



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΑΝΤΑΣ

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

September 1, 2023



St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210

Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

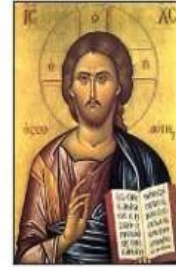
Phone: (770) 347-PRAY (7729)

Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org

Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, Pastor

Stephen Sarantis, President, Parish Council

Jackie Sarantis, Office Administrator



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Pastoral Message from Fr. George for 9.1.23

This Friday, September 1st, join us for Divine Liturgy commemorating the Beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year. It will last one hour and afterwards for those who are interested we will enjoy brunch fellowship away from church. We have retired parishioners and those who are not working that enjoy worship and fellowship... why not begin the new church year by bringing your family and friends to worship and if time permits, fellowship afterwards. You won't get this chance for another year, so don't lose out when the spirit of lethargy wrestles with you to stay home.

In support of your understanding of the special Feast Day this Friday, I share the following reflection, "Happy (Church) New Year!" by Fr. Joseph Honeycutt, published on Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese (<http://ww1.antiochian.org>).



Make yours acceptable to the Lord!

It seems odd saying "Happy New Year" in September, but that's when the Church marks Her annual beginning. September 1st is, for the Church, the first day of a New Year. A pious tradition of the Church holds that Jesus of Nazareth began preaching the good news of His mission on September 1st. When our Lord entered the Synagogue, He was given the book of the Prophet Isaiah to read, and He opened it and found the place where it is written:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:18-21).

Tradition also holds that it was during the month of September that the Hebrews entered the promised land. And, the custom of beginning a new year with autumn was common in Biblical and Mediterranean lands because the summer harvest was completed, the crops were stored, and it was a time when people began preparing for a new agricultural cycle. It was an appropriate time for a new beginning. This is evident in the services for the New Year as the Church beseeches God for fair weather, seasonable rains, and an abundance of the fruits of the earth.

As we begin this new year it should be noted that the church calendar is loaded with important events, especially the 12 great feasts, the four fasts, and Pascha. Also, each day of the church year is set aside to honor saints; many of whom died on that particular date. Similar to our personal calendars where we mark the earthly birthdays of family and friends, the Church remembers the saints on their "heavenly birthday" — the day they passed from this life to Paradise.

Liturgically, the church year begins and ends with the Mother of God. The first great feast of the year, September 8, honors her birth; the last great feast of the year, August 15, remembers her falling asleep. Between these

two great feasts the Church marks 10 other major Feasts and Pascha, the Feast of Feasts. The dates for Palm Sunday, Pascha, Ascension, and Pentecost vary each year. The Apostles' Fast can vary in length. It begins on the Monday after All Saints Sunday (the first Sunday after Pentecost) and ends with the feast on June 29. Each parish also celebrates its "altar feast" on the day set aside for its patron saint, feast, or name.

The wall calendars that most parishes make available each fall include many of the daily saints and readings for the year. Also, most people have their own patron saint — or "nameday" — to remember, as well as other favorite and family saints' days.

Why not start the new ecclesiastical year off right? Mark your personal calendar with the feasts, fasts, and saints days of the Church. Make a resolution to participate in the liturgical cycle of the Church. Unlike mundane New Year's resolutions, marking your calendar, keeping the feasts and fasts, and embarking for a new life within the annual life of the Church, is a wonderful way to sanctify time. Let's all join together in making this an "acceptable year of the Lord!"

Happy New Year!



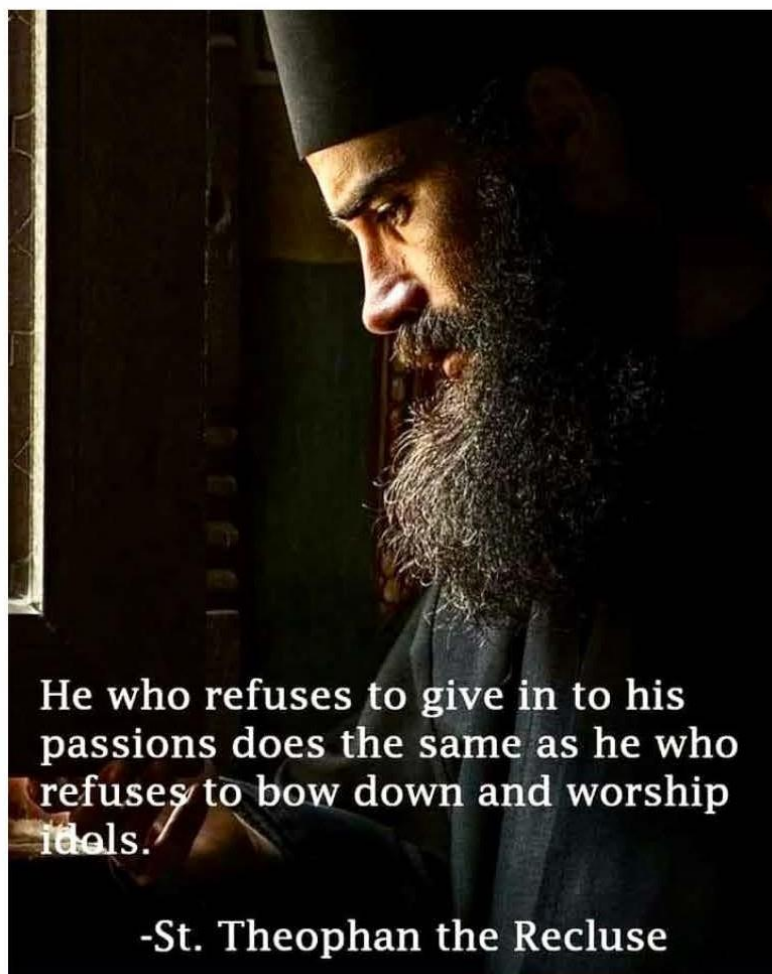
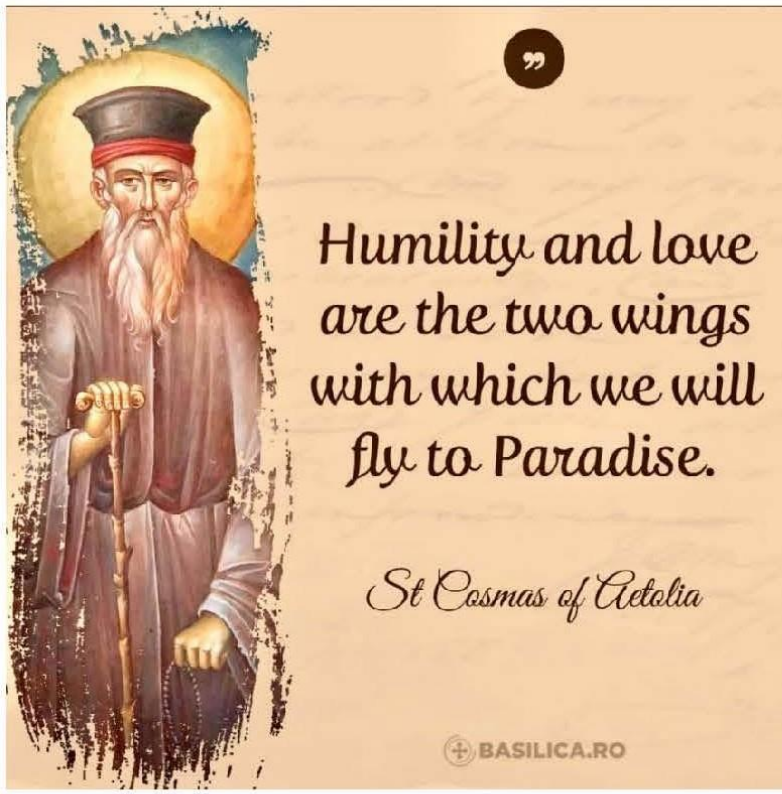


Feast of St. Phanourios August 27





Send Fr. George your suggestion for a caption for this photo by [clicking here](#)



Saint Christopher Family we hope you can join us for this exciting event next Saturday September 9th on the beach at Lake Tobesofkee in Macon hosted by the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in conjunction with AIOPA. Fr. George, Steve and I are representatives of AIOPA which stands for Atlanta Inter-Orthodox Parish Association. AIOPA is a team of clergy and laity representatives from different canonical Orthodox parishes around the Atlanta area.

The Cross Dive for High School students begins at 3:00 but you can go early and enjoy fellowship on the beach from 10:00-3:00. They will also have a barbeque dinner from 4:00-6:00. Tickets are \$15.00 and must be purchased by Friday September 1st. You can click the flyer and it will take you to the website to purchase tickets. Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you there.

Faithfully,

Jackie Sarantis

Church Administrator

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE

2ND ANNUAL PAN-ORTHODOX CROSS DIVE


SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

HOSTED BY

HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ATLANTA INTER-ORTHODOX PARISH ASSOCIATION (AIOPA)

- FELLOWSHIP ON THE BEACH AT LAKE TOBESOFKEE
- BBQ DINNER
- CROSS DIVE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
- HOTEL BLOCK FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO CELEBRATE THE DIVINE LITURGY WITH US SUNDAY MORNING



PURCHASE YOUR
TICKET TODAY!

FOR MORE
INFORMATION, VISIT
WWW.HOLYCROSSGA.ORG

Another Successful 2023 South Atlanta Golf Classic



Now that the 2023 South Atlanta Golf Classic is behind us, the Golf Committee would like to thank our parish family and especially Father George and Presbytera Marinda, as well as our volunteers for their support in helping us bring together another successful event. Year after year we have seen an increase in golfer participation and even golfers who traveled from afar to attend our event. This year we had 81 golfers joining us. Not counting 12 golfers who dropped out a few days before the event, this was the highest participation yet! We are appreciative for our friends at Folds of Honor and The Joseph Sams School for their help and the partnerships we have built to promote our worthy cause.

We had another exciting Helicopter Ball Drop. The results of the Ball Drop are reflected below as to how the \$1000 prize was distributed to each charity and whose ball made that happen:

- *Steve Sarantis' ball was the winning ticket for Folds of Honor since their ball was closest to the target; they will receive an additional \$500.*
- *Mack Miller's ball, a Bronze Sponsor, had the winning ticket for The Joseph Sams School with the next closest ball to the marker; they will receive an additional \$300.*
- *The finally, Chad Smith's ball, a Bronze Sponsor from Reveille Wealth Management had the winning ticket for St. Christopher Outreach Ministry; they will receive an additional \$200.*

For those who couldn't attend, we wanted to share some of the remarks from our golfers –

"Thanks for another great tournament for such a great cause. Appreciate you and all that you stand for. Thanks for letting me be a part of this important day." Greg K. - Peachtree City, GA.

"We look forward to participating in this event year after year. Thank you for those who put this on, for an unforgettable experience, filled with golf, generosity, and the spirit of giving. We can't wait to tee off again next year!" Clay W. - Douglasville, GA.

"We had a lot of fun today, make sure to let me know what I can sponsor next year. And we still haven't done GreekFest yet, so let me know when about that too." Mack M. - Brooks, GA.

"Our team had a brilliant time! We enjoyed the course, the food, the drink, the competition, and the company! Great Day!" Steve R. - Fayetteville, GA.

"The course was in great shape, except for the air conditioning being broken! The club's amenities were fantastic, and everything was very well coordinated. Definitely worth the trip, can't wait for the next one." Gus P. - Kansas City, KS.

Thanks again to all our participants, supporters, and friends of the South Atlanta Golf Classic. We look forward to another great event in 2024! *SAVE the DATE!* Next year's event is scheduled for Monday, August 19, 2024.

Playground maintenance efforts of Dedee, Susan, and RJ and parents (Marian and Matt)...



...produce results like this:



Contact Pete Kleto (678.877.9105) to assist on some final touches to this work.



Saturday, October 14th, 2023

6 PM Appetizers | 7 PM Dinner

The Shipyard at Trilith

COME ENJOY A TASTE OF GREECE!
DELICIOUS FOOD • LIVE MUSIC • GREEK DANCING



Tickets: \$150 for Individual

\$250 for Couples

Sponsorships Available!

To purchase, please use the QR code.

Questions? Contact Tammy at tammy@soulakos.org or 404-625-4663

Brought to you by St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church



Fanouropites Silent Auction



Sunday, September 17
Begins at Coffee Hour
Ends at 11:30



Benefits Youth Activities in our Metropolis

We will have a **kids \$1 table**, too!!

****Philoptochos members are asked to bring a
Fanouropite or homemade sweet treat!!
Contact Helen Psihountas at (770)-298-4493**

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." ~Galatians 6:9



Baking Dates Greek Fest and Bake Sale

We are warming up the mixers and ovens for our Greek Fest and Bake Sale! We need everyone to volunteer this year!

Spanakopita and Tiropita are up first:

Please sign up [here](#)

**Great Opportunities Coming Up~
Mark your Calendars!**

September 9-

Making Koulourakia

Look for the Sign-Up Genius

September 23-

Making Kourambiedes

Look for the Sign-Up Genius

October 7-

Making Baklava for Festival

Look for the Sign-Up Genius

More Baking Dates TBA



Wellspring Living



HANDS OF LOVE

All Sundays in August 2023:

Wellspring Living

Wellspring Living transforms the lives of girls and boys 12-17 and young women 18-32 in our area, who are at risk, or are victims of sexual exploitation.

Headquartered in **Atlanta**, the non-profit organization has provided restorative services through its residential and community-based programs for more than 20 years.



"Hands of Love" ministry will be accepting monetary donations in the red box in the church narthex; and in kind - in the bin in the church entryway.

To donate online: stchristopherphiloptochos.square.site

The "Wellspring Treasures" store on 116 Peachtree City East Shopping Ctr. in Peachtree City is also accepting gently used furniture and clothes.

For more information and to volunteer: <https://wellspringliving.org>

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

SERB FEST ATLANTA

Sat, Sep. 30th
(11am - 10pm)



Sun, Oct. 1st
(12pm - 6pm)



Learn About and Experience Serbian Culture

Delicious Serbian Food
Live Music
Traditional Folklor Performances
Church Tours
Prize Raffles
Fun for all ages!



Sts. Peter and Paul Serbian Orthodox Church
1558 Hewatt Road Southwest Lilburn, GA 30047



August 25, 2023



CENTER
FAMILY CARE

What's New This Week



HELP US IMPROVE!

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

Your feedback is very important for our ministry! We need your help in responding to two very easy questions. [TAKE 2 QUESTION SURVEY HERE.](#)

FAMILY MATTERS

podcast



THE GOOD WINE:
STRENGTHENING
MARRIAGE
THROUGH MUTUAL
FORGIVENESS

with
Fr. Elias Dorham



Fr. Alex Goussetis speaks with Fr. Elias Dorham, whose doctoral work focused on the theological and liturgical perspectives on Orthodox marriage. Fr Elias offers practical advice for couples who desire to grow together in Christ. [Listen here.](#)



"Helping a person in need is good in itself. But the degree of goodness is hugely affected by the attitude with which it is done. If you show resentment because you are helping the person out of a reluctant sense of duty, then the person may receive your help but may feel embarrassed. If, on the other hand, you help the person in a spirit of joy, then the help will be received joyfully. The person will feel neither demeaned nor humiliated by your help, but rather will feel glad to have caused you pleasure by receiving your help."



St. John Chrysostom

Many times people with disabilities and their caregivers find it difficult to ask for and receive help from others because they do not wish to inconvenience anyone. For those offering assistance, test your intentions. If you act out of a sense of resentful duty, you will likely do more harm than good. If your offering arises from goodwill, the receiver will be doubly...*continue reading.*



TIME OUT for marriage

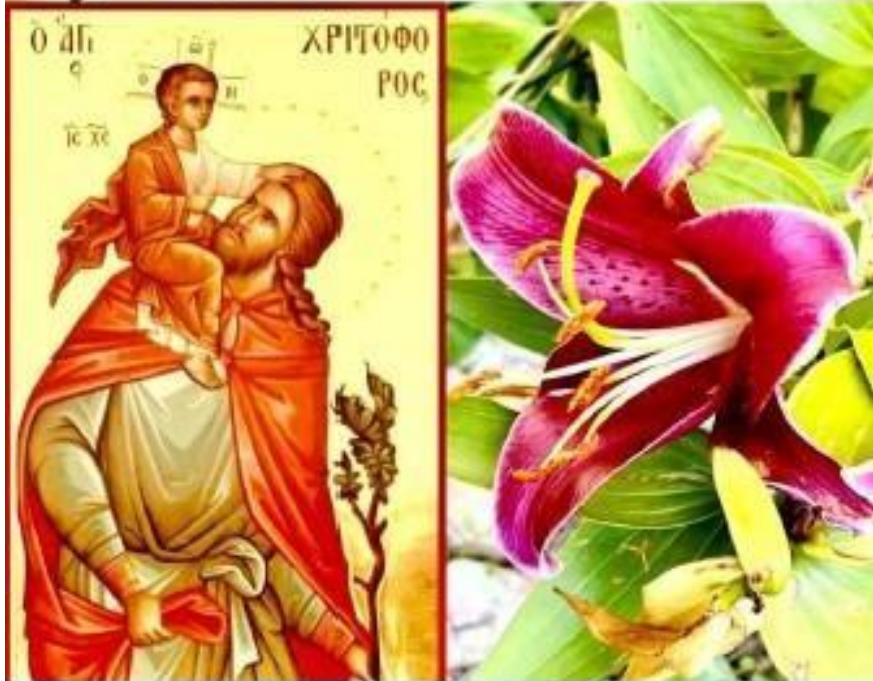
video reflections for couples

EPISODE 69:

Ebbs and Flows

All marriages have ebbs and flows. What can we do to encourage a "flow and grow" dynamic? Presvytera Kerry Pappas offers some suggestions in this week's "Time Out for Marriage." [Watch here.](#)

Welcome



We welcome
you to join us
in person to
encounter our
Lord and
Savior!

[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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