



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΑΝΤΑΣ

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

March 1, 2024



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 3.1.24



Message from Fr. George Tsahakis,
3.1.24

vimeo.com

[\[click image above to view video message\]](#)



Thanks to Presbytera Marinda for chairing our Family Get-Together Lunch on 2.25.24 and to all our families who participated and shared food.





Thanks to those who attended St. George Church in Port Arthur, TX, for donating our beautiful new Royal Gate depicting Christ the Good Shepherd. We appreciate Kirk Panayis for undertaking its installation.



Be exalted,
O God,
above the

Heavens!

Let Your glory be
over all the earth!
(Psalm. 57:11)

+FGT



George Tsahakis is in Naples, FL.



6h · 🌐

Before departing [St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, Naples, FL](#), Fr. Demetre shared another chance for me to record its beauty. In Orthodox churches, the worshipper on the floor is surrounded by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on the dome, along with His Church Triumphant... images of His salvific acts, the Heavenly Hosts, the Prophets, the Evangelists, the Theotokos, and the countless men, women, and children whose lives were dedicated to serving Him (often as martyrs). In turn, we pray for His divine providence and mercy for us, His Church Militant—those seeking to overcome the snares of this world to join the heavenly Church Triumphant!

As I leave Naples, I remembered the beautiful prayer the Priest offers at the end of the Divine Liturgy:

"O Lord, Who blesses those who bless You and sanctifies those who put their trust in You, save Your people and bless Your inheritance. Protect the whole body of Your Church. Sanctify those who love the beauty of Your house. Glorify them in return by Your divine power, and forsake us not who have set our hope in You. Grant peace to Your world, to Your churches, to the clergy, to our civic leaders, to the armed forces, and to all Your people. For every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from You, the Father of lights. To You we give glory, thanksgiving, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen."



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

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



March 3, Sunday of the Prodigal Son

7:30 Orthros

8:45 40-Day Churching of Mother & Baby

9:00 Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Five Loaves,
March Commemorations, & Philoptochos
Membership Drive

11:00 Religious Education Classes

March 10, Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday)

7:45 Orthros

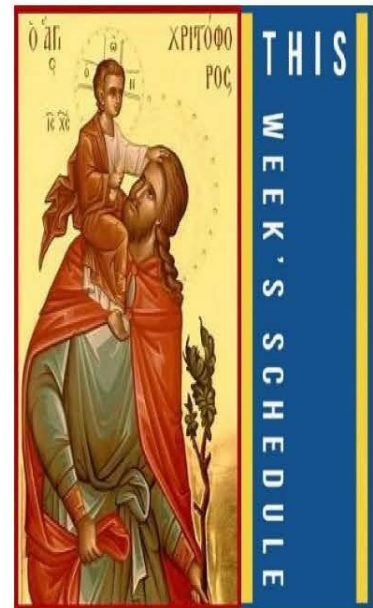
9:00 Divine Liturgy

10:15 GreekFest Informational Meeting & Simple GreekFest-Style Foods

10:30 Philoptochos Membership Drive

11:00 Religious Education Classes (for youth only today)

11:45 Parish Council Meeting

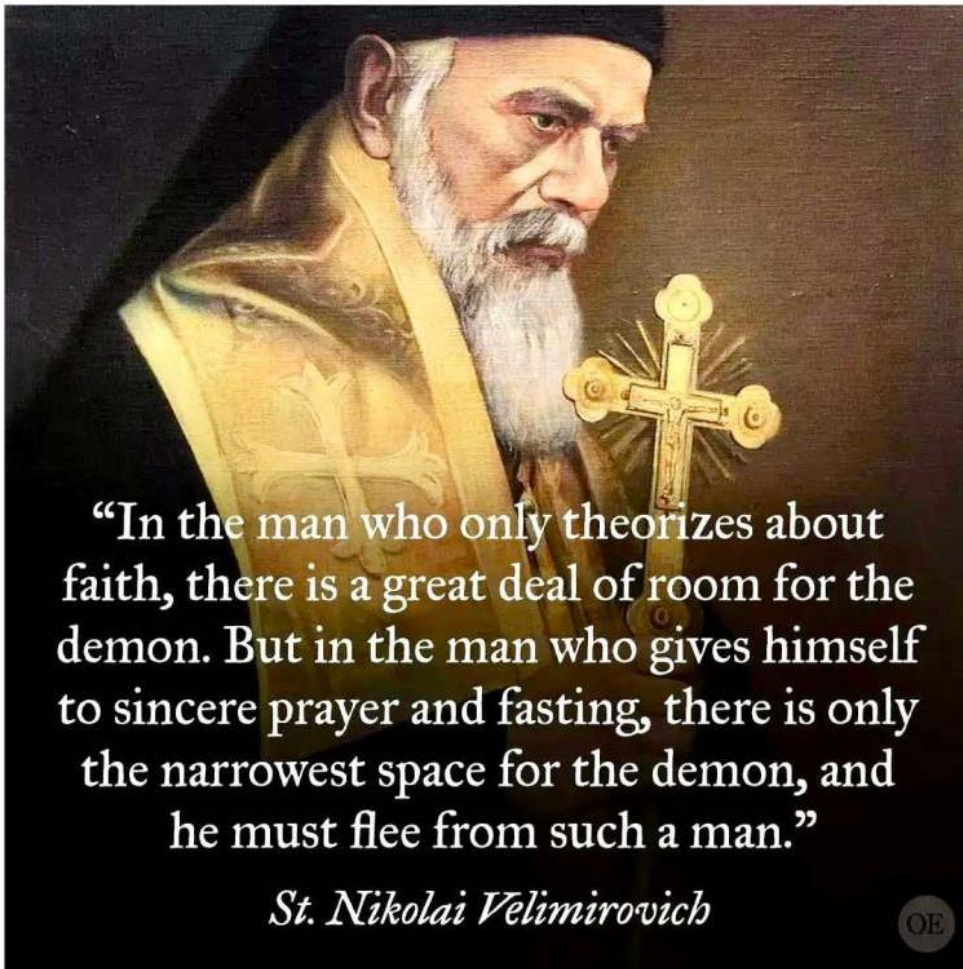


3 Ways to Pray for A Friend Today

Pray that the Lord would
meet their needs

Pray that the Lord would
give them strength

Pray that the Lord would
heal their wounds



The church is a hospital,
and not a courtroom, for
souls. She does not
condemn on behalf of sins,
but grants remission of
sins.

St. John Chrysostom

Prayer Shawls Blessings for 2024

SUNDAY, MAY 19
SUNDAY, AUGUST 18
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. Christopher's has been creating and donating handmade Prayer Shawls since 2009. These shawls are the results of the time and talents shared by our members, and friends, to craft these shawls by knitting, crocheting, weaving, or quilting them. Shawls can even be produced by decoratively finishing commercially produced fabric.

As you begin to plan your 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! Prayer shawls can be either triangular or rectangular but need to be long enough to wrap securely around the body. Rectangular shawls should be 24"- 30" wide and 68"- 72" long with fringe or other decorative finish at each end. Triangular shawls should be 60"- 72" across the longest side, 24"- 30" to the point with fringe along the two short sides or other decorative finish all around. Lap blankets should be 36" - 40" on each side. Yarn color is important as we are trying to uplift the spirits of the recipients of the shawls and blankets. Yarn or cloth texture is also important because we want these items to lovingly wrap the recipients in our Christian love. The finished items should be soft and drape or "scrunch" comfortably, something everyone would want to be hugged by!

Please contact Susan Kleto at (678) 877-9115 or sbkleto@gmail.com to 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.



Our First Prayer Shawl Blessing in 2009



Shawls Blessed on December 10, 2023



Philoptochos Membership Drive



Join the energetic, creative, and compassionate women, assisted by our dedicated men, of St. Christopher Ladies Philoptochos, by registering on **March 3, 10 or 17**

How do I become a member?

Simply visit the Membership table to fill out a stewardship form. Prayerfully consider your time, talents and treasure. Or click [here](#)

Benefits of Membership:

- *Being part of a philanthropic movement*
- *Changing someone's life*
- *Developing friendships*
- *Expressing yourself*
- *Getting involved in your community*
- *Helping those in need*
- *Learning from others*
- *Making an impact*
- *Using your skills to help others*



"All things are possible to the one who believes in Christ." Mark 9:23

ALL HANDS ON DECK!

Mark your calendars!
Saturday, April 6th, 9am

Come join the fun and fellowship!
Annual Church Spring Cleaning Day
Watch for a Sign up in the Narthex





*All Sundays in March:
Bloom Our Youth in
Fayetteville, Georgia*



Hands of Love will be accepting **monetary** and **in-kind donations** to benefit **Bloom Our Youth**

This month we are partnering with Bloom Our Youth, founded by local airline pilot Jim Friday and serving as a resource for foster children and their families for more than 35 years. To learn more: <https://bloomouryouth.org>



The Bloom Ball Gala this year will be at the Georgia Aquarium on Saturday, April 27 inspiring success in serving foster families. Bloom Family Resource Center - a pilot program, aiming to remove at-risk issues and keep children with their birth families.

To help stock the Bloom Closet with school supplies, toiletries, toys and new or very lightly used clothing for children from infants through teens, please place your in-kind donations in the bin in the church entry and your monetary donations and gift cards in the red "Hands of Love" box or donate online: <https://stchristopherphiloctochos.square.site/product/hands-of-love/57?cs=true&cst=custom>

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

"Fostering has been one of the most rewarding experiences we could ever ask for. The children that have come into our care have not only become a part of our family, but also our hearts. As foster parents, we've been blessed with the opportunity to provide a loving, nurturing, and safe environment for children in need. There is nothing more precious than seeing the smile on the face of a child for the first time, it brings us so much joy and happiness."

SHARDE AND AARON, BLOOM FOSTER PARENTS

"Attending the Bloom Ball is one of the best ways to support foster children in need," said Mayor Vince Williams, board chair for Bloom. "This is the largest fundraising event of the year for Bloom, and we are thrilled by the excitement and enthusiasm surrounding this year's event being held at the Georgia Aquarium. Sponsors and attendees of the Bloom Ball will not only enjoy a fun night out but more importantly, funds raised will help make a powerful impact in the lives of foster children." Funds raised through the Bloom Ball will propel Bloom's mission to provide safe, nurturing foster homes, clothing, toys, school supplies, and other necessities for thousands of foster children across Georgia



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

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 gbcmkline@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

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*

SPRING OCF RETREAT

How and Why
We Celebrate the
Divine Liturgy

southeast region

WHEN:

March 22nd-24th, 2024

WHERE:

The Diakonia Retreat Center
Salem, South Carolina



ocf.net/events



Fr Alex Mackoul
St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
Myrtle Beach, SC

February 23, 2024



CENTER
for
FAMILY CARE

What's New This Week

FROM OUR HOMES TO YOURS PODCAST



EP. 2 LOOSENING THE BOW *with*

PRES. KERRY



FR. ALEX



MARI



PRES. MELANIE



Join the CFC team this week as we discuss how we each "loosen our bows"
and the ways that we manage our daily stressors.

[LISTEN HERE.](#)

DOWNLOAD TODAY!



Center *for* Family Care

Just in time for Lent! Our Lenten package, *Pilgrimage to Pascha*, includes weekly guides for parish small groups centered around 8 brief videos highlighting the key signposts, or tools for growing our faith, used along the Church's Lenten journey.

[Download the FREE small group guide here.](#)



"Total and complete divestiture is when one comes to the limit...or end of human effort and ability. Naked. Empty...one can only depend on God. For Elijah to enter into the full potential of what it means to be fully human...fully in the Image of God...fully indwelt with the Grace of God...he must, like Christ, be fully divested of everything...extreme humility...the cross...conformed to the death of Christ."



Anonymous "Priest of the Oriental Church"

The author takes the reader on a journey through the life of the main character, Elijah, who could very well be any one of us. It is in the profound suffering Elijah experiences throughout his life that he is most...[continue reading.](#)





CYBER SECURITY WATCH

Provided by the Departments of Internet Ministries and Information Technology



CYBERCRIME HAS BEEN INFILTRATING OUR LIVES FOR YEARS.

More recently, parishes and religious communities around us are being targeted by a phishing scam where the attacker poses falsely as the parish priest and asks the recipient for money usually in the form of gift cards.

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.

[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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