



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΤΑΝΤΑΣ

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

May 5, 2020



St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210

Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

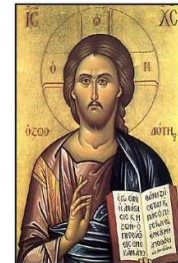
Phone: (770) 347-PRAY (7729)

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, May 5, 2023



The Myrrh-Bearing Women are the first to learn of the most extraordinary event of all time, which changes the course of history and provides an answer to what has plagued humanity from the beginning. The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ puts an end to death and dying, once and for all. It is not the apostles, nor the other disciples, but the Myrrh-Bearing Women who first learn of the most fundamental event in our faith. As the Kontakion hymn for the Sunday of the Holy Myrrh-Bearers reads, *"In saying Rejoice to the myrrh-bearers, You allayed the lament of the first mother Eve, at Your Resurrection, O Christ our God. And You ordered Your Apostles to proclaim, 'The Savior has risen from the sepulcher (tomb).'"*

The Myrrh-Bearing Women are faithful and loyal to Christ until His death and beyond. They had ministered to Him out of their own possessions. Following His death, they come to the tomb to anoint His Body with myrrh oils because they love Him. They do not even fear the Jewish leaders or the Roman soldiers who would have been expected to be guarding the tomb. This is why the Lord chose them, and why they are blessed to be the first ones to experience the Resurrection of Christ. Jesus could have revealed His risen self to any one of the Apostles, but He chose the Myrrh-Bearing Women.

Let us consider for a moment what this means for us today. In the Church, women are a fundamental building block of the faith. In the Gospel, the remarkable role of women is highlighted from the very beginning. It is women who have shouldered from the beginning of the Church most of the responsibility for initiating children into the faith. It is, for the most part, women who continue to undertake this task today. It is women who continue to offer themselves, who continue to serve as the hands and feet of Christ throughout our parishes today.



From this point of view, it is not surprising that it was women who were the first to be told of Christ's Resurrection because it was women who went to the tomb. It was women who had the courage to accompany Christ during His arrest and trial. It was women who were present when Christ was crucified. Women did all of this without really knowing for sure how things would turn out. They did all of this without understanding who Christ really was. They did all of this without fully understanding His significance, not only for themselves, but for the entire world, and its salvation. This is the example that the Church provides for us today, for all of us to follow, as well as conveying the privileged place of women in the Church from

the beginning. Let us all be inspired by the Myrrh-Bearing Women but let us especially help our younger women learn more about the female disciples of Christ. The Myrrh-Bearing Women embody the essence of what it means to serve Christ and others. They are the very definition of holiness, of reaching our ultimate potential as persons created in the image and likeness of God. *(From Archdiocese Department of Religious Education)*



The Myrrh-bearing women have become an icon for all Christian women who wake up early in the morning, pray and work for the family.

† PATRIARCH DANIEL

✙ BASILICA.RO

REFLECTIONS ON THE
SUNDAY GOSPEL

Make A Stand

By Jimmy Osborne

Keep your wits about you,
And expect the unexpected;
Speak for those who have no voice,
And protect the unprotected.

We always have a choice,
To be the ones to make a stand;
To step up and make some noise,
For the silent ones who can't.

Will you fight for what is right,
Be the light, and take command?
Or will you flee into the night,
And hide your head beneath the sand?

And if there ever comes a time,
When I no longer can...
I hope you'll fight for me,
And be the one to make a stand.

Sundays of the Pentecostarion



**Sunday of the
Ressurrection
of the Lord**



**Sunday of the Holy
Apostle Thomas**



**Sunday of the
Myrrhbearing
Women**



**Sunday of
the Paralytic**



**Sunday of the
Samaritan Woman**



**Sunday of the
Blind Man**



**Sunday of the Holy
Fathers of the 1st
Ecumenical Council**



**Sunday of the
Holy Pentecost**



**Sunday of
All Saints**

Fr. George shared the following reflection during his Religious Education class on Sunday and was asked to distribute to parishioners.

Impure thoughts – The Real Struggle

Once there was a woman of ill repute in a city.

She had many lovers.

The governor approached her and said:

“If you promise me that you will behave properly, I will take you for my wife.”

She promised him. He married her and took her to his own home.

The lovers, who still wanted her, said:

“That official has taken her.

If we risk going into the palace, he’ll catch us and punish us, but we’ll get out of that.

Let’s go round the back and whistle to her. She’ll hear it and come down, and then we’ll be all right.”

But the woman, when she heard them whistling, blocked her ears, bolted the doors and hid herself in the innermost part of the house.



Let me explain the story -

The woman of ill repute is our soul.

Her lovers are our passions.

The governor is Christ.

The innermost part of the house is our heavenly dwelling place.

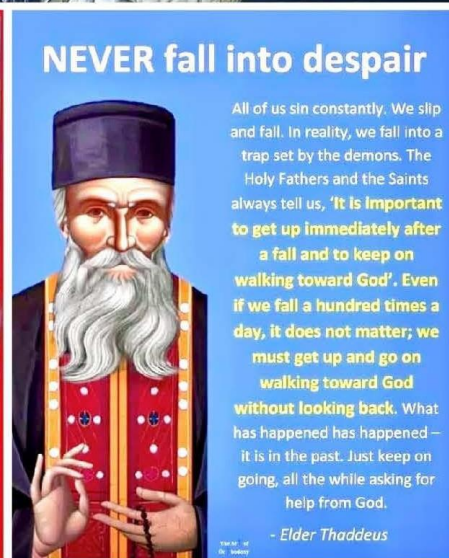
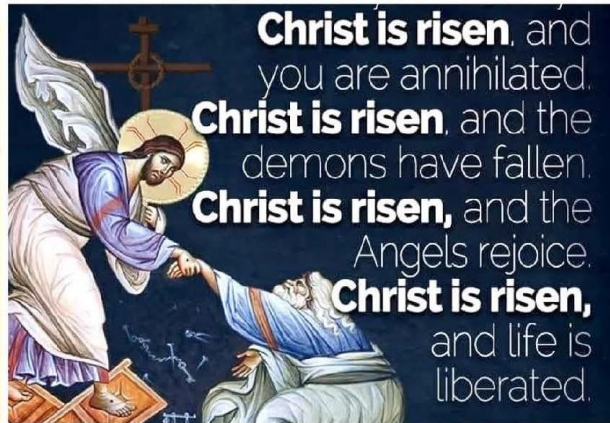
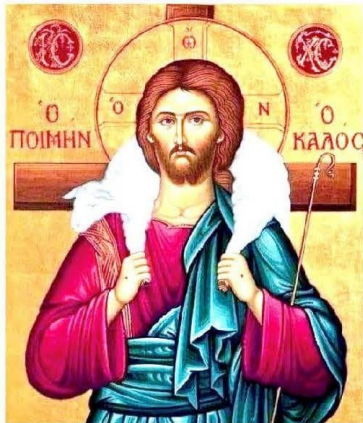
The whistlers are the demons.

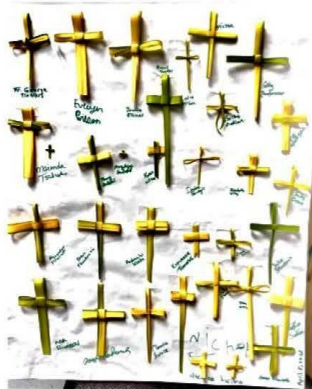
But our soul can always find refuge with the Lord.

The Sign of the Cross

"And thus, inasmuch as the sign of the Cross is great and fearful, every Christian has the duty to make it with fear and trembling, with reverence and heedfulness, and not simply, and not as it happens, simply out of habit and carelessly; for according to the degree of the reverence which one has towards the Cross, he receives corresponding power and help from God." (St. Symeon the New Theologian)

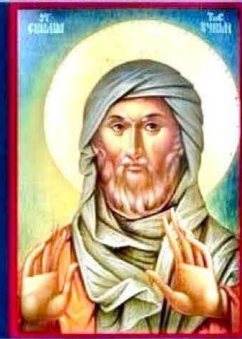




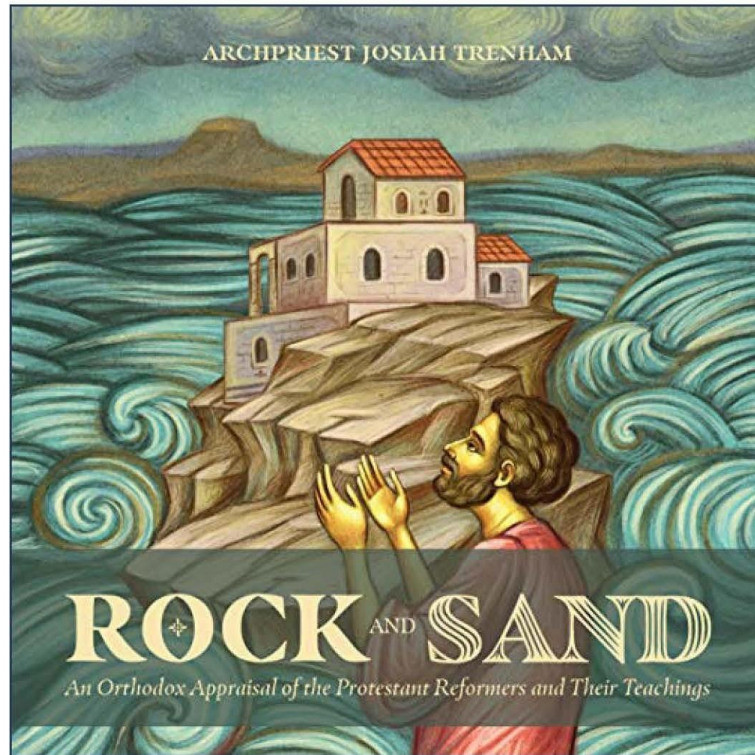


O Lord, grant that I who
am inspired by Thy mercy
may be freed from the
snares of the world so that
I might safely enter the
harbor of life.

St. Ephraim the Syrian



Adult Religious Education Reading Schedule



Sunday, May 7: Chapter 7 – The Church of England

Sunday, May 14: Mother's Day Luncheon (no class)

Sunday, May 21*: Chapter 8 – The Catholic Counter Reformation

Sunday, May 28: Memorial Day Weekend (no class)

Last Day of 2022-2023 classes is May 21st. Graduates Sunday is June 4th.

You are cordially invited to attend a
SPECIAL "PATH TO THE FUTURE" LUNCHEON
 spearheaded by Helen A. Carlos, HCHC Trustee
*To create a Fund to Benefit and Support Loan Debt of Students
 from the METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA attending
 Hellenic College Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology*



SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023
KARTOS BALLROOM
IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY

HONORED GUEST
George M. Cantonis, President HCHC

Lunch will be catered by Proof of the Pudding
Adults - \$40 Children under 12 - \$15
RSVP by Sunday, May 7, 2023



*The kick off of this inaugural event will be held at the Atlanta Annunciation Cathedral
 and will rotate annually throughout the Parishes of the Metropolis of Atlanta.*

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

(All levels include acknowledgement in promotional materials)

<u>Saint Helen</u> \$50,000 Two (2) tables of 10	<u>Saint Elisabeth</u> \$10,000 Reserved seats for 8	<u>Saint Monica</u> \$1,000 Reserved seats for 4
<u>Saint Anna</u> \$25,000 One (1) table of 10	<u>Saint Barbara</u> \$5,000 Reserved seats for 6	<u>Saint Photini</u> \$500 Reserved seats for 2

HONORING LOVED ONES

On this Mother's Day, remember or honor the special women in your life with a
 donation to the "PATH TO THE FUTURE" Fund.

<u>Saint Sophia</u> \$250.00	<u>Hope</u> \$100.00	<u>Faith</u> \$50	<u>Love</u> \$25
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OUR SUPPORT IS VITAL TO THE FUTURE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA!

*TO SUPPORT OUR HCHC STUDENTS THROUGH A SPONSORSHIP,
 HONORING A LOVED ONE, OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS TO PLEASE [SCAN OR](#)
[CLICK HERE](#) FOR RESERVATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP DETAILS.*



*Come join, celebrate and honor your Mother or any beloved women this
 Mother's Day by supporting our HCHC.*

This past Sunday, Fr. George shared that although we are hosting our parish Mother's Day Luncheon on May 14th and cannot attend the Cathedral's luncheon, we still have an opportunity to support our Hellenic College Holy Cross students by offering donations to the Cathedral's fundraiser. Click here if you wish to support. Thank you!



Dear Saint Christopher Parishioners,

On behalf of the chairs Steve Theodorakis, George Psihountas and Kirk Panayis. Please join us after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday May 14th for a special Mother's Day luncheon.

The menu is exquisite and delicious:

MOTHER'S DAY

St. Christopher's

Menu

Sweet Chile Salmon
Roast Pork Loin Robert
Chicken Piccata

Sweet Potato Casserole
Broccoli & Cauliflower Au Gratin
Green Beans Italian Style
Rice
Salad

Eclairs
Brownie Bites
Cannolis
Chocolate Covered Strawberries

Beer
Wine
Sodas
Steve Butler's Sangria

No need to bring anything just your presence, there will be plenty of food.

Let's all celebrate and pamper the Mothers and women on this special day!

Faithfully yours,

Steve Sarantis

Parish Council President

The St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine
Proudly Announces

The 3rd Annual Drawing Competition
Commemorating the Fall of Constantinople
Featuring

The Walls of Constantinople



This competition is open to all children ages 9-12 of the
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

One Grand Prize of \$250.00

All submissions must be received at the Saint Photios National Shrine
NO LATER THAN Friday, May 12, 2023 via email to:
Polixeni Maouris Hillier, Executive Director of St. Photios National
Shrine at info@stphotios.com.

The Winner will be announced on May 29, 2023.

All submissions will become property of the
Saint Photios National Shrine.

Commemorating The Fall of Constantinople
SAINT PHOTIOS GREEK ORTHODOX NATIONAL SHRINE
2023 DRAWING COMPETITION
The Theodosion Walls – The Walls of Constantinople

In conjunction with the annual commemoration of the Fall of Constantinople, the trustees of the Saint Photios Foundation invite children ages 9-12 of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America to participate in *The Third Annual Drawing Contest*. This is an opportunity to learn about the Fall of Constantinople which marked the end of the 1000-year reign of the Byzantine Empire.

Artists are asked to research this architectural marvel begun during the reign of Theodosius II in the early 5th century. Anthemius, who was Theodosius' *Praetorian Prefect* (prime minister) at the time, is credited with supervising this three tiered perimeter. Constructed over the course of nine years, extending from the Gold Gate, the wall continued for 4 miles, stretching across the peninsula from the Sea of Marmara to the Golden Horn, expanding on the work begun in the 4th century by Emperor Constantine I.

The walls were an effective defense line for 800 years. It was the largest and strongest barricade built in either the ancient or medieval worlds. Even Attila the Hun failed in conquering the "Queen of Cities". The moat in the first tier, the 96 towers, the sentries at the ten gates are just a few of the many elements that created this highly effective line of defense.

In 1453, the Empire came to an end when the Ottomans breached Constantinople's ancient land wall after besieging the city for 55 days. Sultan Mehmet II carried out the 8-week campaign, surrounding Constantinople from land and sea while employing cannon to maintain a constant barrage of the city's formidable walls. The Empire collapsed as the City was taken on May 29, 1453.

Participants will submit drawings of the Theodosion Walls – The Walls of Constantinople, the city's most impressive surviving monuments from antiquity in today's modern-day Istanbul, Turkey.

The St. Photios Foundation, Inc. is grateful to William, Pamela, and Michael Toundas who continue to underwrite this creative learning opportunity for our children in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

ELIGIBILITY:

This competition is open to all children ages 9-12 of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. *There are no fees for participation.*

PRIZE:

One grand prize of \$250.00.

DUE DATE:

All submissions must be received at the Saint Photios National Shrine NO LATER THAN Friday, May 12, 2023, via email to: Polixeni Maouris Hillier, Executive Director of St. Photios National Shrine at info@stphotios.com. The Winner will be announced on May 29, 2023. All submissions will become property of the Saint Photios National Shrine.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

1. One 2-dimensional drawing of *The Walls of Constantinople*, on 8 ½" by 11" paper (landscape/horizontal view).
2. The following media (or combination of media) may be used: crayon, marker, colored pencil, watercolor paint.
3. Two high-definition photographs of drawings; one of the drawing itself (alone), and one including the artist holding the original drawing.
4. Contact information including artist's name, age, home address, parish affiliation, and parent or guardian's email address. **Must be submitted with the Parental Authorization to Share Photo of Artist in Shrine Special Exhibit Area (attached)**

[Click Here](#) for more Information

Supporting YOCAMA

While the Prayer Shawl Ministry is about shawls, we also try to assist our partnering organizations in other ways. Supporting the Young Orthodox Christian American Mission Adventures (YOCAMA) financially is one way to do so. Participating in a Mission Trip with your teens and young adult family members is another. 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."

To support YOCAMA through our Philoptochos, please make donations to Philoptochos but put YOCAMA Donation on the "For" line. *Our Paschal Prayer Shawl Blessing by Fr. George was held on April 30th. We had 10 beautiful shawls donated. Many thanks to Faye Georgeo, Julie Skouteris, Presbyteria Marinda Tsahakis, and Susan Kleto for the donation of time and talents.*

2023 YOCAMA: Young Orthodox Christian American Mission Adventures Summer Trips

Our home base for the Summer 2023 trip is Gallup, NM. We will work on the following projects:

Medical and developmental screenings: The medical screening team includes pediatricians/physicians, registered nurses, pulmonary tech, dentist, several pre-med/dental students as well as adult and high school volunteers. In partnership with Saint Bonaventure, our team hosts Health Fairs providing medical and dental screenings, a hot lunch, food boxes and supplies and craft activities on various remote locations on the Navajo reservation.

Construction. In partnership with St. Bonaventure, our team provides assistance with home repairs and other vital construction projects as well as renovations to the St Bonaventure School. Many of the Navajo homes need to be rebuilt because of fire damage from the kettle stoves used to heat the homes.

Outreach. We deliver food and water to Navajo families throughout the Eastern communities of the Navajo Nation. Food is donated by the Philoptochos Society at [St. George Greek Orthodox Church](#) in Albuquerque. Water delivery is provided by appointment through St. Bonaventure Mission and [Dig Deep](#).

Food Pantry. Prepare food delivery boxes, work at their gardens, distribute food at the pantry and sort food donations at the [Community Pantry](#) in Gallup, NM.

Our home base for the Summer 2023 trip will be Browning, Montana. We work on the following projects:

Repair and paint classrooms and teacher's housing at the [De La Salle Blackfeet School](#) in Browning, MT.

Work in the classrooms and serve lunches and dinners to students.

Build a playset and repair a playground for the disadvantaged children in Heart Butte MT.

Help with food pantry/clothes distribution center in Heart Butte MT.

For more information about these volunteer opportunities or to support YOCAMA directly, see their website at <http://www.yocama.com/>.



YOCAMA 2023



YOCAMA 2023 Mission Trip Dates
New Mexico (Navajo) July 22-29th, 2023
Montana (Blackfeet) July 29th-Aug 5th, 2023



Medical Mission Trip
June 11th - 14th, 2023





Philoptochos Meeting

May 21

Join us for a lovely meeting and elections for our new chapter board. Spring is in the air and summer is just around the corner! What a great day to join your sisters and brothers of Philoptochos. And it's not too late to join our membership!

Hands of Love
(A Philoptochos Ministry)

*Invites You and Your
Family to Join us for
Fellowship & Fun!*

**MIDWEST
GEORGIA FOOD
BANK**

May 25th: 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Please RSVP to:

[Sign-Up Genius](#)

**You will be asked to sign
a waiver for MGFB**

**Wear closed toed shoes as
this is a warehouse!**

220 Parkade Ct.

Peachtree City





During the Month of May
"Hands of Love" is accepting monetary donations for the
Midwest Food Bank in Peachtree City

Midwest Food Bank (MFB) is a faith-based, non-denominational charity with ten distribution centers in the US and one each in Africa and Haiti. This year 'Hands of Love' is organizing a hands-on volunteer experience at the Georgia MFB Distribution Center in Peachtree City on Thursday May 25 from 5:30-7:30pm. Please contact Cynthia Cromartie to RSVP.

You may place donations in the red Hands of Love box in the church narthex or online <https://saintchristpherphiloptoschos.square.site>
To mail: 313 Dividend Dr, Suite 210, Peachtree City, 30269

Faithfully, Anna Andreeva-Naydenova, "Hands of Love" Ministry Chair



Transfiguration Orthodox Academy

A K-8 Hybrid School

Opportunity to enroll in a Christ-focused hybrid homeschool!

(Applications will to be accepted on a rolling basis until classes are filled.)

**Transfiguration Orthodox Academy is accepting
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apply

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GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

EXPLORE *Tarpon Springs*



**JOIN US THIS SUMMER
FOR CLERGY-LAITY**



Make it a Vacation!

Tarpon Springs is one of Florida's gems! Come and enjoy the sun. Innisbrook resort has world class golfing and the amazing Lockness pool for some great relaxation and fun for the family!



Enjoy the History and Culture

Take a stroll at the Historic Sponge Docks and eat some great food! Take a boat ride and visit the Seaside Museum. There is plenty to do.



Connect

We have planned an amazing conference with inspiring speakers, workshops and social events to connect us as O'NE! Registration is open.

BOOK NOW



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Registration

<https://stnicholastarpon.org/cl2023>



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS



APPLY NOW

FAITH SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

DEADLINE: JUNE 30, 2023

This merit-based scholarship program is available to the best and brightest graduating high school seniors of Hellenic descent and/or Greek Orthodox faith who are enrolling in a 4-year accredited U.S. university this fall. Scholarships are awarded on a merit basis with applicants given the option to be considered for additional financial need-based allocations.

For full application details and to apply now, visit thefaithendowment.org/scholarships or scan:



THEFAITHENDOWMENT.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS

Founded in 2004 by a group of visionary Greek American leaders and philanthropists, *FAITH: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism* is an independent 501(c)(3) organization that supports the development of innovative educational, cultural, and scholarship programs that promote Hellenism, an understanding of the Greek Orthodox faith, and the relationship of the two to America's history and multicultural landscape for young people. *FAITH* has proudly awarded over 1,950 grants and scholarships to our community's brightest young leaders.

For questions, contact: info@thefaithendowment.org • (212) 803-9363 • facebook.com/faithendowment



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.



CYBER SECURITY WATCH

Provided by the Departments of Internet Ministries and Information Technology



EDUCATE yourselves and others about the dangers of emails and phone scams.

YOUR PARISH PRIEST *should never* reach out via personal email to request immediate financial assistance. Be vigilant if you do receive an email that fits this description! Here are some *do's* and *do not's* to guide you:

DO NOT...

- ❌ reply to the message
- ❌ click on any links
- ❌ download any attachments
- ❌ use the contact information provided in the email
- ❌ share personal or financial data via email or phone

DO...FOLLOW THE 3 V'S

- ✅ **VIGILANCE** requires that you should question every email that comes in
- ✅ **VERIFY** the email by contacting your parish
- ✅ **VERY OFTEN** change your passwords

REPORT CYBERCRIME IMMEDIATELY to the following Federal agencies and to the Archdiocese:

- **Federal Trade Commission:** [ftc.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint)
- **FBI:** [fbi.gov/tips](https://www.fbi.gov/tips)
- **Archdiocese Technical Support:** techsupport.goarch.org

LEARN MORE by visiting blogs.goarch.org/internet-ministries by contacting the Departments of Internet Ministries and Information Technology with your questions at techsupport.goarch.org.



*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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Ste. 210
Peachtree City, GA 30269

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