



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΑΝΤΑΣ

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

June 9, 2023



St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

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Phone: (770) 347-PRAY (7729)

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Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, Pastor

Stephen Sarantis, President, Parish Council

Jackie Sarantis, Office Administrator



Pastoral Message from Fr. George for 6.9.23



Pentecost is undoubtedly an event taking place in history. It also sets out the fundamental features of the Church's theology and mission, which continue to be relevant to us today. For example, Pentecost provides the Church with its basic structure and organization. The Head of the Church is Christ. The Church, in its worldly dimensions, is headed by the Apostles. Our link to the Apostles stems from what is called apostolic succession.

With the sacrament of the laying on of hands, which we continue to do in ordinations even today, an unbroken connection is established between the

Apostles and us. Through apostolic succession, the mission of the Church in a given location is overseen by the Bishop. The Bishop is the successor of the Apostles. In our tradition, when we celebrate the Divine Liturgy and other services, the Bishop stands in the place of Christ. Within our parishes and communities, we often meet a Priest, not a Bishop. Practically speaking, the Priest is called to administer the sacraments on behalf of a Bishop. All sacraments conducted by the Priest are tied to the Bishop's authority and status within the apostolic succession. Every time we go to Church, every time we attend a sacrament, we experience Pentecost. We live the mission of the Church as it was set out by Christ Himself. Just like Christ led his disciples in establishing the Eucharist during the Mystical Supper, the Bishop conducts the Divine Liturgy with the presbyters, deacons, and all the people of God in our churches today.

At the same time, the notion of community remains an integral part of the Church. The hierarchical structure of the Church is dependent on a community of faithful. The models for leadership and worship in the Church are premised on community. Christians live and pray in communities, together with others. The most important sacrament in the Church, the Divine Liturgy, takes place within the community. All the liturgical prayers, the common chalice we are called to drink from, reinforce this collective perspective. For its part, Christ-like leadership, which entails sacrifice in service to others, presupposes community. In the Church, Bishops, Priests, and lay leaders are called to serve the people of God, the community of believers. The pastoral and spiritual needs of the community of believers always come first. (From Archdiocese Department of Religious Education)

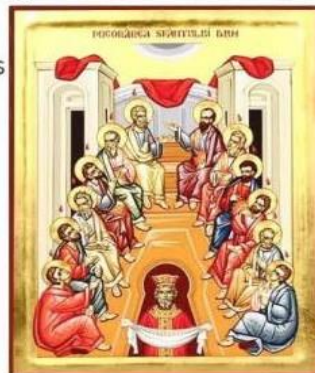


6 facts about the icon of the Pentecost

The Holy Spirit is represented through the 12 rays coming from the mandorla (the semicircle at the top) or through the tongues of fire shown above each Apostle, or through both elements in some icons.

The position of the Apostles seated in a semicircle suggests harmony.

The inverse perspective prevents the apostles in the back from being painted smaller. They are actually depicted slightly larger, particularly Sts Peter and Paul.



BASILICA.RO

The empty seat in the middle belongs to Christ who is invisibly present.

Although St Paul was not present, he is included to show he was in complete communion with the others.

The kingly figure at the bottom is Cosmos, who personifies all people of all nations.



HOLY PENTECOST



Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,
present in all places and filling all things,
treasury of good things and giver of life: come;
take Your abode in us; cleanse us of every
stain, and save our souls, O Good one.

Recent Highlights of Our Parishioners “On the Road”



Saints Constantine and Helen Romanian Orthodox Church in Lilburn, GA, hosted the Pan-Orthodox Pentecost Vespers & Picnic for Orthodox Churches throughout the Atlanta metro area on Saturday, June 3rd from 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. St. Christopher Church had 14 parishioners present.

Fr. George Acsente, Pastor of Saints Constantine and Helen Church in Lilburn, thanks all Atlanta Orthodox parishes and parishioners for their participation. They included the Annunciation Cathedral and Saint John the Wonderworker Church in Atlanta, St. James Church in Buford, Saints Nicholas, Irene and Raphael Church in Cumming, St. Philothei Church in Athens, and St. Christopher Church in Peachtree City.

The host parish served a traditional Romanian grilled "mititei" (cevapi), along with chicken, hotdogs, potato salad, spanakopites, and delicious desserts. Thank you!



Fr. George, Fr. Paul, Fr. Steven, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Christos, Fr. Barnabas, & Fr. George con-celebrated Pentecost Vespers with the Gospel read in three languages.



Faithful from seven Orthodox parishes throughout the Atlanta metro area were present.



Saints Constantine & Helen Church began 30 years ago. The sanctuary was built 15 years ago. Fr. George and members of St. Christopher Church's Building Committee interviewed Fr. George and his parishioners regarding its design to help us with our future church planning.



Pentecost Picnic

JUNE 3, 2023

VESPERS AT 3:00 PM

PICNIC TO FOLLOW

S.S. Constantine and Helen
Romanian Orthodox Church

664 Dickens Rd. NW, Lilburn, GA



Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who made
fisherman all-wise, by sending down upon them
the Holy Spirit, and through them, drawing all
the world into Your net.

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
AND TO RSVP



This is a Pan-Orthodox AICPA event!
Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring their families.

A sister parish commented to us during the picnic how St. Christopher Church always had lots of its faithful participate in our Pan-Orthodox events... thanks be to God for this blessing!



Fr. George offered the Prayer for the picnic, assisted by Brother Clergy from Atlanta's Orthodox parishes. The weather was perfect for a late afternoon picnic on the spacious grounds along with incredible hospitality of Saints Constantine & Helen Church's faithful.





Thanks to our parishioners who drove to Lilburn to represent our parish at this blessed event.





Our parishioners enjoyed fellowship and great food with brothers and sisters in Christ!





We commend our parents and grandparents for bringing their children to join us!



More Highlights of Our Parishioners "On the Road"



Parishioners at Archangel Michael Chapel on May 31, 2023. Fr. George celebrated the Feast of St. Hermias the Martyr, followed by brunch at J. Christopher's in Brookhaven.

More Highlights of Our Parishioners “On the Road”



Parishioners at Broadway Diner, May 29, 2023. Thanks to Presbytera Marinda & Fr. George for hosting the luncheon in honor of Marinda's Name Day – St. Theodosia.

More Highlights of Our Parishioners "On the Road"



Parishioners at Let's EAT! at Broadway Diner, May 28, 2023. Thanks to Kirk and Dedee for hosting the luncheon in memory of Panayiota MacDougall. May Pat's memory be eternal!

More Highlights of Our Parishioners "On the Road"



**Parishioners at Angelo's Mediterranean Restaurant, May 27, 2023,
following the visitation in Griffin for Maria Tagalos Ramsaier-Kirk.
May Mary's memory be eternal!**

More Highlights of Our Parishioners "On the Road"

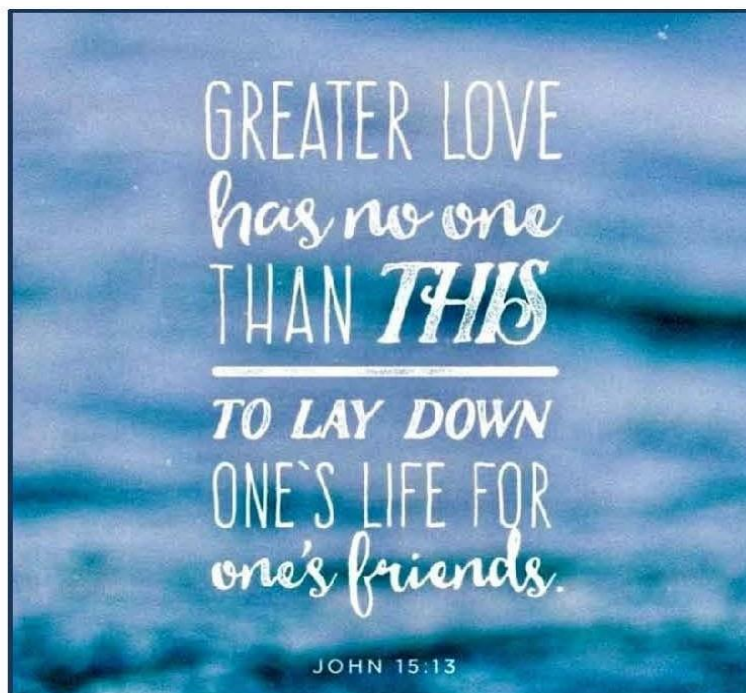


Parishioners at Archangel Michael Chapel, May 20, 2023. Fr. George baptized Andrew & Stephanie Farmakis' two children with Reed & Stephanie Farmakis serving as their Godparents.

More Highlights of Our Parishioners “On the Road”



**Parishioners at Archangel Michael Chapel, May 10, 2023.
Fr. George celebrated the Feast of Mid-Pentecost and
thanks our St. Christopher parishioners who joined us
(including those not pictured).**



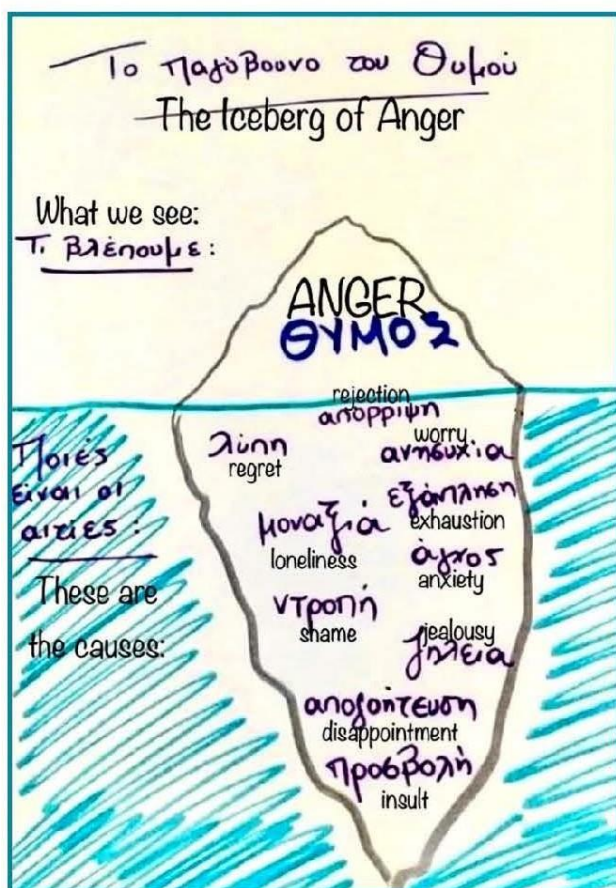
St. Paisios' Counsel on Grumbling

Grumbling is caused by misery, and it can be put aside by doxology (giving praise). Grumbling begets grumbling and doxology begets doxology. When someone doesn't grumble over a problem troubling him, but rather praises God, then the devil gets frustrated and goes off to someone else who grumbles, to cause everything to go even worse for him. You see, the more one grumbles, the more one falls into ruin.

Sometimes the devil deceives us and makes us unable to be pleased with anything; however, one can celebrate all things in a spiritual manner, with doxology, and secure God's constant blessing.

+ St. Paisios of Mt. Athos, *Elder Paisios of Mount Athos Spiritual Councils IV: Family Life*

St. Paisios offers a magnificent response to grumbling. Before we put it aside, consider the following graphic, "The Iceberg of Anger". It depicts anger and some of its underlying causes.



Likewise, I offer an informative article, "[How to Determine the Cause of Your Anger](http://www.verywellhealth.com)" from www.verywellhealth.com. It explains anger's causes and triggers; it also covers anger issues and how to manage this emotion. [Click here to read this article.](#)



Happy Father's Day

Join us in celebrating the
men in our community with a

BBQ

in their honor!

Everyone is invited and

The Ladies of Philoptochos is hosting!

Bring your families and your appetites!

Sunday, June 18, after Liturgy



Great Opportunities Coming Up~ Mark your Calendars!

July 15-

Dress A Girl 9am-Noon

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C49A9A72CA3FD0-dress>

Bring a sewing machine and an iron and ironing board if you have one! We will be creating sundresses for young girls to help support this program.

Check them out here!

<https://www.dressagirlaroundtheworld.com/>

July 16-

Lunch and Meeting at the Psihountas' Home

(106 Kimmer Road) This will be an informative meeting for new and veteran members! Bring your families!

August 10, 17-

Batter Prep for Pita Rolling 9am

This year we are rolling for both our Greek Fest and Fall Fundraiser! We need everyone!
Look for the Sign-Up Genius

August 12, 19-

Let's Roll!! Spanakopita and Tiropita!

Look for the Sign-Up Genius

October 7-

Making Baklava for Festival

More Baking Dates TBA



During the Month of June "Hands of Love" will be accepting monetary donations for I-58 Mission in Senoia "Serving physical needs & showing the love of Christ" to people in Coweta, Fayette, Spalding and Meriwether Counties

Isaiah 58:6-12 is the blueprint for this mission:

"...says the Lord; "...cancel the debts of the oppressed; and tear apart every unjust contract. Break your bread for the hungry, and bring the homeless into your house. If you see a naked man, clothe him, nor shall you disregard your offspring in your own household...Your righteousness shall go before you, and the glory of God shall cover you"

I-58 Mission in Senoia supports a food pantry, clothes closet, household goods room and a baby room.



You may place your donations in the red box for "Hands of Love" in the narthex or donate online: <https://stchristpherphiloptochos.square.site>

Faithfully, AnnaAndreeva-Naydenova, "Hands of Love" Ministry Chair



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 Heritage Museum. There is plenty to do.



Connect

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

BOOK NOW



Innisbrook Resort



1-855-778-4018

reference code "1114ZO"

Registration

<https://stnicholastarpon.org/cl2023>





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
applications for the 2023-24 school year!**



Apply Today!

www.toamarietta.com/admissions



3431 Trickum Road NE, Marietta GA 30066 | www.toamarietta.com | office@toamarietta.com

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](https://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



*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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