the Persians when they plundered Jerusalem in 614.

This is a very solemn day as we remember the sacrifice of the Lord for us. This is why we keep a **strict fast on this day**. This is the second most solemn day of the Church calendar after Holy Friday.

HYMN OF THE FEAST

“Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting our rulers to prevail over adversaries, and protecting Your commonwealth by Your Cross.”



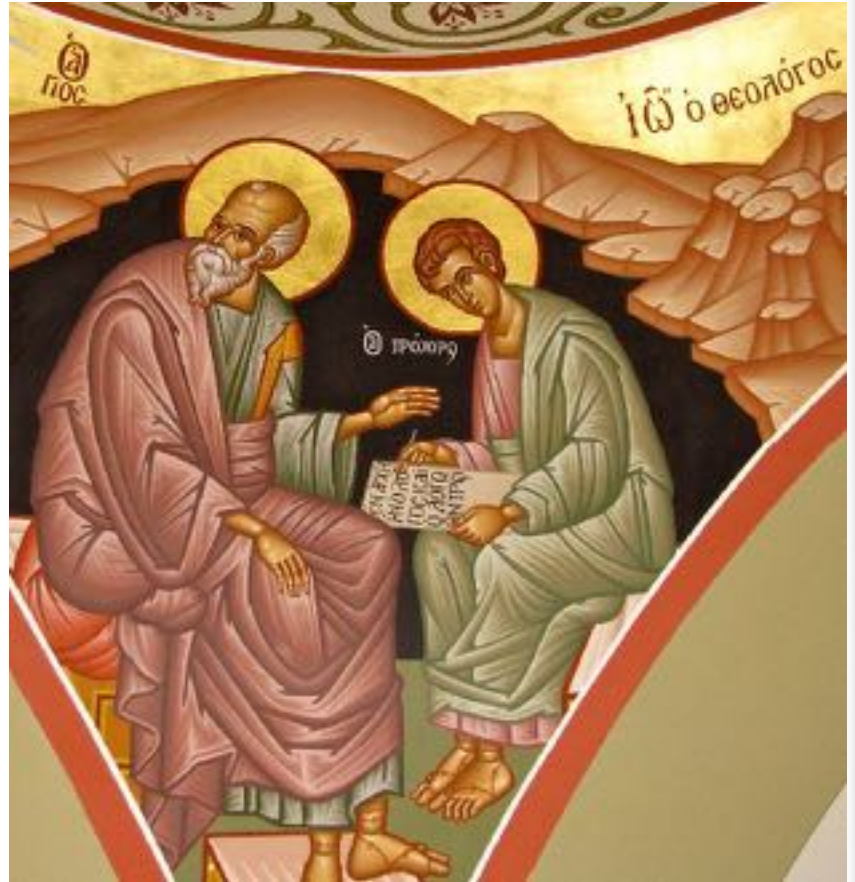
The Elevation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross



The Falling Asleep of St. John the Evangelist and Theologian

Commemorated on September 26

This Apostle John was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and was the son of Zebedee and Salome, the brother of James the elder and the nephew of our Savior, since his mother was the daughter of St Joseph the Betrothed. First a fisherman by trade, he became an Apostle and the beloved Disciple of Christ. The behavior of the two brothers, John and James, revealed their fiery nature, strong zeal and great faith for which they earned the name from Christ "Boanerges" that is "Sons of Thunder" (Mark 3:17). Only John of all the disciples followed Christ even to the Cross, and was entrusted with the care of our Savior's Mother. After this, he preached throughout Asia Minor, especially in Ephesus. When the second persecution against the Christians began in the year 96 during the reign of Domitian, he was taken in bonds to Rome, and there was cast into a vat filled with boiling oil. Emerging unharmed, he was then exiled to the island of Patmos,



where he wrote the Book of Revelation. He returned again to Ephesus after the death of the tyrant, and wrote his Gospel (after the other Evangelists had already written theirs) and his three Epistles. He instructed the Christians to guard against false teachers and their erroneous teachings. He called for all Christians to love the Lord and one another, and by this to fulfill the commands of Christ. The Church calls St John the "Apostle of Love", since he constantly taught that without love man cannot come near to God. When he was well advanced in years he used to be carried to the gatherings of the believers and only gave them very short sermons saying, "My children, love one another."

When it was time for his departure, he went out beyond the city limits of Ephesus with his disciples and their families. He bade them prepare for him a cross-shaped grave telling his disciples that they should cover him over with the soil. The disciples tearfully kissed their beloved teacher, and not wanting to be disobedient, they fulfilled his bidding. They covered the face of the saint with a cloth and filled in the grave. Learning of this, other disciples of St John came to the place of his burial, but when they opened the grave, they found it empty. In all, he lived ninety five years and fell asleep in the Lord during the reign of Trajan in the year 100.

He was called the Theologian because he loftily expounded in his Gospel the theology of the inexpressible and eternal birth of the Son of the Word of God the Father. An eagle is depicted in his icon, for it is the symbol of the lofty heights of his theological thought and is one of the four symbolic living creatures that the Prophet Ezekiel saw (Ezek. 1:10).

Apolytikion in the Second Tone

Beloved Apostle of Christ our God, hasten to deliver a people without defense. He who permitted you to recline upon His bosom, accepts you on bended knee before Him. Beseech Him, O Theologian, to dispel the persistent cloud of nations, asking for us peace and great mercy.

Introduction to the Orthodox Church

The "Intro to Orthodoxy" Class, will meet every Tuesday at 7:00 pm in St. Basil's Conference Room.

The new cycle of the class will begin on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Please call the church office and register with Anne.

This class is not only for those who are entering the Orthodox Church, but is also beneficial to everyone who wants to refresh their knowledge of the Faith and continue to learn new things.

Topics addressed in the Class:

1. Sources of the Christian Faith - Our roots
2. History of Christianity - Our path of Faith
3. Holy Sacraments - Tapping into Divine Grace
4. Orthodox Spirituality - The Mystical Life
5. Holy Icons - Windows into Heaven
6. Orthodox Worship - Divine Liturgy

For any further questions, please speak with Fr. Panayiotis.



Where the Kingdom of God is made manifest!



St. Paul on the road to Damascus

Bible Study:

The Epistles to the Corinthians

*Every Wednesday at 10:00 am
and 7:00 pm*

Starting September 5, 2018

Join us in

St. Basil's Conference Room.

*Read and discuss the Word of God
from an Early Christian Patristic
Perspective!*

*We use the Orthodox Study Bible,
available at our Bookstore.*

*Supplemental Readings will also be suggested
during the course of the study.*

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - SEPTEMBER

9/1/2018	Saturday:	I Timothy 2:1-7		Luke 4:16-22
9/2/2018	Sunday:	Mark 16:9-20	II Corinthians 1:21-24;2:1-4	Matthew 22:2-14
9/3/2018	Monday:	Galatians 2:11-16		Mark 5:24-34
9/4/2018	Tuesday:	Galatians 2:21;3:1-7		Mark 6:1-7
9/5/2018	Wednesday:	Galatians 3:15-22		Matthew 23:29-39
9/6/2018	Thursday:	Hebrews 2:2-10		Luke 10:16-21
9/7/2018	Friday:	Galatians 4:8-21		Mark 6:45-53
9/8/2018	Saturday:	Luke 1:39-49, 56	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28
9/9/2018	Sunday:	Luke 24:1-12	Galatians 6:11-18	John 3:13-17
9/10/2018	Monday:	Galatians 4:28-31;5:1-10		John 3:16-21
9/11/2018	Tuesday:	Galatians 5:11-21		John 12:19-36
9/12/2018	Wednesday:	Galatians 6:2-10		John 11:47-54
9/13/2018	Thursday:	Hebrews 3:1-4		John 12:25-26
9/14/2018	Friday:	John 12:28-36	1 Corinthians 1:18-24	John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30
9/15/2018	Saturday:	Colossians 1:24-29, 2:1		John 8:21-30
9/16/2018	Sunday:	Luke 24:13-35	Galatians 2:16-20	Mark 8:34-38; 9:1
9/17/2018	Monday:	Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:1-3		Luke 3:19-22
9/18/2018	Tuesday:	Ephesians 2:19-22; 3:1-7		Luke 3:23-38, 4:1
9/19/2018	Wednesday:	Ephesians 3:8-21		Luke 4:1-15
9/20/2018	Thursday:	Ephesians 6:10-17		Luke 21:12-19
9/21/2018	Friday:	Ephesians 4:17-25		Luke 4:22-30
9/22/2018	Saturday:	I Corinthians 14:20-25		Luke 4:31-36
9/23/2018	Sunday:	Luke 24:36-53	Galatians 4:22-27	Luke 5:1-11
9/24/2018	Monday:	Luke 1:39-49, 56	II Timothy 3:10-15	Luke 5:12-16
9/25/2018	Tuesday:	Ephesians 5:20-25		Luke 5:12-16
9/26/2018	Wednesday:	John 21:14-25	I John 4:12-19	John 19:25-27; 21:24-25
9/27/2018	Thursday:	Ephesians 5:33; 6:1-9		Luke 6:12-19
9/28/2018	Friday:	II Corinthians 4:6-15		Luke 6:17-23
9/29/2018	Saturday:	Galatians 5:22-26; 6:1-2		Luke 5:17-26
9/30/2018	Sunday:	John 20:1-10	II Corinthians 9:6-11	Luke 6:31-36



STEWARDSHIP CORNER



Stewardship Message

One day, a person complained to his priest that the Church and Christianity is one continual “give, give, give.” To which the priest replied, “Thank you very much for the finest definition of Christianity I have ever heard. You’re right, Christianity is all about a constant “give, give, give.” God giving His only Son to the world to show His unconditional love. His Son Jesus giving His life on the cross to forgive our sins and destroy death. Then our Lord’s disciples giving all they had to make sure God’s Good News of love was preached to all people everywhere. They not only gave away their homes and businesses, but even gave up their lives as martyrs in gratitude to God!

In 2018, we have received 348 pledges. Thank you to the families who have submitted their 2018 Membership/Stewardship Pledge.

Our 2018 Membership/Stewardship goal is to receive **400** Membership/Stewardship Pledges. We have a long way to go to reach this goal and need everyone’s support. We are currently 52 pledges behind our 2018 goal. Please turn in your 2018 Pledge card as soon as possible.



It is offering our blessings back to God that He will be able to continue His forgiving, healing, liberating, empowering, transfiguring, loving ministry through the Church. For God, Infinite though He is, has chosen to work through us, through our gifts, to continue His saving work in the world today.

Fr. Anthony M. Coniaris

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

You are a Member of the Church!

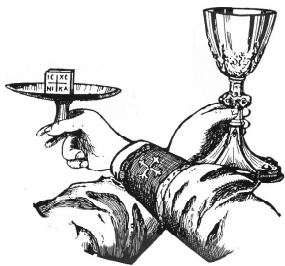
Are you a Steward also?

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

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

How can one be a member of the Parish?

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



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

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

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

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

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

The Necessity of Stewardship

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

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

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

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



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. Chuck Agne
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Alberts
Mr. Panayiotis Antoniadis
Ms. Toulia Argenti
Mr. & Mrs. John Asimakos
Mr. & Mrs. John Asprakis
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Azimzadeh
Ms. Eleni Bafas
Mr. & Mrs. Tom 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. Danut Batin
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. Aaron Bourgeois
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Bourgeois
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Bournias
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Bourquin
Mr. & Mrs. Hal Bradford
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bridgers
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Brown
Mr. & Mrs. John Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Olen Bruce
Ms. Anne Bruno
Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Buchan
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bundros
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Burke
Ms. Melina Burke
Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Bylos
Mr. Cosmon Bylos
Mr. & Mrs. John Cacavias
Mr. & Mrs. George Caras
Mr. George Caras, III
Ms. Katerina Caravas
Ms. Katina Cacavias
Ms. Naomi Cardoso
Ms. Helen A. Carlos
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Carlos
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Castro
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Catrakilis

Ms. Anna Ceisel
Ms. Maria Ceisel
Ms. Mary Chiotellis
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Christopher
Mr. & Mrs. Grigorios
Chryssopoulos
Mrs. Eleni Clement
Mr. Charles Coleman
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Comsudes
Ms. Elizabeth Cook
Mrs. Cherie Cookorinis-O'Connell
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Copses
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Cordes
Ms. Athena Costarides
Ms. Cathy Costarides
Ms. Margaret Csonka
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Cunane
Dr. Despina Dalton
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Davis
Ms. Judith Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Demakis
Ms. Eleni Dody
Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Doulgerakis
Mr. & Mrs. John Doulgerakis
Mrs. Marty Driscoll
Mr. & Mrs. Cedric Dunkerly
Ms. Katina Dunkerly
Ms. Diana Dusa
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Duvlaris
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Dvorak
Mr. & Mrs. John Dymond
Ms. Marilyn Eleftheriou
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Elias
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Farrey
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Foster
Ms. Karen Fox
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. Nick Gavalas
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Gavalas
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Georgacopoulos
Mr. Philip George
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Gess
Ms. Stephanie Gianaris
Ms. Martha Gingles
Mr. Luke Gledhill
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Goldsholl
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Gormanos
Mr. & Mrs. Tanyo Gospodinov
Miss Kayla Graham
Miss Anca Guvir

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Hansard
Mr. & Mrs. George Haritatos
Mr. & Mrs. Kelly Harrah
Mr. Patrick Hartnett
Mrs. Ann Hayes
Mrs. Rosemary Hendrix
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Hendrix
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Herbert
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hondras
Ms. Diana Honey
Mr. Troy Horton
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Houstoulakis
Mr. Steve Houvardas
Ms. Sheila Howington
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hutt
Mrs. Tina Isaac
Ms. Kim Ivanoff
Miss Katie Jacobs
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Jacobs
Mr. Paul Jacobs
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Jansma
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Johansen
Mr. Kurk Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Radostin Jordanov
Ms. Angoleta Kalouris
Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Kapsalis
Dr. & Mrs. George Kargas
Dr. & Mrs. Steve Kargas
Mr. & Mrs. David Kay
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kipreos
Mrs. Irene Kipreos
Mr. & Mrs. Manolis Kipreos
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Kipreos
Mr. Steve 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. Vasilios Konstantinos
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
Mrs. Leah Koutsoukalis
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kwiatkowski
Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Ladas
Mr. & Mrs. Justin Lane
Ms. Christine Lavey
Mr. Blake Lawson
Mrs. Elyse Lawson
Ms. Anna Lerios
Ms. Maria Levantis



MEMBERSHIP/STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES FOR 2018

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Mr. & Mrs. Stamatis Levantis
Mr. & Mrs. Smith Levenson
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Lilly
Mr. & Mrs. David Linebaugh
Miss Maria Linebaugh
Miss Sophia Linebaugh
Mr. Drew Logothetis
Mr. & Mrs. Elton Longshore
Mr. & Mrs. George Lopos
Mr. & Mrs. David Lukens
Fr. Paul Lundberg
Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios
Lymberopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Macris
Mrs. Eftichia Macris
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Mallie
Ms. Andrea Mancil
Mr. & Mrs. Panagiotis Maniatis
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Marianos
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Maridakis
Mr. Bobis Markatos
Ms. Klio Markatos-Henderson
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Markley
Mrs. Xanthippe Marsico
Miss Alexandra Matthews
Mr. George Matthews
Mr. & Mrs. Filipos Mavromatidis
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Mavromatidis
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mayk
Mr. & Mrs. Francis McAteer
Mr. & Mrs. John McCarty
Mrs. Sophia McClurd
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn McCollum
Mr. & Mrs. Michael McLean
Mr. & Mrs. John McQueary
Mr. Andrew Melissas
Dr. & Mrs. Adam Mellis
Mr. & Mrs. George Mermigkas
Mr. & Mrs. Panayiotis Michael
Ms. Ioanna Michaels
Mr. & Mrs. Alex Miltiades
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Miltiades
Mr. & Mrs. Demetri Miltiades
Mrs. Athena Missen
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Modenos
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 Nakos
Mr. & Mrs. George Nasr
Mr. & Mrs. Costa Neocleous
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Niarchos
Miss Maria Niarchos
Miss Sofia Niarchos
Mr. Iancu Nica
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Nicholaou
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Nicholas

Mr. & Mrs. Marc Nichols
Mr. & Mrs. Spiro Nicolopoulos
Ms. Eleni Nikolas
Mr. & Mrs. Michael O'Brien
Mr. & Mrs. Bill O'Connor
Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Opdyke
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Pallas
Fr. & Mrs. George Pallas
Mr. Tasi Pallas
Mr. & Mrs. Nikolai Panov
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Pantelis
Mr. & Mrs. Konstantine
Papadimitriou
Mr. & Mrs. Aristotle Papadopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Papadopoulos
Miss Olympia Papageorgiou
Fr. & Mrs. Panayiotis Papageorgiou
Mr. Stratis Papageorgiou
Mr. & Mrs. Jon Papastrat
Dr. Maria Paradisis
Mr. & Mrs. Casey Pater
Mr. & Mrs. Panayiotis Patrikakis
Mr. Alex Paulson
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Paulson
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Paulson
Mr. & Mrs. Keath Paxten
Mr. & Mrs. George Pentzakis
Mr. & Mrs. John Peppas
Ms. Soteria Perry
Mr. & Mrs. William Pettas
Mr. & Mrs. Brandon Pittman
Mr. & Mrs. Todd Poradzisz
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Porter
Mrs. Poly Potter
Ms. Maria Poulos
Mr. & Mrs. Francesco Quinterno
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Reale
Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Reid
Dr. & Mrs. Lambros Rigas
Mr. & Mrs. David Roberts
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Rogers
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Rury
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Sampanes
Miss Christina Sarmir
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Sarmir
Miss Alexa Sarmir
Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Sarris
Mr. & Mrs. George Sarris
Mr. & Mrs. Bojidar Savov
Mr. & Mrs. Gheorghe Schipor
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Schumacher
Mrs. Andigone Seraphim
Mr. Mike Serkedakis
Mr. & Mrs. Vasileios Sfyris
Mr. & Mrs. David Shelby
Mr. & Mrs. Taka Shoji
Mr. Costas Simoglou
Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Simpson
Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Skarpelis
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sklikas

Mr. & Mrs. Manning Smith
Ms. Marcy Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Alton Sotir-Simms
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri Soulios
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Spanos
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Sprouse
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas St. Clair
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Starks
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Steffas
Mrs. Mary Stiakakis
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Strakes
Mrs. Connie Stratigos
Mr. & Mrs. Brett Strauch
Mr. & Mrs. Stoyan Sugarliev
Mr. & Mrs. John Szwast
Mr. & Mrs. Zacharias Taoushiani
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Tassopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Ovidiu Teodorescu
Mr. & Mrs. John Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Thorne
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Tidwell
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Tiller, Jr.
Ms. Maria Tingas
Mr. Steve Tingas
Mr. Athan Tsarouhas
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Tsoukalas
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Tucker
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Turner
Mr. George Tzortzinakis
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Vachtsevanos
Drs. George & Athena
Vachtsevanos
Mr. & Mrs. Stavros Vacratsas
Ms. Becky Valagohar
Mr. & Mrs. Plutarch Vamvakias
Mr. Gregory Vassiliou
Mr. & Mrs. Luigi Vattelana
Ms. Maria Vatzakas
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Vatzakas
Mr. & Mrs. Theodoros Vatzakas
Mr. & Mrs. Vaios Vlachos
Mr. & Mrs. Danny Vlahiotis
Dr. Phillip Vodas
Mr. Tim Vouloupos
Mr. Julian Wade
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Waggoner
Mr. & Mrs. Marc Westmoreland
Mr. Benjamin Whitener
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Whiteside
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Worden
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Xanthakis
Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Yiannovits
Ms. Eleftheria (Rita) Young
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Young
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Zakreski
Mr. & Mrs. Marco Zavala
Mrs. Angela Ziros
Ms. Eleftheria Zoheir

Total: 348

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"The Choir of Holy Transfiguration is Building for the Future"



We are looking for a qualified individual to begin training as The Assistant Choir Director. Our Future is Bright and we need to Start NOW to pass the torch to keep our wonderful spiritual ministry tradition alive and thriving for years to come.

If you are interested or know of someone that is interested in this Fantastic Opportunity, please contact Demetri Miltiades either by email or phone listed below:

miltiadesdc@gmail.com

404-213-4220

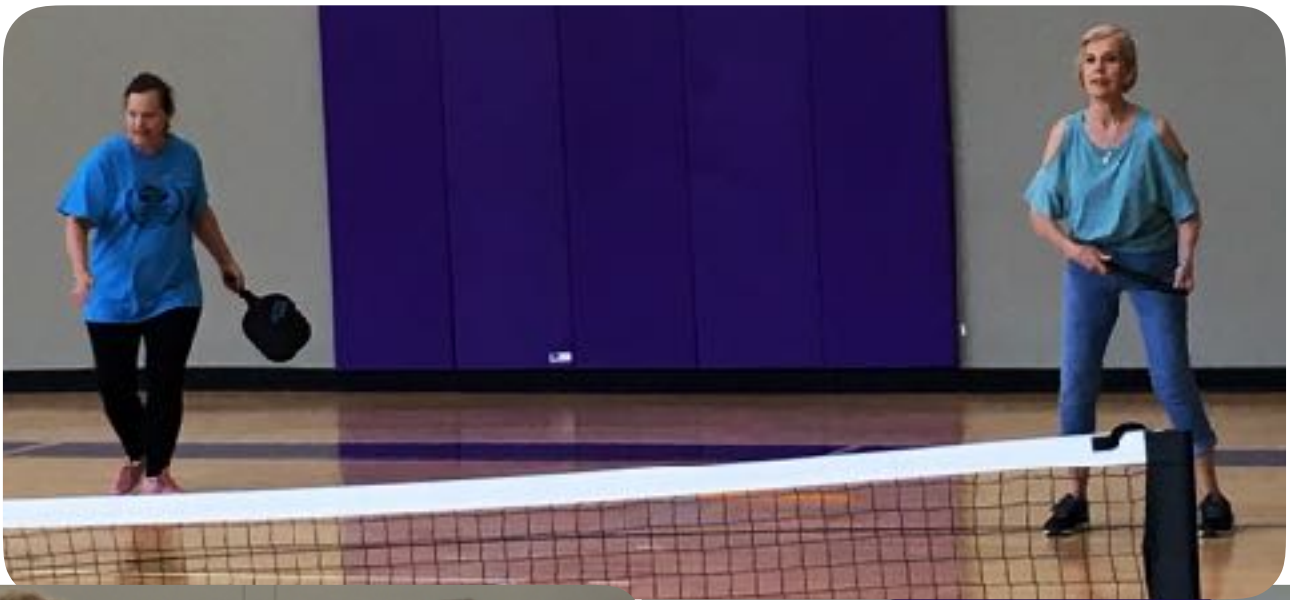


pick·le·ball
/'pik(ə)l,bôl/
noun

a game resembling tennis in which players use paddles to hit a perforated plastic ball over a net.

Holy Transfiguration Pickleball is off to a great start. Our group has grown to nearly 12 in the last few months. We play from 10:30am to 12:00pm on Tuesdays. All ages and abilities are welcome. It's not necessary to have a paddle, but be sure to wear shoes with rubber soles. Come join us for a good time! Contact Kathy Shoji, 678-923-5232, kvshoji@bellsouth.net, or the church office for more information.





HELLENIC DANCE

THANK YOU

Our Dance Workshop was a great success and many thanks are in order: Thank you to Dr. Christos Papakostas for sharing his wisdom and knowledge of our beautiful culture and dancing with us with such an open and kind heart. Thank you to John Tiliacos, Nick Tiliacos, Helen Tiliacos, and Irene Tiliacos with **Come 'N Get It Restaurant** for providing a wonderful meal and for all your support. Thank you to all of the dance instructors who supported their students by participating in this event. Thank you to all of the dance parents who helped set up and serve lunch for everyone. And last but not least, thank you to all the dancers who came and spent the day dancing and learning and to their parents who brought them to the workshop.



HELLENIC DANCE

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th: after Divine Liturgy, PARENT MEETING, downstairs for all those interested in participating in HDF and for information about performing and volunteering for the Folk Dance Exhibition. There will be an additional parent meeting on SUNDAY, SEPT. 16TH. If you cannot make either date, please feel free to contact Paulina Vastakis with any questions you may have. Paulinasox3@att.net or text 678-294-4262.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 6-9 p.m.: FOLK DANCE EXHIBITION-- This is a new fundraiser for this year. We have invited folk dancers from other international groups to perform a selection of their dances. We will sell tickets at the door here at our amphitheater. We need many dance families to come and volunteer from about 4-10 p.m. We will need help selling admission tickets, selling drinks, assisting and directing the visiting folk dance groups, set up, and clean up. Our own middle and high school dancers will perform. If you would like to help with any of the volunteer areas, please email mariettahellenicdance@gmail.com.

TRAVEL GROUP "TROUPE ELEFThERIA": We have been invited to dance at various Greek events in the GA and NC areas. The travel group is for dancers in 6th grade and UP. Events:

1. SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1st

Agia Vlaherna Association's Labor Day Panigyri
Charlotte, NC

2. SATURDAY/SUNDAY OCTOBER 20th & 21st

MACON GREEK FESTIVAL
Macon, GA

3. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd

Friends of Cyprus Event here in Marietta

Travel practices:

Sunday September 9th Time TBA, Practicing for Macon Greek Festival

Sunday September 16th Time TBA, Practicing for Macon Greek Festival

Sunday September 23rd, Time TBA, Practicing for Macon Greek Festival

Sunday September 30th, Time TBA, Practicing for Macon Greek Festival

Sunday October 7th, Time TBA, Practicing for Macon Greek Festival

Sunday October 14th, Time TBA, Practicing for Macon Greek Festival

Friday October 19th Time TBA, Practicing for Macon Greek Festival

Sunday October 28th, Time TBA, Practicing for Friends of Cyprus Event

Friday November 2nd Time TBA, Practicing for Friends of Cyprus Event

For questions, contact Despina Chrysosopoulos, chrysosopoulos.despina@gmail.com

HDF

HELLENIC DANCE FESTIVAL (HDF) Practice starts September 9th. The event will be in Atlanta, GA, during MLK, Jr. weekend, January 18th-21st, 2019. We plan to take four groups this year: Asteria, Petaloudes, Phoenix, and Eleftheria. If you have a dancer who is in 2nd grade or older and are interested in this event, please come to the parent meeting for more information.

Coffee Hour

Hellenic Dance will be hosting coffee hour on Nov. 11, 2018. Please note this date on your calendars and plan to volunteer. Sign ups for what to bring and do will be forthcoming.

If you would like to be added to the HDM email list, please send a message to

mariettahellenicdance@gmail.com. You can also like and follow us on Facebook under "Holy Transfiguration Marietta Greek Dancers" for more information and updates.

International Folk Dance Exhibition



Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018
6-9 p.m.

Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church Amphitheater
3431 Trickum Rd.
Marietta, GA 30066

Please join HTGOC Hellenic Dance Ministry and New American Pathways, a nonprofit organization in Atlanta that assists refugees and new immigrant families adjust and get settled in their new homeland, for a wonderful night of dance. This fundraiser is open to the public. Invite friends and family and plan to make a night of it!

We will see performances from Lithuania, Bulgaria, Romania, Pan-Africa, and Greece for sure! We are hoping for several other countries to join us still. If you have any connections with other folk dance groups, we would love to have them perform as well! Any questions, please contact the Hellenic Dance Ministry at mariettahellenicdance@gmail.com

*Cost: \$2 admission at the door

*Drinks available for purchase



HELLENIC STUDIES

2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

REGISTRATION

**Classes started, but it's not too late to register.
There is still room for you!**

Youth and Adult classes

Mondays and Wednesdays 5:30pm to 7:00pm

ELLINOMATHEIA ANNOUNCEMENT

We would like to recognize the following students for passing their exams this past May.
Congratulations on your achievement!

Level 1

Achilleas Galanis

Michael Vastakis

Sofia Marie O'Connell

Jaclyn Dvorak

Level A2

Ioannis-John Mermigkas

Anastasia Mermigka

Alexia Stathopoulos Yiannovits

SAVE THE DATE! OXI DAY

Greek National Holiday celebration and fundraiser
Sunday, October 28 after the Divine Liturgy

Please contact us at hellenicstudiesmarietta@gmail.com

HTGOC FOOD PANTRY

We will be having a ***Reverse Offering this month.*** On **September 9th**, we will pass out the trays following church services that will contain the index cards listing the grocery items we are in need of for the pantry. Your donations can be dropped off anytime between **September 10th thru Sunday, September 23rd.**

Due to the increase in rentals of the Parish Hall, we have decided we need to change our drop off station to the lower level PLC lobby. Our designated area will be behind the bar that is located in the entryway of our Sunday school classrooms. If you have *frozen items*, please *label* them (for Food Pantry) before putting them in the upper level PLC freezer.



The next Food Distribution Day will take place on Tuesday, September 25 from 5:30 – 6:30pm. Another Rummage Sale is scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 13, 8:30am – 2:00pm. We have plenty of clothing but could use more small appliances, furniture, lamps, bicycles, toys, home items. Please only bring items that are in like good condition and clean.

Special Event

Our food pantry has had a successful year thanks to all our parish families who contributed to our church pantry, and we want to especially thank our wonderful volunteers who worked so hard throughout the year to keep the pantry up and running.

We now want to name our pantry, and it would be appropriate to name the pantry after a Patron Saint. Father Panayiotis has recommended three saints that he felt would be appropriate to consider, since they are all known for caring and providing for the poor. We ask our entire parish family to participate and weigh in on which patron saint we should select. The three saints are:

- 1). St. Philothei of Athens
- 2). St. Olympias the Deaconess
- 3). St. John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria

*Father Panayiotis has provided a biography for each one of the three saints (see below) in order for you and your families to have the information needed to help you decide which saint should *be our pantry's Patron Saint*.

We will be emailing you a link in order for you to vote for the patron saint of your choice.

**ALL votes must be submitted by September 25th.*

St. Olympias the Deaconess

Feastday: July 25

St. Olympias was born in 361 AD into a wealthy family of high ranking in the Christian Roman Empire (probably in Constantinople). Her father was the senator Anicius Secundus and through her mother, Alexandroka, she was the granddaughter of the noted eparch Eulalios.

When Olympias was still very young, her parents betrothed her to a nobleman. The marriage was supposed to take place when Olympias reached the age of maturity. However, the bridegroom died before the wedding took place, and Olympias did not wish to enter into another marriage, preferring a life of virginity.

After the death of her parents, Olympias inherited great wealth. She then began to distribute this wealth to the poor and needy, the orphaned and the widowed. She was also very generous with her donations to the churches, monasteries, hospices, and shelters for the homeless. She established a hospital and a shelter for young orphaned girls and undertook their care and education. She also established a monastery for women where she resided, as well. All of her wealth was put to work for the benefit and comfort of the poor of Constantinople.

Because of her many philanthropic activities, she was appointed a deaconess by the holy Patriarch Nektarios (381-397). She would provide great assistance to the hierarchs of Constantinople as well as the visiting bishops from many places.

She became especially close to St. John Chrysostom, who was elevated to Archbishop of Constantinople on February 26 of 398. St. Chrysostom had high regard for Olympias and showed her goodwill and spiritual love. When Chrysostom was unjustly banished in 404 AD, Olympias and the other deaconesses (Pentadia, Proklia, and Salbina) were deeply upset. Eventually, Olympias was sent to exile because of her devotion to St. Chrysostom's innocence. St. John Chrysostom wrote to her several letters from his exile, consoling her in her sorrow.

St. John Chrysostom reposed on September 14, 407. Almost a year later, St. Olympias died in exile as well after a long illness somewhere in Nicomedia on July 25, 408. Shortly before her death, Olympias gave instructions that her remains be placed in a coffin and tossed into the sea, leaving her final resting place to divine providence. Her coffin was washed on the shores of Constantinople and she was interned in the Church of the Holy Apostle Thomas. Later her holy relics were brought to the monastery which she had established. Many miracles and healings occurred from her relics.



St. Philothei of Athens

Feastday: February 19

St. Philothei was born in Athens with the name Revoula on November 21, 1522 to an illustrious and wealthy family. Her parents were Angelos Venizelos and Syrigi Palaiologina, both from old Byzantine families. They had no children, but after fervent prayer her mother conceived and gave birth to a daughter, whom they named Revoula.

At the age of 14, Revoula was married against her will to the noble Andrea Chila, who mistreated her. When he died 3 years later in 1539, she was only 17, beautiful and wealthy and her parents insisted that she get remarried. Instead, she remained at home, spending much of her time in prayer. The family wealth gave her the opportunity for charitable work, and while still a young woman she had gained the respect and love of the Christian community of Athens.



When her parents died in 1549, Revoula found herself the owner of extensive holdings which she was to use exclusively for charitable work. She entered the monastic life taking the name Philothei and around 1551, she established a women's monastery dedicated to St. Andrew the Apostle. There the young nuns who flogged around her taught the girls of the community handiwork, weaving, housekeeping and cooking. In this way, she was preparing the young women who came to her for the domestic life.

Philothei is primarily remembered for her abundant philanthropy. Her monastery created a great deal of charity establishments both in Athens and on the islands of the Aegean Sea. Then, abbess Philothei proceeded to establish a second, more secluded monastery at Patesia. She also built hospices, homes for the elderly, and schools for the girls and boys of Athens.

One of her more controversial and dangerous activities she became involved in was the buying of the freedom of Greek Christians taken as slaves by the Ottoman Turks, especially of young women who had been taken to the harems as sex slaves of the wealthy Turks. She would offer shelter to the young women, especially some of whom that would be pregnant. She would then help them escape secretly from the pursuing Turks to the islands of Tzia, Andros, Aegina and Salamina, where they would be safe.

..... continue on next page

Over time, the expenses for her ransom and philanthropic projects and the frequent plunder of her monasteries by the Turks, which devastated the farming agricultural programs - the basic source of sustenance for her work - took a toll on the monastery finances. In a 22 February 1583 letter to the Venetian Senate, Philothei asked for monetary support to pay off her debts which accumulated from ransom money, duties, bribes, and taxes that she owed to the occupying Turks. She was in desperate need for money in order to continue her philanthropic work.

Finally, the end to her ministry came closer when four women enslaved by the Ottoman Turks in harems escaped and ran to her for refuge. The women were traced by the pursuing Turks, and Philothei was arrested, beaten and brought before the magistrate who threw her into prison. Friends intervened and paid the district governor for her release, but the Turks now knew what she was doing.

As her fame grew, so did the animosity against her by the Turks. On Oct. 3, 1588, as Philothei was attending an all-night vigil in honor of St. Dionysios the Areopagite, the first Bishop of Athens, at her monastery at Patesia, four Turks broke into the monastery, entered the church, seized the fearless abbess Philothei, dragged her and beat her severely. The sixty-seven year old nun never recovered from the beating. Four months later, on Feb. 19, 1589, Philothei of Athens died, martyred for Christ and for her people.

Within a decade after her death, Patriarch Matthew II of Constantinople canonized Philothei, enrolling her among the "blessed and holy women" of the Orthodox Church. Thus Philothei the Blessed martyr of Christ and our God-bearing Mother joined the large company of women recognized as Holy Mothers of our Church.

The entire area around her central monastery in Athens was named after her, including the street where the main Cathedral of Athens was built. St. Philothei is considered the protector of Athens and the advocate of the city's poor.



**The original house of
St. Philothei in Plaka,
Athens, Greece**

St. John the Merciful, Patriarch of Alexandria

Feastday: November 12

St. John the Merciful (Ελεήμων) was born in Amathus on Cyprus c. 550 to the patrician Epiphanius, a governor of the island. He married and had children, but was a widower when he was called to become patriarch of Alexandria in 611 AD.

He quickly gained his epithet “Merciful” from his unstinting generosity in distributing the vast wealth of the patriarchate of Alexandria to the poor and afflicted.

One of the first steps he took was to make a list of several thousand needy persons, whom he took under his special care. He always referred to the poor as his "lords and masters", because of their mighty influence at the Court of the Most High God. He assisted people of every class who were in need.

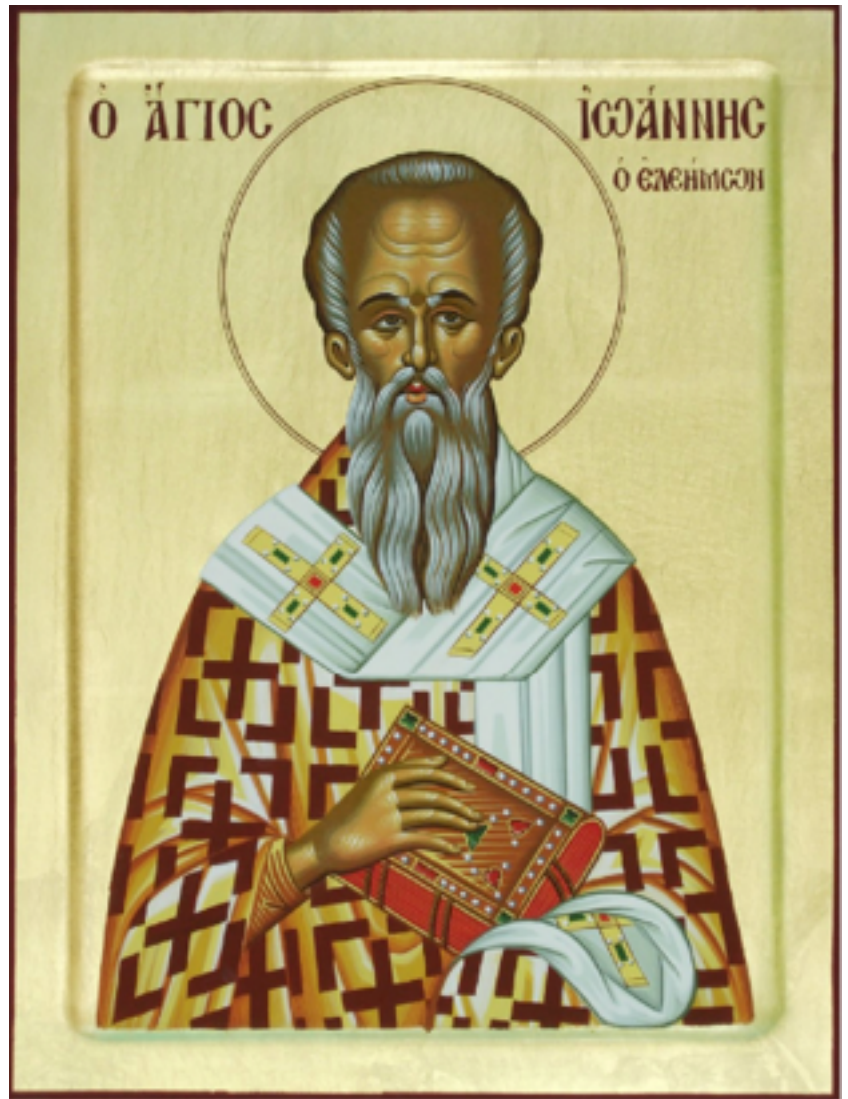
John was remarkable for his almsgiving or mercy (ἐλεημοσύνη in Greek, hence his title Ἐλεήμων). To someone who was astounded at his generosity he recounted a vision he had seen in his youth in which “Compassion” appeared to him as a beautiful maiden and told him that she was the eldest daughter of God. The patriarchate of Alexandria had at its disposal immense wealth in both money and commercial enterprises, including shipping, and John put it all at the service of the poor. He was not only generous with the resources of his see, but with his own goods, as well. In one incident in his life he felt remorseful for accepting a richly-embroidered blanket as a gift and was unable to sleep until he sold it and gave the proceeds to the poor. He also made himself available to anyone who had a petition, grievance, or request. His generosity did draw censure at times. In one case one of his aides noticed that someone was abusing the distribution of goods in John's very presence, returning several times in different guises, but when he mentioned this, John replied that it might be Christ in disguise. In another case he came to loggerheads with his friend Nicetas when the latter, wanting to contribute to Emperor [Heraclius](#)' war effort against the Persians, tried to appropriate some of the church's wealth to that end, an attempt which John firmly resisted and which ended in Nicetas' apology.

His care was not limited to his own flock in Alexandria, but extended to the people of Palestine in their sufferings during the Persian invasion and sack of Jerusalem. John sent convoys of essential supplies to Palestine and welcomed many refugees to Alexandria.

John took care of the spiritual as well as bodily nourishment of the people and during meals and other gatherings in the patriarchal palace he would only converse on the Scriptures or other spiritual topics.

He was forced to flee Alexandria by the Persian invasion of Egypt in 619. Returning to Cyprus, he died soon thereafter.

St. John is commemorated in the Orthodox Church on **November 12**.





SEPTEMBER PHILOPTOCHOS

NEWSLETTER

Philoptochos started the fall season with the **Welcome Back Luncheon** on Sunday, August 19, 2018. President Pat Koutouzis began with a brief business meeting. **Local Social Service** expenses for the month of August are \$1,161.20. Philoptochos has **100 members** for the year 2018. Thank you to all who have joined.

Helen S. Carlos, President of the Board of Directors of the non-profit **Open Hand** introduced **Matthew Pieper, Executive Director of Open Hand**. This organization provides about 6,000 meals a day, 7 days a week to needy, senior citizens, or those who suffer from chronic health ailments. With several nutritionists on the committee and about 10,000 volunteers, the meals are prepared with fresh ingredients and from scratch. You will not find canned tomato sauce in their kitchen! The motto of this worthwhile organization is “we cook, we teach, we deliver, we care”. They are the largest provider of homebound meals in the Southeast. Open Hand generates funds by also delivering healthy meals to those who are able to pay. A donation from the profits of the Fall Fundraiser will be given to Open Hand.

Marty Driscoll briefly described the **National Clergy Laity** convention in Boston in July, 2018. The new vision for Philoptochos is not only Friends of the Needy, but also Friends of God, Friends of Mankind and Friends of Strangers. The 357 delegates heard speakers discuss the Opioid Crisis, Women’s Health, children with special needs, the Alzheimer’s Disease Initiative, and other pertinent topics.

Niki Gess and her **visitation committee** have contacted 27 people this past month. If you know of someone who needs a phone call, a visit, or a card, please contact Niki at n.gess@comcast.net

Soup Kitchen at Must Ministries will be on Thursday, Sept. 27. If you can help cook, serve or donate salad ingredients, please contact Athena Burke at ibgreek@bellsouth.net

On August 23, we served 76 meals at **Must Ministries**. Thank you to the following people who helped prepare and /or serve the meals. Mary Miltiades, Fran Tucker, Rosemary Peppas, Pat Koutouzis, Ellen Linebaugh, Niki Gess, Linda Lopos, Marty Driscoll, Michael Gavalas, Dorothy Macris and Athena Burke.

Philoptochos Presents
Lights, Camera, Murder

by Andrew Hull

**MYSTERY
DINNER
THEATER**

When: Saturday, October 20, 2018

Where: Holy Transfiguration Parish Life Center

Doors Open: 6 p.m. *Performance Begins:* 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$50 Adults & Students \$35

Catered by: Magnolia Moments

Cash Bar & Silent Auction

Reservations can be made after Divine Liturgy in PLC or
koutouzisjd@comcast.net 404.542.1924



Profits go to Open Hand and Panagia Chapter Local Social Services
Performances by Holy Transfiguration Parishioners / Directed by Ellen Linebaugh



NEWS YOU CAN USE!

Homecoming Picnic was a total success. Several parishioners stopped by our table and were very interested!! Our Parish Council did a fantastic job welcoming everyone AND the BBQ was delicious!

Our board met August 21 and made several valuable decisions for the upcoming year. Our next general meeting will be on September 12 at 2:00pm, and afterward we will have MOVIE NITE. Since this is on Wednesday, we will have Lenten snacks. Cost: free will offering. "ARGO" is the chosen movie for this evening. It is a thriller that will keep you on the edge of your seats. Everyone is invited, so please join us. Also, mark your calendar for another MOVIE NITE which will be Thursday, October 4. Both movies will be shown in the St. Basil's Conference Room. Since we have not yet chosen a movie title, your suggestions are welcomed.

As you well know, as a ministry we are required to have one fundraiser per year. We are thinking of holding ours on a Sunday so that more members and non-members will be able to attend. More information on our plans to follow in the next few weeks.

Another fundraiser will be to sell raffle tickets for unique baskets designed by our basket expert, Mary Ellen Knuchel. The theme for each basket will be a pleasant surprise! There will be 3 separate drawings, one for each basket. In other words, each basket will have its own set of tickets. Drawings will take place on December 2 at our Christmas party to be held in the parish hall. These tickets will be on sale every Sunday after church. Thank you for your support!

Remember, a day without laughter is a day wasted. NEVER WASTE ONE OF GOD'S PRECIOUS DAYS!!

Exploring the Richness of the Christian Faith

Can the Early Christian Church Enrich Contemporary Christians?

Presented by The School of Christian Spiritual Formation



FRI, SEP 21 7 PM - 9 PM
SAT, SEP 22 9 AM - 4:30 PM
SUN, SEP 23 1 PM - 5 PM

**Continental Breakfast and
Lunch served on Saturday!**

What is Christian spirituality? How has it changed over the centuries? Who first defined Christian spirituality? How does Orthodox Christian understanding of spirituality differ from Catholic and Protestant understanding? How can the ancient Christian church and the Holy Fathers and Mothers inform and inspire our Christian spirituality today?

This third annual conference, ***Can the Early Christian Church Enrich Contemporary Christians?***, examines these questions and offers practical suggestions for enhancing your Christian spirituality toward a more fulfilling life in Christ.

Come hear three prominent theologians and spiritual directors, representing the Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox Christian perspectives. They bring diverse experience and much spiritual depth. Please join us!

PRESENTERS

Dr. Ken Boa, Reflections Ministries,
Atlanta (www.kenboa.org)

Dr. Robin Darling Young, Catholic Univ.,
Washington, DC

Rev. Dr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou, Holy
Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church

\$35 FOR FULL WEEKEND
DAILY RATES: \$5 FRIDAY,
\$20 SATURDAY and \$10 SUNDAY

REGISTER BY AUG 31st and GET
a \$5 DISCOUNT on the FULL
WEEKEND

REGISTER ONLINE AT

www.holytransfiguration.info/spiritual-formation-conference or call Anne Willcocks at
770.924.8080

PLACE

Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church
3431 Trickum Road, NE
Marietta, Georgia 30066
770-924-8080

www.holytransfiguration.info

Visit us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/
SchoolofChristianSpiritualFormation/](https://www.facebook.com/SchoolofChristianSpiritualFormation/)

Conference Schedule

Friday, September 21

- 7:00 pm Welcome, Opening Prayer
- 7:15 pm Synthesis of the Holy Fathers on Spiritual Practices, Part 1 - Ken Boa
- 8:15 pm Break
- 8:30 pm Q & A's; Discussion - Fr. Panayiotis, Robin Darling Young, Ken Boa

Saturday, September 22

- 8:30 am Continental Breakfast
- 8:45 am Welcome, Opening Prayer
- 9:00 am What Can the Early Christian Church Teach Us About Spiritual Training, Part 1 - Robin Darling Young
- 10:00 am Q & A's; Discussion - Fr. Panayiotis, Robin Darling Young, Ken Boa
- 10:30 am Break
- 10:45 am What Can the Early Christian Church Teach Us About Spiritual Training, Part 2 - Robin Darling Young
- 11:45 am Q & A's; Discussion - Fr. Panayiotis, Robin Darling Young, Ken Boa
- 12:15 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Spiritual Practices on Mt. Athos Today - Fr. Panayiotis
- 2:00 pm Q & A's; Discussion - Fr. Panayiotis, Robin Darling Young, Ken Boa
- 2:30 pm Break
- 2:45 pm Synthesis of the Holy Fathers on Spiritual Practices, Part 2 - Ken Boa
- 3:45 pm Q & A's; Discussion - Fr. Panayiotis, Robin Darling Young, Ken Boa
- 4:15 pm Announcements, Prepare for Vespers, Closing Prayer - Fr. Panayiotis
- 5:00 pm Vespers (Optional)

Sunday, September 24

- 1:00 pm Welcome, Opening Prayer
- 1:15 pm Connecting Spirituality with Worship in the Ancient Christian Church - Robin Darling Young
- 2:15 pm Q & A's; Discussion - Fr. Panayiotis, Robin Darling Young, Ken Boa
- 2:45 pm Break
- 3:00 pm Comparing the Ancient Christian Church and Contemporary Personal and Corporate Expressions of Worship and the Spiritual Life - Ken Boa
- 4:00 pm Q & A's; Discussion - Fr. Panayiotis, Robin Darling Young, Ken Boa
- 4:45 pm Announcements, Prepare for Vespers, Closing Prayer - Fr. Panayiotis
- 5:00 pm Vespers (Optional)

Dr. Kenneth Boa is a writer, teacher, speaker, and mentor working largely with business and professional people in the Atlanta area, throughout the country, and around the world. He is President of Reflections Ministries. His website, KenBoa.org, has an abundance of free resources. Ken holds a BS from Case Institute of Technology, a ThM from Dallas Theological Seminary, a PhD from New York University, and a DPhil from the University of Oxford in England.

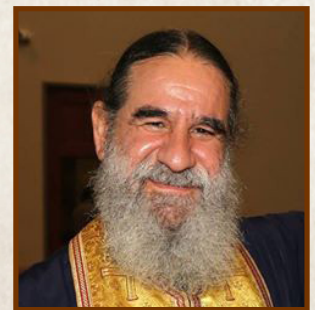


Dr. Robin Darling Young is Associate Professor of Spirituality at Catholic University in Washington, DC. She has published and lectured widely on topics in the history of early Christianity and its thought, including the areas of scriptural

interpretation, the history of asceticism and monastic thought, and the Christian cultures of ancient Syria and Armenia. She holds a BA from Mary Washington College, and a MA, PhD from the University of Chicago.

The Rev. Dr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou was born on the island of Cyprus. He has served as a priest in the US and Cyprus and taught Orthodox Theology and Spirituality in Cyprus, Jerusalem, Canada and the US. Presently,

he serves as pastor of Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church, in Marietta, Georgia. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from City College, New York, a Master of Science in Chemical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, a Master of Divinity from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA and a PhD in Early Christian Studies from the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.





Habitat for Humanity Mission: Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

We have been blessed, again this year, to have the opportunity to work on the construction of a home for a hardworking, low income family in Mapleton. Through the generosity of our Festival proceeds and a very generous donation from Alex Koutouzis and his company, Brand Mortgage, we are able to sponsor our partnership with Habitat! In this partnership, Habitat sent volunteers to our Festival, totaling more than 70 volunteer hours! Now, as a church family, involving all our ministries, we can work together, engaging in God's work, through Habitat! It will be a very enjoyable and rewarding day!

•**Needed: 25 Volunteers, Ages 16 and up. Goyans to Primetimers!**

High school community hours can be earned!

ALL ability levels welcomed! No experience necessary!

•**Saturday, Oct. 27th from 7:45 – 4:00. The build usually ends at 12:00.**

Delicious lunch provided!

•**Our job will be to complete the punch list and paint. The family who will occupy the home will work along side us!**



TO REGISTER: Contact Peggy Dunkerly at 770-722-9772 or greekpd@comcast.net . You must be registered to participate.

IF YOU CANNOT COME TO THE BUILD, HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP: Cooking or baking for our share of the lunch (recipes provided): Spanakopita, Eddies Baked Beans, Bakla Bites, and Koulouria. Please let Peggy know what you will be providing.

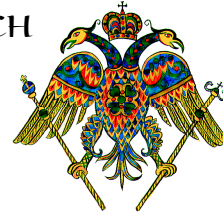
In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35

September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26</p> <p>13th Sunday of Matthew</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:15 AM Intro Catechism Classes 12:00 PM Homecoming Picnic 	<p>27</p> <p>Holy Martyr Phanurius (Elias)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00 AM Nikolas Funeral (Elias) 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Philoptochos Play Rehearsal 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Pickleball 10:45 AM Kafention 5:45 PM Great Vespers-Heading of St. John the 6:30 PM Parish Council Strategic Planning Meeting 7:00 PM GOYA Boys' Basketball 	<p>29</p> <p>Remembrance of the Holy Cross</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Summer Bible Study 7:00 PM Youth Group (GOYA) 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Men's Recreational Basketball 	<p>31</p> <p>Ecclesiastical New Year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00 AM Agiasmos—the Blessing of the Waters 12:00 PM St. Clair Baptism (Isidora) 1:00 PM Rental: St. Clair Baptismal Reception 5:00 PM Great Vespers 	<p>1</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Fourteenth Sunday of Matthew</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 12:00 PM Church Library Open 12:15 PM Alberts/Marsico Coffee/Fellowship Hour 	<p>3</p> <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Pickleball 10:45 AM Kafention 7:00 PM GOYA Boys' Basketball 4:30 PM Intro to Orthodoxy Class 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Morning Bible Study 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 6:30 PM EYCC Meeting 7:00 PM Youth Group (GOYA) 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Finance Meeting 6:30 PM Men's Recreational Basketball 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Great Vespers—Nativity of the Theotokos 	<p>8</p> <p>The Nativity of Our Lord—Ever-Virgin Mary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 12:15 PM Cordes Baptism (Christopher) 4:00 PM Rental: JW Baby Shower 5:00 PM Great Vespers
<p>9</p> <p>Sunday before the Lord's Ascension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Catechism 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Philoptochos Play Rehearsal 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Pickleball 10:30 AM Prime Timers Board Meeting 4:30 PM Rental: Les Marmelades of Atlanta 6:30 PM Parish Council Meeting 7:00 PM GOYA Boys' Basketball 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM Prime Timers' Movie Night 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies Parent Meeting 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study 7:00 PM Youth Group 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Great Vespers—Evangelion of the Holy Cross 6:30 PM Men's Recreational Basketball 7:00 PM Philoptochos Board Meeting 	<p>14</p> <p>The Universal Life-Giving Cross</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Folk Dance Festival Set-Up (Hellenic Dance Fundraiser) 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Folk Dance Festival Set-Up (Hellenic Dance Fundraiser) 5:00 PM Great Vespers 6:00 PM Folk Dance Festival (Hellenic Dance Fundraiser)
<p>16</p> <p>Sunday after the Lord's Ascension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Catechism 11:50 AM A 25 year Memorial Service is given 12:00 PM Carlos and 1:00 PM Special Parish Assembly 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Philoptochos Play Rehearsal 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Pickleball 7:00 PM GOYA Boys' Basketball 7:00 PM Intro to Orthodoxy Class 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Alex Miltiades Meeting 10:00 AM Morning Bible Study 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study 7:00 PM Youth Group 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Men's Recreational Basketball 6:30 PM AHEPA Kick-Off Dinner 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Spiritual Formation Conference 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Spiritual Formation Conference 5:00 PM Great Vespers
<p>23</p> <p>First Sunday of Luke</p> <p>No Coffee Hour Today</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Catechism 1:00 PM Spiritual Formation 5:00 PM Great Vespers 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30 PM No Classes—Hellenic Studies (Fall Break) 7:00 PM Philoptochos Play Rehearsal 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Pickleball 5:30 PM Pantry Distribution 6:00 PM Great Vespers—Falling Asleep of St. John 7:00 PM GOYA Boys' Basketball 7:00 PM Parish Council Meeting 	<p>26</p> <p>The Fall of Sleep—Isidore the Theologian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM Rehearsal for Byelos wedding 5:30 PM No Classes—Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Youth Group 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30 AM Soup Kitchen (Philoptochos) 6:30 PM Men's Recreational Basketball 6:30 PM Philoptochos Book Club 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM Wedding of Cosmon Bylos and Erin 5:00 PM No Vespers Service today 	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Second Sunday of Luke</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 11:30 AM Catechism 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00 AM Agiasmos—the Blessing of the Waters 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Philoptochos Play Rehearsal 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Pickleball 10:30 AM Prime Timers' Board Meeting 7:00 PM GOYA Boys' Basketball 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Morning Bible Study 5:30 PM Hellenic Studies 7:00 PM Youth Group (GOYA) 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM Prime Timers' Movie Night 6:30 PM Men's Recreational Basketball 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Rental: Nichols Wedding Reception Set-Up 6:00 PM Rehearsal for wedding—Fr. Paul will do the Rehearsal 6:00 PM Nichols Wedding Rehearsal 	<p>6</p> <p>The Holy and Glorious Apostles Peter and Paul</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Rental: Nichols Wedding Reception 5:00 PM Evans Nichols' Wedding—Bishop Sebastian Presiding

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

3431 TRICKUM ROAD NE
Marietta, GA 30066-4660



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770.924.8080, Fax - 770.924.3030

Email: holytrans@comcast.net

Web Page: www.holytransfiguration.info/

Web Page: www.mariettagreekfestival.org

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

Rev. Fr. George Pallas, Protopresbyter

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
9/2	T. Bliss/H. Mavromatidis	St. James	J. & I. Dymond	P. Miltiades/K. Niarchos/K.	P. Bilson/A. & K. Lilly/ A. Zakreski
9/9	E. Linebaugh/D. Vlahiotis	St. John	C. Vlahiotis/V. Worden	R. Peppas/C. Smith/C. Sprouse	T. Argentis/E. Nikolas/A. Reale/
9/16	S. Tingas/P. Markley	St. Peter	S. Gianaris/J. Schumacher	I. Steffas/S. Tidwell/M.	D. Botni/K. Johnson/B. Reid/
9/23	M. Jacobs/J. Papastrat	St. James	M. Alberts/K. Johnson	F. Tucker/T. Vamvakias	J. & I. Dymond/S. Kargas/M. Zavala
9/30	Z. Kollias/D. Koutouzis	St. John	S. Lukens/M. Zavala	A. Burke/C. Costarides/M.	P. Bilson/A. & K. Lilly/ A. Zakreski

St. James Altar Servers: Captain-Gabriel Mavromatidis

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

St. John Altar Servers: Captain-Alex Gekas

Christopher Alberts, Steven Ardagna, Andrew Bass, Anthony Bundros, Christian Coleman, Carter Copses, Jay Copses, Mason Copses, Nick Danos, Cole Foster, Kaleb Hotnog, William Jansma, Alexander Morgan, Tommy O'Brien, 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. Panayiotis.