



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΤΑΝΤΑΣ

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

April 7, 2023



St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210

Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

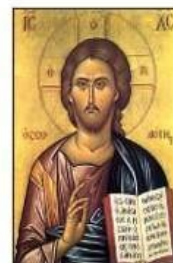
Phone: (770) 347-PRAY (7729)

Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org

Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, Pastor

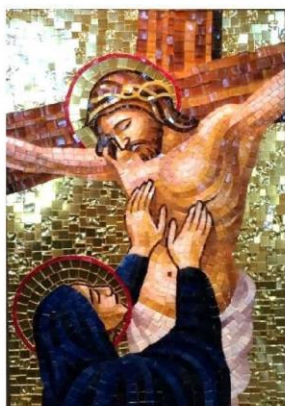
Stephen Sarantis, President, Parish Council

Jackie Sarantis, Office Administrator



Message from Fr. George for Friday, April 7th, 2023

The Seven Last Words of Christ From the Cross



Come join us on Friday April 7 @ 7 PM at All Saints Anglican Church for an ecumenical Good Friday Service centered on the Seven Last Words of our Lord Jesus Christ from the Cross. Fr. George will offer a reflection on the Third Word (pictured above).

All Saints Anglican Church

149 Ebenezer Road, Fayetteville, GA



Pysanky
is
like
assembling
a
puzzle...



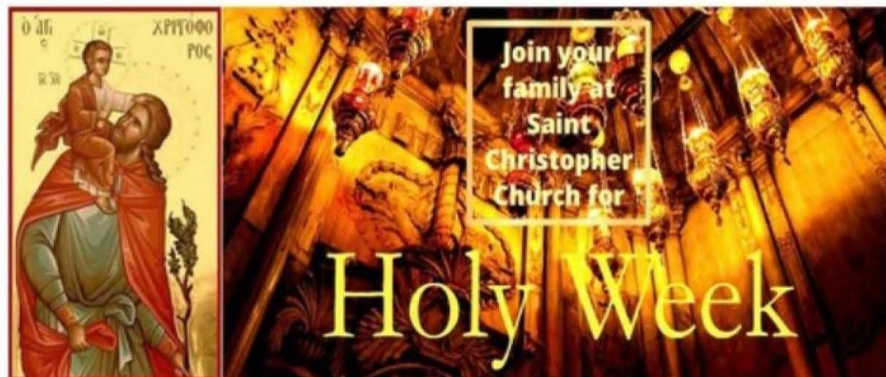
... designing & painting one layer
at a time with patience & faith!



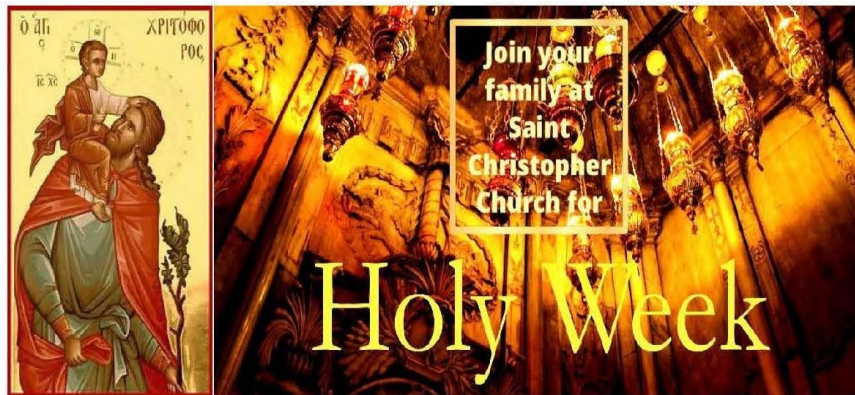




St. Christopher Church, Peachtree City, GA



St. Christopher Church, Peachtree City, GA



Holy Day	Service
Saturday of Lazarus, April 8	8:00 am Orthros, 9:00 am Divine Liturgy, Breakfast, Palm Cross
Sunday, April 9	7:45 am Orthros & Blessing of Palms 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 5:30 pm Service of the Bridegroom Christ (Nymphios)
Monday, April 10	5:30 pm Service of the Bridegroom Christ (Nymphios)
Tuesday, April 11	5:30 pm Service of the Bridegroom Christ (Nymphios) & Hymn of Kassiani
Wednesday, April 12	5:00 pm Service of the Bridegroom Christ (Nymphios) & Sacrament of Holy Unction
Thursday, April 13	8:00 am Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil (for Mystical Supper) 5:00 pm Passion of Christ with 12 Gospels & Holy Cross
Friday, April 14	9:00 am Royal Hours Service 2:00 pm Vespers of the Unnailing of Christ from the Cross 5:30 pm Lamentations at tomb of our Savior (Epitaphios)
Saturday, April 15	9:00 am Vesperal Liturgy of Saint Basil 11:00 pm Preparatory Service, the Canon of Crucifixion
Sunday, April 16	Midnight Proclamation of the Resurrection 12:30 am Resurrection Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Great Vespers of Agape (Proclamation of the Resurrection Gospel in many languages)

A young woman went to her mother and told her about her life and how things were so hard for her. She did not know how she was going to make it and wanted to give up. She was tired of fighting and struggling.

Her mother took her to the kitchen. She filled three pots with water. In the first she placed carrots, in the second she placed eggs, and in the last she placed ground coffee beans.

The mother let them sit and boil without saying anything. In twenty minutes she turned off the burners. She fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. She pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. Then she ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl.

Turning to her daughter, she asked, "Tell me, what do you see?" "Carrots, eggs, and coffee," the daughter replied.

She brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did and noted that they were soft and mushy. She then asked her to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hardened egg. Finally, the mother asked her daughter to sip the coffee.

The daughter smiled as she tasted its deep flavor and inhaled its rich aroma. The daughter then asked, "What's the point, mother?"

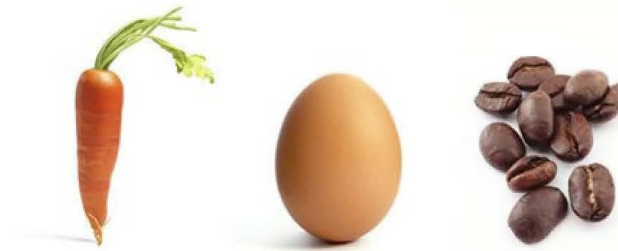
Her mother explained that each of these objects had faced the same adversity – boiling water – but each reacted differently. The carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting. However, after being subjected to the boiling water, it became weak. The egg had been fragile. Its thin, outer shell had protected its liquid interior, but after sitting through the boiling water, its inside became hardened.

The ground coffee beans were unique, however. After they were put in the boiling water, they changed the water into coffee.

"Which are you?" the mother asked. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean?"

Ask yourself: Which am I? Am I the carrot that seems strong? But with pain and adversity, do I wilt and lose my strength? Am I the egg that starts with a malleable heart, but changes with the heat? Did I have a fluid spirit but, after a death, a breakup, a financial hardship,

or some other trial, have I become hardened and stiff? Does my shell look the same, but on the inside am I bitter and tough with a stiff spirit and a hardened heart? Or am I like the coffee bean? The bean actually changes the hot water – the very circumstance that brings adversity, pain, hardship – into something quite wonderful. When the water gets hot, the coffee bean releases its fragrance and flavor. If you are like the bean, when things are at their worst, you bounce back and change the situation around you for the better.



Would you rather be the carrot, the egg, or the coffee bean?

When the hours are the darkest and trials are their greatest, do you rise to another level? How do you handle adversity? Like a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean? – *Author Unknown*

In response to the difficulties we encounter in life, the Apostle James shared in 1:2-4: “²My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, ³because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; ⁴and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.”

As we journey through Holy Week, let us keep in mind that temptations abound from the Evil One as we seek to encounter the extra opportunities to worship God, to pray and reflect on His will in our life, to fast from food and unnecessary activities, and to serve those in need. ***Let us seek the faith, hope, and love of our Crucified and Risen Lord alongside His Holy Body, the Church, and His world at large. Blessed Pascha! Amen!***



Join Us for Our Annual Palm Sunday Luncheon



Sunday, April 9, 2023

Immediately following the Divine Liturgy

**Fried Cod and
Flounder
Hushpuppies
and Onion
Rings, Roasted
Potatoes and
Salad
Will Be Provided**

**** We kindly ask that you bring a Lenten Dish to share.
Please bring enough to feed your family plus 6 others ****

~ Good Food and Fellowship for All ~
Everyone is welcome to join us for this free luncheon!

New Partnership Opportunity for Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our Paschal Prayer Shawl Blessing by Fr. George will be held on April 30th. For the first time, we will be partnering with Young Orthodox Christian American Mission Adventures. YOCAMA sponsors mission trips to Native American Indian Reservations to provide medical, dental, vision and developmental screenings for pre-school children.

"YOCAMA is an independent, non-profit organization. We seek to provide teens and young adults an opportunity to share the experience of working side-by-side with Native Americans who are helping to improve the quality of life in their own communities in the Navajo and Blackfeet reservations. Missionaries pay their own travel and lodging expenses. We rely on fundraising and donations to support our medical, food distribution and construction projects. Donations are fully tax-deductible. Annual fundraising and donations from missionaries and their parishes from throughout the Greek Orthodox churches in North America and with other interested organizations, support our medical, social welfare and construction projects.

Since 2008, over 1,000 missionaries have participated in trips to New Mexico and Montana. In addition to pre-school screenings, we built houses, completed building renovations, and delivered food and firewood to families in remote parts of the reservations.

YOCAMA supports Native American families by partnering with local organizations such as St. Bonaventure's or the De La Salle Blackfeet School. They aim to support and enhance the great work being done by these groups, while providing additional funding and manpower."

For the shawls to be able to assist these mission teams, please use wool yarn for your shawls. However, there is always a recipient in need of a shawl of whatever yarn they are crafted out of.

As you begin to plan your next project, please keep the following guidelines in mind. Consistency in the size and finish of the shawls is important because we often give multiple shawls to one organization. We want the recipients to feel that their shawl was made specifically for them. Yarn color choice is also important as we are trying to uplift the spirits of the recipients of the shawls.

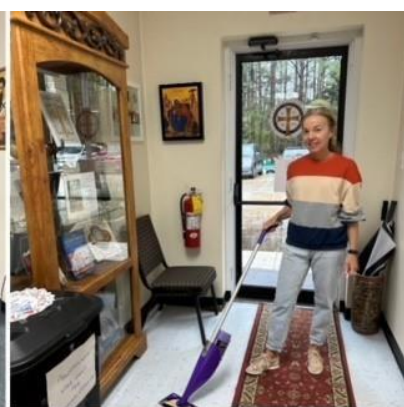
Above all, please remember to begin and end each time you work on your shawl with prayers. When life is hectic or disrupted, this can add up to lots of prayers!!!

Please contact Susan Kleto at (678) 877-9115 or sbkleto@gmail.com to either become a participant in this ministry, to receive yarn, to receive sew-in labels, to receive a Prayer Guide, or if you have any questions or suggestions.



Spring Cleaning

Thanks to everyone-
Church clean-up day was a great success.
Thank you Becky Butler for the pictures.





shutterstock.com 177272010

[Click](#) here to support the flower fund for decorating the Kouvouklion.



You're invited!

In preparation for Holy Friday Night's Lamentation Service, at which we commemorate the burial of our Lord, we will be decorating the Kouvouklion with flowers on Holy Friday Morning. Immediately following the Service of Royal Hours, which begins at 9:00 AM and lasts approximately one hour, volunteers will begin this sacred task. All are invited to come to the church and help with the preparations.

The Epitaphios (Christ's Burial Icon) will be laid inside the Kouvouklion as we all gather to sing the Lamentation and to join in solemn procession at Holy Friday Night's service. Please enrich your experience of Holy Week by joining in the sacred and pious act of preparing the Kouvouklion and Epitaphios.



MAY 21st Philoptochos Meeting

Our next scheduled meeting is May 21st when we will elect our new board members. If you are interested in being a part of our leadership team, please contact one of our Election Committee Members before **April 16**.

Susan Kleto sbkleto@gmail.com

Pat MacDougall patmacdougall@hotmail.com

Jackie Sarantis jackieandsteve@bellsouth.net



Sunday, April 16

After the Agape Service

In search of a team to take over our Easter Egg Hunt activity starting next year. Last year's Organizer will help this year.

Interested?

Contact: Susan Kleto sbkleto@gmail.com



One Roof Ecumenical Alliance Outreach
All Sundays in April "Hands of Love" will be
accepting monetary donations, non-
perishable food, and personal hygiene items.

"One Roof" helps families in crisis in Coweta County since
2007, with food, clothing, financial assistance, and
shelter.

Monetary donations are much appreciated since they
are vital to providing temporary financial assistance
and afford Management more flexibility to be used
where most urgent.

The Food Pantry:

Kid and senior friendly foods are needed-cereal,
macaroni, noodles, and other non-perishable food items

-breakfast bars, grits, oatmeal, cornbread mix, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, rice, mac & cheese, instant potatoes, instant oatmeal, evaporated milk, juice boxes, tea, sugar, canned vegetables, and fruits.

The Thrift Store: Donate here and shop here - please take your gently used items **directly to the store** at 251 Temple Ave in Newnan, GA: Open Mon, Wed, Fri 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information - <https://oneroofoutreach.org>

Just as we stepped up to the plate for "Souper Bowl Sunday" in February with "St. John the Wonderworker" with more than 120 food items offered, and over \$ 800 in monetary donations, we will do it again for "One Roof Outreach" as we journey through Great Lent to Great and Holy Pascha.

We thank you for your faithful and continuous support!

Anna Andreeva Naydenova, "Hands of Love" Ministry Chair



BYZANTINE CHANT & ICONOGRAPHY

August 20 - 26, 2023

AT THE DIAKONIA RETREAT CENTER

in Salem, South Carolina

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 20

Visit our Website

The Liturgical Arts Academy teaches Byzantine Chant and Iconography in the tradition of the Orthodox Christian Church. TLAA is a 1-week intensive program led by experts in these disciplines. The Academy is ideal for church communities to send their chanters and painters for training and offers instruction for beginners, intermediate and advanced students.



Byzantine Chant Workshop

with John Michael Boyer, Gabriel
Cremeens & Samuel Herron



Iconography Workshop

with
Fr. Anthony Salzman

Contact Us

info@theliturgicalarts.org

Register early -- we expect to fill up quickly.



Youth, Education & Hellenic Culture

*'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
For they shall be filled.' ~Matthew 5:6*



Week 1: June 25 - July 1
Week 2: July 2 - July 8
Week 3: July 9 - July 15
Week 4: July 16 - July 22
Week 5: July 23 - July 29

Camper Registration

Camper Registration will open Wednesday, March 29 at 12:00 p.m. ET

Camper Registration Cost is \$500.00 per camper.
\$250.00 deposit upon registration and the remainder will be due by June 15, 2023.

Staff Applications

All Staff must be 18 years old with one year post high school experience. We are looking for a Logistic Coordinator, Medical Staff, 12 Cabin Staff, Lifeguard, Utility Staff, Arts & Crafts and Rope Course Leaders each week. **Be a part of the Best Week(s) of the year!**

Apply Today!



Amazon Wishlist



We have put together an Amazon Wish List of items to assist in making St. Stephen's Summer Camp the best week of the year. Please take a moment and see if you can help in any way. All items will be shipped directly to the Metropolis in Atlanta.

If you do give us a gift, please let us know who you are so we can Thank You! [Click Here!](#)

**THANK YOU to Leadership 100 &
The Metropolis of Atlanta's Philoptochos for your support.**

March 18, 2023



CENTER
FAMILY CARE

What's New This Week

WEBINAR

BOUNDARIES: A PATH TO HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS



Monday, April 3, 2023

at 1:00PM EST

To register: bit.ly/boundaries-webinarfc

Paul Karos had a successful 35+ year career on Wall Street where he, as president of an Investment Banking and Equity Division, led the firm to be a national player, has run profitable hedge fund portfolios, and was ranked the number one airline analyst in the world for five years.



Always involved in church ministry, Paul took it a step further in his retirement earning a Master's Degree in Applied Orthodox Theology and founding an Orthodox Christian ministry called Matrona Ministries, which includes one-on-one coaching, parish retreats, and Orthodox Christian life inventories. Paul was active with the Minnesota Prison Ministry Team for over a decade, facilitates premarital counseling, and has been a retreat leader at men's, youth, family retreats around the country individually and with his wife, Cindy. Together they have three adult children and live in Minneapolis, MN. He has been legally blind since his teen years, and is now 99% blind.



phone: 646-519-6695 facebook: facebook.com/centerforfamilycare
email: familycare@goarch.org web: www.family.goarch.org

Join us as we explore how to make and keep healthy boundaries with our loved ones in our upcoming webinar featuring Paul Karos. [Register here.](https://bit.ly/boundaries-webinarfc)

HOLY WEEK RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

- **Observing Holy Week as a Family Webinar:**
bit.ly/holyweek-family
- **Preparing Your Family for Holy Week Webinar:**
bit.ly/holyweek-family2
- **Lazarakia "How To" Video:**
bit.ly/lazarakia-howto
- **Holy Week Hymns for Families:**
bit.ly/holyweekhymns
- **Pilgrimage to Pascha - The Light of Christ:**
bit.ly/light-of-christ



comfort food for families



episode five:

fasting from food

In this week's "Comfort Food for Families" episode, Pres. Melanie DiStefano talks about the spiritual practice of fasting from food and how it helps to create for us a "new wineskin." [Watch here!](#)

To download the accompanying small group guide for priests and lay ministers [click here.](#)



TIME OUT
for marriage 
video reflections for couples

EPISODE 61:

A Daily Practice

How often do we stop to think about the ways in which we experience God in our daily lives? Presvytera Kerry Pappas offers a daily practice that couples can do together to reflect on this topic. Watch this week's "Time Out for Marriage" [here](#).



Family Connections

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

Confession

As we are quickly approaching Holy Week, now would be a good time to encourage everyone in your family to go for confession. Discuss how confession not only repairs our broken connection with Christ, but actually brings us closer to Him.



LOOKING FOR HOLY WEEK RESOURCES?

We've got you covered! Access our

Lent and Holy Week family and marriage resources [here](#).



*We welcome you to join us in person
to encounter Our Lord & Savior.*

"For where two or three are gathered in My name, I am there among them." (Matthew 18:20)
We welcome you to join us at St. Christopher Church for worship, fellowship, service, and witness of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As we encounter Him together, may our collective intercessions help to bring a spirit of healing and peace to our world. We encourage you to bring your family and friends and grow ever closer to God together with our parish family.

During your visit, please be aware according to CDC guidelines, indoor mask mandates are relaxed for those areas of the US where hospitals are not greatly impacted by COVID-19 cases. In response, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios on March 2nd wrote to the Metropolis of Atlanta faithful offering His guidance. [Please read it by clicking here.](#)

As before, those who continue to wear masks have every right to do so, whether or not our parish falls into a low or medium risk area. Whether others continue to wear masks for the sake of their friends or family, or even out of caution for their own health, their decisions should be respected as demonstrations of Christ-like love.

Note: Under Georgia law, there is no liability for an injury or death of an individual entering these premises if such injury or death results from the inherent risks of contracting COVID-19. You are assuming this risk by entering these premises.

[CLICK TO VIEW LIVESTREAMING OF SCHEDULED SERVICES](#)



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW PREVIOUSLY RECORDED SERVICES](#)



[Click Image for Online Giving](#)

For questions, please email communications@saintchristopherhoc.org

or call the church office at (770) 347-7729.

[Click here](#) for Online Giving Instructions



[Click image to view our parish calendar](#)



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