



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΑΝΤΑΣ

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

February 16, 2024



## St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210

Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

Phone: (770) 347-PRAY (7729)

Website: [www.saintchristopherhoc.org](http://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 2.16.24

**JOIN US FOR OUR  
PARISH FAMILY GET-TOGETHER  
ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 AFTER CHURCH.  
MAKE AND SHARE YOUR FAVORITE  
FAMILY/ETHNIC RECIPE FOR OUR  
"SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCH", OR YOU  
CAN OFFER YOUR FAVORITE  
BEVERAGE OR DESSERT TO SHARE.  
THANKS TO PRESBYTERA  
MARINDA FOR CHAIRING.**

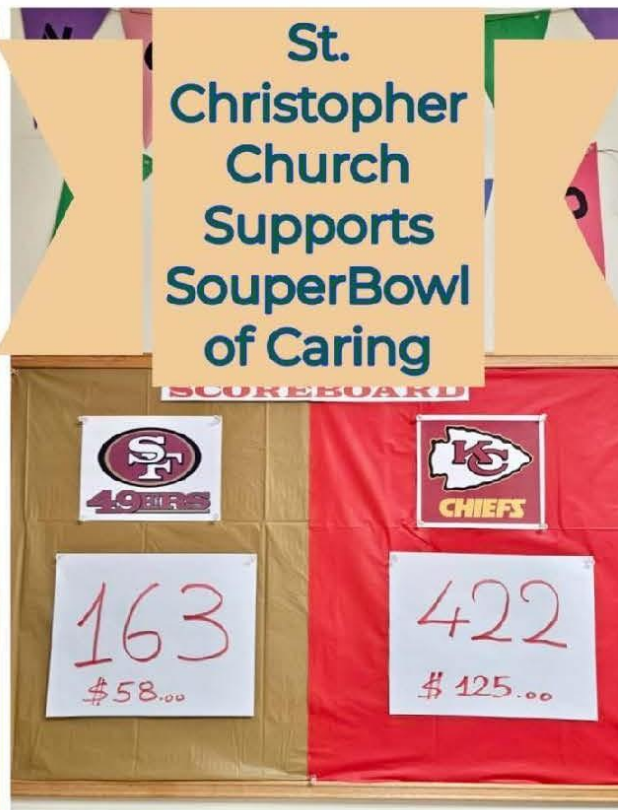
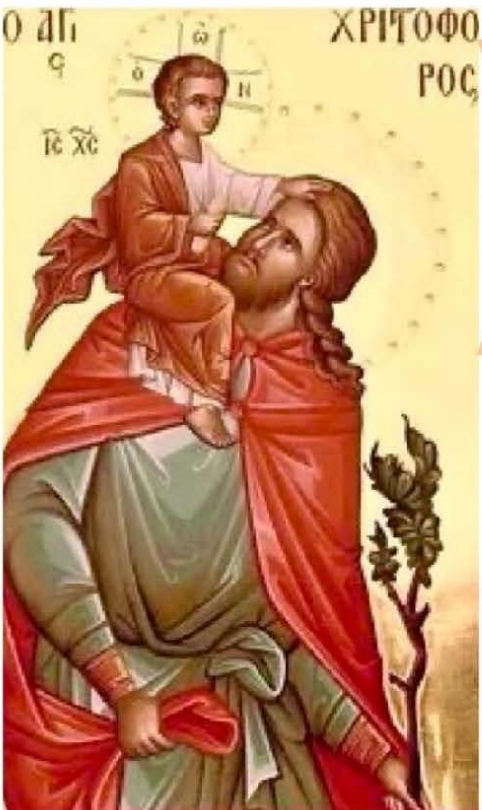


A family that **prays** stays together.  
**together.**

USE QR  
CODE TO  
SHARE WHAT  
YOU ARE  
BRINGING!



## Thank You for Your Generous Support





# THANK YOU!

**St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church**

raised:

**\$396 and 585 food items**

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed, and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



***February 11, 2024***

**Alison Reese**  
Executive Director  
Tackle Hunger: Home of the  
Souper Bowl of Caring

Where your  
treasure is,  
there your  
**HEART**  
will be also.

M a t t h e w    6 : 2 1



Fr. George,

I saw this [\[video\]](#) and thought of your sermon on Sunday. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we all went running happily to the Lord when we saw Him in the morning? 🤗

<https://youtube.com/shorts/D8WYfcrftg?si=wjbOJnf0SQv2wZ1H>

Faithfully yours,

Faye Georgeo



"Pray and THEN speak. That's what to do with your children. If you are constantly lecturing them, you'll become tiresome, and as they grow up they'll feel a kind of oppression. Prefer prayer and speak to them THROUGH prayer. Speak to God, and God will speak to their hearts. That is, you shouldn't give guidance to your children with a voice that they hear with their ears—you may do that too, but above all you should speak to God ABOUT your children. Say, 'Lord Jesus Christ, give Your light to my children. I entrust them to You. You gave them to me, but I am weak and unable to guide them, so, please, give them light.' And God will speak to them and they will say to themselves, 'Oh dear, I shouldn't have upset Mom by doing that!' And with the grace of God, this will come from their heart."

— Saint Porphyrios







**If you've come to church to find holy people, you've made a mistake. If you came to find God, you chose correctly.**

**St. John Chrysostom**



## 2024 Parish Council Receiving Oath of Office







## 40 Day Churching of Mother & Baby with Family



O Lord our God, Who on the fortieth day was brought as a child into the Temple of the Law by Mary, the Virgin Bride and Your holy Mother, and was carried in the arms of the righteous Symeon, do You also, Sovereign Master All-Powerful, bless this presented babe that it may appear before You, the Creator of all things. And do You increase in her every good work acceptable to You, removing from her every opposing might by the sign of the likeness of Your Cross; for You are He Who guards infants, O Lord. So that, accounted worthy of holy Baptism, she may obtain the portion of Your Elect of the Kingdom, being protected with us by the Grace of the Holy Consubstantial and Undivided Trinity. For unto You do we send up Glory, Honor and Worship, with Your Eternal Father and Your All; Holy, Good and Life-creating Spirit, both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.



"Instead of an avenger, be a deliverer.  
Instead of a fault-finder, be a soother.  
Instead of a betrayer, be a martyr.  
Instead of a chider, be a defender.  
Beseech God on behalf of sinners  
that they receive mercy, and pray to  
Him for the righteous, that they be  
preserved." (St. Isaac the Syrian, 7th  
cent.)







**Support Our Efforts to  
Build Our Church Complex**

**[Click QR code  
to view](#)**





**February 18, Sunday of the Canaanite**

7:45 Orthros

9:00 Divine Liturgy

10:45 Religious Education Classes

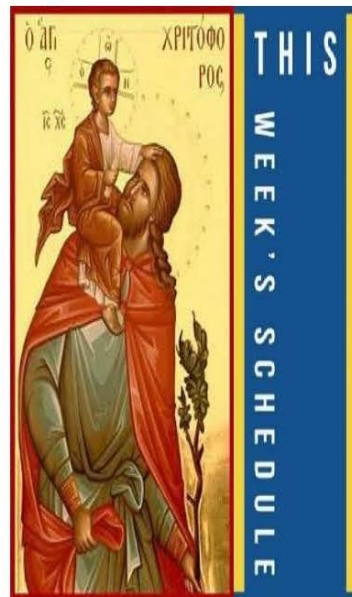
11:45 Philoptochos Board Meeting

**February 25, Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee (Triodion Begins)**

7:45 Orthros

9:00 Divine Liturgy

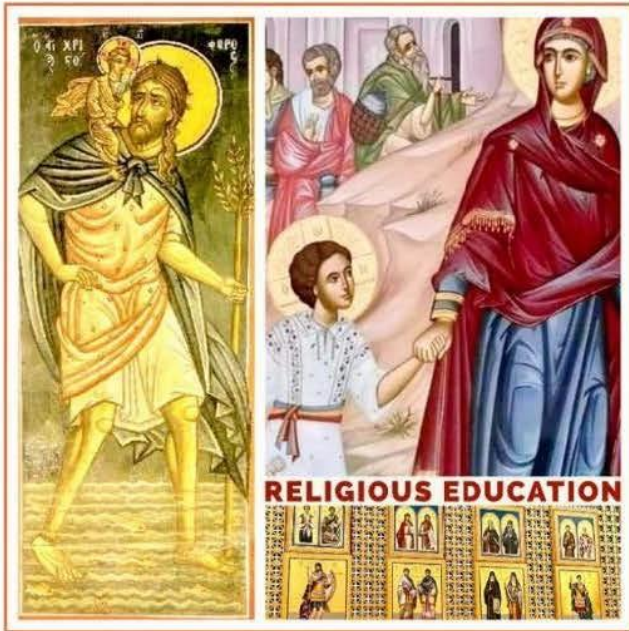
10:30 Family Get-Together Luncheon for everyone



## Family Get-Together on Sunday, February 25, 2024

St. Christopher families are encouraged to bring as many of their family members as possible to join us and share "soup and sandwiches" after church. Many of our parishioners have favorite family or ethnic recipes. We can't wait to taste your homemade recipes. Maybe you prefer to share something other than soup and sandwiches... be our guests. Beverages and desserts are welcomed also. To ensure adequate seating, please let us know the number of your family members coming and what you're bringing. If you cannot make something, we hope you'll still join us. You're welcome.





# Adult Class

Sunday, February 18, 2024

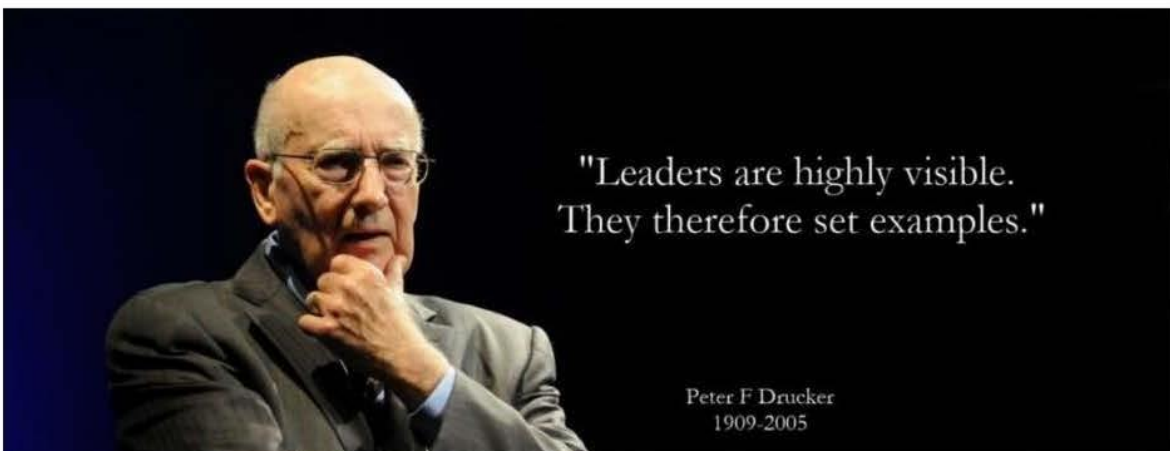
Fr. George Tsahakis

\*The Article that follows was distributed by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Outreach Office

## PARISH LEADERSHIP

Parish council members are leaders in the parish.

As newly elected parish councils meet for the first time, it is a good opportunity to reflect on Leadership.



## **Update from your Treasurers Bill & George**

Our Parish had an eventful and blessed year. You did your part in moving us closer to building our new Church building. We finished the year strong in stewardship and building fund income – averaging \$25,700 per month. You, the Parishioners are to be celebrated for your commitment. As we go forward, your commitment to the building fund must stay strong to complete our dream of a church building. Please reach out to your Parish Council if you have questions or concerns. Blessed New Year!



Dear Co-Workers:

The GreekFest committee has been working hard! The band & venue have been booked! Menus are set!

SPONSORSHIP & TICKET SALES ARE LIVE! Our website is up & running - [www.GreekFestFayette.com](http://www.GreekFestFayette.com). Click on the link to take you to the event page where you can view the event details, see available sponsorship opportunities or purchase tickets. PLEASE share this website 😊

We are actively seeking sponsorships & donations for a silent auction. Please contact Tammy Soulakos at 404-625-4663 or [tammy@soulakos.org](mailto:tammy@soulakos.org) for more info or with questions regarding Sponsorships & Silent Auction donations

Ticket prices are \$100 each this year. We hope that this is encouraging news & that you will share with friends & family!

And we will soon be asking for volunteers to go ahead & sign-up 😊 Be on the lookout for the sign-up link in coming weeks.

Faithfully,

Your GreekFest Chairs:

Julie Skouteris – [gsjs401mg@gmail.com](mailto:gsjs401mg@gmail.com)

Tammy Soulakos – [tammy@soulakos.org](mailto:tammy@soulakos.org)

Steve Theodorakis – [spamandcheese@bellsouth.net](mailto:spamandcheese@bellsouth.net)



**Saturday, August 24th, 2024**  
**6 PM Appetizers | 7 PM Dinner**  
**The Shipyard at Trilith**

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

**Tickets & Sponsorships Available!**



Tickets include an all you can eat Greek buffet, open bar, live music, dancing & more!  
To purchase, please scan the QR code or visit  
[www.GreekFestFayette.com](http://www.GreekFestFayette.com)

**Proceeds benefit St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church's  
building fund & local charities. Come support a great cause!**

Questions? Contact Tammy at [tammy@soulakos.org](mailto:tammy@soulakos.org) or 404-625-4663  
Brought to you by St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church





## **THANK YOU**

**EVERYONE AT  
ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH.  
YOU ANSWERED THE CALL TO  
HELP OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED.  
IT WAS A SUCCESSFUL TAILGATE  
IN SUPPORT OF SOUPER BOWL  
OF CARING!! WHILE KC CHIEFS  
WON THE SUPER BOWL – THE  
FAYETTE SAMARITANS WERE THE  
TRUE WINNERS!**

**DEDEE PANAYIS**

**PHILOPTOCHOS PRESIDENT**

Thank you to Faye Georgeo for these great pics she took of our Souper Bowl of Caring event.





## Philoptochos Celebrates a Successful Operation Classroom Ministry

TEACHERS: Resourceful, committed, and sometimes, awe inspiring. But teachers also seem to translate "doing more with less" by dipping into their own pockets to supply their classroom needs.

St. Christopher's Philoptochos decided to implement their Operation Classroom Ministry in a format to aid these teachers. In 5 years, we have granted approximately \$7,000.00, of hard-earned Fall Pastry Sale receipts, to reimburse teachers for their classroom supplies and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) activity kits, helped purchase over 500 books so students had their own book to take home and read during the summer, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) activity supplies making an impact for thousands of students in Fayette and Coweta Counties.

Our final year of Operation Classroom is yielding amazing results through the efforts of Coach T (aka Mary Thompson). Students at Coweta County's Welch Elementary School, through their STEAM program learned about war veterans and thanked veterans at the Newnan VFW for their service with "Veterans Rock" hand painted rocks this past Veterans Day. Coach T stated the purpose of the activity was to help her students learn about the sacrifices veterans make for all of us and "to show their appreciation to our hometown heroes." One 5<sup>th</sup> Grade student made a video about the importance of celebrating Veterans Rock and recently was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Regional Georgia Student Technology Competition.

A second activity funded through this grant had all the second and third grade students (14 classes) participating in this year's "Symbolic Monarch Butterfly Migration". The program was created by the Environmental Education Alliance, Inc. For 28 years, the project has helped students in the U.S. and Canada connect with students living near Mexican Monarch sanctuaries. The Welch students created symbolic, life-sized butterflies and sent them to the Mexican students for the winter. Those students



will protect the butterflies for the winter and then send them back in the spring of 2024 (a butterfly pen pal program). The program promotes "authentic lessons of conservation, cooperation, and ambassadorship," Coach T says. Utilizing their school's STEM garden, the students learned about the plants, especially milkweed, the butterflies require to live and reproduce. This garden is a part of the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail.

The final activity our Operation Classroom grant helped fund involves the students learning about the post-presidential legacy and activities of Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter. The students are learning about their involvement with Habitat for Humanity, the work done by the Carter Center, their efforts to eradicate the Guinea Worm, the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail, and more. The students will relate what they have learned through various art projects. These art projects will then be placed on display at the Nixon Centre, Newnan for March and April.

All parishioners of St. Christopher's are invited to attend the Jimmy Carter Exhibit Open House on **Tuesday, March 26, 2024, from 5-7 pm** in the Black Box Area of the Nixon Centre for the Performing and Visual Arts, 1523 Lower Fayetteville Rd, Newnan, GA 30265. Welch Elementary students will serve as Docents for the exhibit and Philoptochos will be recognized as one of the grantors of this special educational opportunity.





Sunday, February 11, 2024  
"Souper Bowl of Caring"

## OVERTIME!

Just like the Super Bowl went into overtime, the **Souper Bowl of Caring** has gone into overtime! On Sunday we collected non-perishables and funds for the teams as shown

San Francisco 49ers: 163 cans; \$58    Kansas City Chiefs: 422 cans; \$125  
and \$213 not assigned to a team.

If you want to **change** the Souper Bowl **score**, bring more cans (or dollars) for your team! **The game continues in overtime** until the end of February.

On **Super Bowl Sunday, February 11th**, we asked everyone to **spare ONE (or two) dollars and/or ONE 16 oz item of non-perishable food** to benefit "Fayette Samaritans". Please place **monetary** donations in the "Hands of Love" red box in the church entryway or online at:

<https://StChristopherPhiloptochos.square.site>

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



It all started in 1990 with Brad Smith's simple prayer: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat"

I visited the volunteers at "Fayette Samaritans" in Fayetteville. It is a local charity with a mission of helping Fayette county residents in distress with food, clothing and financial assistance.



These are some preferred items for the month of February, although all donations are appreciated.

1. Canned beef stew
2. Canned fruit
3. Canned tuna
4. Boxed mashed potatoes
5. Pasta sauce
6. Jiffy cornbread mix
7. Boxed mac and cheese
8. Canned beans-black, pinto, navy, black-eyed peas, etc.
9. Jelly

And non-food items such as:

Feminine products, bar soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste

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



*St. Philothea*  
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



*"A light on Mars Hill"*

*Nameday Feast*  
*February 18, 2024*

*Vespers at 5:00 pm*

*followed by an outdoor  
cookout and bon-fire reception*

*Divine Liturgy February 19, 9:00 am*

*Join us to celebrate our Matronal Feast  
3761 Mars Hill Road, Watkinsville, GA 30677  
Call us at 770 725-5035 for more information*



THE METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA  
PRESENTS THE 2ND ANNUAL

# Festival of Faith Retreat

SPIRITUAL GROWTH  
THROUGH LIFE  
IN OUR PARISH



**REGISTER TODAY!!**

[app.campdoc.com/register/ststephenscamp24/festivaloffaith](http://app.campdoc.com/register/ststephenscamp24/festivaloffaith)

REGISTRATION INCLUDES ROOM ACCOMMODATIONS  
AND ALL MEALS THROUGHOUT THE RETREAT

.....

**MARCH 8-10, 2024**

Metropolis of Atlanta Diakonia Retreat Center  
455 Quail Ridge Rd. Salem SC



## Featured Keynote Speakers



### *"Rooted in the Body of Christ"*

In this session, we will explore the nature of Christian life, as a community of faith, worship, and practice rooted in the Body of Christ

**Very Rev. Fr.  
Maximos Conostas**

Distinguished Professor  
of the Humanities  
University of Austin | Austin, TX



### *"Be Watchful, Be Sober:*

#### *St. Paul's Path to Spiritual Maturity"*

St. Paul reveals the Path to Spiritual Maturity when he instructs the Corinthians and the Thessalonians how to form an attentive and sober mind to discern the wise way of living and prioritizing the Faith everyday.

**Fr. Barnabas Powell**

Sts. Raphael, Nicholas, and Irene  
Greek Orthodox Church | Cumming, GA



### *"The Mind of Christ"*

#### **3 Interactive Sessions!**

What is the Mind of Christ?  
The Mind of Christ as Key to Salvation  
Acquiring the Mind of Christ

**Dr. Jeannie Constantinou**

Author, Speaker, Podcaster | San Diego, CA

*For more information, contact  
Gerry Clonaris: 704-574-6179 or [gbcmtline@gmail.com](mailto:gbcmtline@gmail.com)*

# AHEPA Mother Lodge Chapter No. 1 Educational Fund, Inc.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE for Academic Year 2024 – 25

Scholarships range from \$1000 to \$3000

APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE at

<https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/scholarships/AHEPAApp24>

Application deadline—11:59 p.m., EST, March 15, 2024

### ACADEMIC and ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 (or 83 out of 100) and be planning to be enrolled full-time at an accredited college or university for the 2024 – 25 academic year to be eligible.

### AREA OF CONSIDERATION and RESIDENCY / OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Several scholarships will be awarded based on scholastic achievement.
- Several scholarships will be awarded based on both scholastic achievement and financial need.
- One scholarship will be awarded in recognition of a scholar-athlete.  
*Applicants for the above 3 categories must reside in the Greater Metropolitan Atlanta Area.*
- One scholarship is designated for a student pursuing a graduate degree in Nursing.  
*Applicants must reside in the state of Georgia and plan to be enrolled in a graduate nursing program approved by the Georgia Board of Nursing.*
- Three scholarships are available for students attending Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology.  
*Applicants must reside in the geographical area within the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta and plan to attend Holy Cross School of Theology.*
- The Johnny N. Economy Scholarship is available to all students.  
*Applicants must submit an additional essay on a topic of their choosing regarding Hellenism. This scholarship has no residency requirement.*

*Note that unless you are from the greater Metro Atlanta area, your residency status is considered "out of area" regardless of your current address, and with the exceptions noted above (Graduate Nursing & Holy Cross student applications) you are only eligible to apply for the Johnny N. Economy Scholarship.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: [applications@ahepaATLScholarship.org](mailto:applications@ahepaATLScholarship.org)

The mission of the Mother Lodge Chapter No. 1 Educational Fund, Inc. is to provide both scholastic achievement and financial need scholarships to students pursuing post high school education. In addition, the Fund strives to strengthen community and country by promoting education through the development and implementation of various comprehensive programs.

*The Foundation is a tax-exempt Charitable Foundation established in Atlanta, Georgia in 1986 to promote, encourage and advance education at the college, university, and graduate and professional school levels. It serves the Cultural and Educational Programs of AHEPA Chapter 1, DOP Chapter 53 & AHEPA Chapter 519. \**

*\* AHEPA: American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association; DOP: Daughters Of Penelope*



February 9, 2024



CENTER  
FAMILY CARE

## What's New This Week

**FULLY** *human* 

→ **podcast**



**Blessed  
Kevin a  
Fool for  
Christ  
Part I**

*with* **Aaron Haney  
& Brian Whirledge**

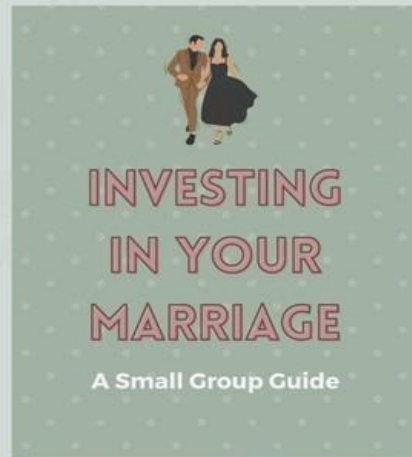
Dr. Aaron Haney and Brian Whirledge share reflections on their relationship with Kevin McCarty of blessed memory. Kevin spent most of his life battling cancer which resulted in losing one eye in infancy and the other in his final years. Despite his limited physical vision, Kevin was a gifted artist.

As Kevin's godfather and godson, Aaron and Brian recount aspects of their shared spiritual journeys, and the ways Kevin's disability and health issues fueled an enthusiasm for life and a search for connection with God and people. [LISTEN HERE.](#)

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# INTRODUCING



Center for Family Care

Our "Investing in Your Marriage" small group guide is perfect for Valentine's Day!

This series consists of six short clips taken from our webinar "*Investing in Your Marriage*," featuring Dr. Ary Christofidis, a licensed clinical psychologist and director of the Orthodox Christian Counseling Institute in Chicago.

Each clip is accompanied by follow-up questions for couples to discuss. The clips focus on common challenges in marriage and offer wisdom from the life of the Church to restore and strengthen the marital bond.

[DOWNLOAD TODAY!](#)

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"Personhood is freedom...not freedom 'from' the other but freedom 'for' the other. Freedom thus becomes identical with 'love'...We can love only... if we allow the other to be truly other, and yet to be in communion with us. If we love the other not only in spite of his or her being different from us but 'because' he or she is different from us...we live in freedom as love and in love as freedom."



*John D. Zizioulas*

Communion is born from the embrace and respect of the particularities of a person. When disabilities lead to atypical behaviors, which may seem odd to us but are not harmful, how can we allow the "other" we encounter the freedom to be truly other, rather than coerce him or her to conform to a "cookie cutter" image...[read more.](#)

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



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



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For questions, please email [communications@saintchristopherhoc.org](mailto: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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