



Icon of The Parable of the Rich Fool

The Orthodox interpretation of this parable in Luke 12:16–21 emphasizes the spiritual danger of greed, self-centeredness, and forgetting God in pursuit of material wealth. On the back cover are four family-friendly reflection questions designed to help us bring the spiritual themes of this passage into our homes and daily lives.

Sunday, November 23, 2025



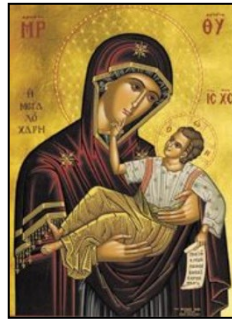
SAINT CHRISTOPHER HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: www.atlmetropolis.org

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org



St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210
Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, *Chancellor*

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, November 23, 2025

ON THIS DAY, THE NINTH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, THE SUNDAY FOLLOWING THE ENTRY OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES our Holy Father Amphilochios, Bishop of Iconium (+394); Holy Father Gregory, Bishop of Agrigentum (~600); Holy Ischyron, Bishop of Egypt; Righteous Father Sisinius the Confessor (3rd cent.); Holy Helenos, Bishop of Tarsus; Dionysios, Patriarch of Constantinople; and Metrophanes. *Through their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.*

Welcome, Visitors and Newcomers, to our Parish!

We invite you to enter your name, mail/email addresses, in our Guest Register (near the entrance) if you are interested in joining and assisting with our mission's development. We want to keep you informed of our schedule and location of services. *You and your family are welcome; we look forward to knowing you. We invite you and your family to join and assist us often!*

Please consider that only baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians in canonical good standing may approach for Holy Communion. All are invited to partake of the Antidoron ("instead of the gifts") distributed at the conclusion of today's Divine Liturgy.

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER SMALL ENTRANCE

1./3. Hymn for the Feast of the Theotokos – (Hymnal-pp.182-185):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: Today is the prelude of God's generosity, the herald of the coming of salvation for all mankind. In the temple of God the Virgin is revealed to all, her presence foretelling the coming of Christ. With all our hearts let us, therefore, cry out to her: Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's plan.

2. Resurrectional Hymn (Grave Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.122-125):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: By Your Cross, O Lord, You destroyed death; to the thief You opened paradise. The myrrhbearers' sorrow You transformed into joy, and You sent Your apostles forth to proclaim that You had risen from the dead, Christ our God, bestowing on all the world Your great mercy.

4. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (see handout):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. Made comely with garments woven from your venerable blood, you stand before the Lord, the King of Heaven and earth, O famed Martyr Christopher. With the choirs of Angels and the Martyrs you chant, singing the thrice-holy hymn and most awesome praises. Thus, by your intercessions with God, save us, your servants.

5. Kontakion for Feast of the Theotokos (11/21) – (Hymnal-pp.236-239):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: Behold the temple of the Savior, His precious bridal chamber. Behold the virginal and sacred vessel of God's glory. Today

she enters into the house of the Lord, bearing within her the grace of the Holy Spirit. For this, the angels exclaim: She is indeed the heavenly tabernacle.

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S DIVINE LITURGY

The Scriptures were not given us for this only, that we might have them in books, but that we might engrave them on our hearts. – St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Ephesians 2:14-22)

¹⁴For He is our peace; in His flesh He has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So He came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through Him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In Him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 12:16-21)

¹⁶Then He told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

"For, 'Everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.'" (Romans 10:13)

On this the 1078th Sunday of our St. Christopher's parish community, we continue to thank each of you for your presence and support. Although it may seem like we are just a handful of men, women, and children, if we commit ourselves to serving our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we will experience the miracle of growth as the Holy Spirit brings others into His service to help us build His new church in the Peachtree City, Georgia, area for the glory of God! On behalf of our parish, we thank you. ***Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!***

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Extending Hospitality Beyond Our Circle



Introduction

Hospitality is more than good manners or sharing a meal—it is a spiritual discipline rooted in love. In the Orthodox tradition, hospitality reflects the very heart of Christ, who welcomed sinners, healed the broken, and embraced the outcast. When we open our hearts and homes, we imitate His divine generosity.

Reflection

Christ calls us to a radical hospitality—one that mirrors His own love for the marginalized and forgotten. In Luke 14:12–14, Jesus teaches: *“When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed.”* This is not simply about sharing a meal; it is about opening our hearts and lives to

those who cannot repay us. True hospitality is sacrificial and grace-filled.

Presbytera Marinda and I recently experienced a glimpse of this grace. While dining at a restaurant this week, we complimented our server on the excellent food, service, and restaurant ambience. Her response surprised us: *“You guys have made my day... you always bring such great energy when you walk in.”* What began as a simple gesture of kindness became a moment of mutual blessing. In offering encouragement, we received joy in return. *This is the mystery of God’s grace—when we give freely, He multiplies the blessing.*



Servers often work long hours under pressure, juggling multiple tables while managing personal struggles we never see. Despite this, they are expected to provide “perfect” service with a smile.

When we pause to acknowledge their effort and offer genuine kindness, we do more than brighten their day—we help restore dignity and hope. In that exchange, our words became a blessing to her, and her gratitude became a blessing to us.



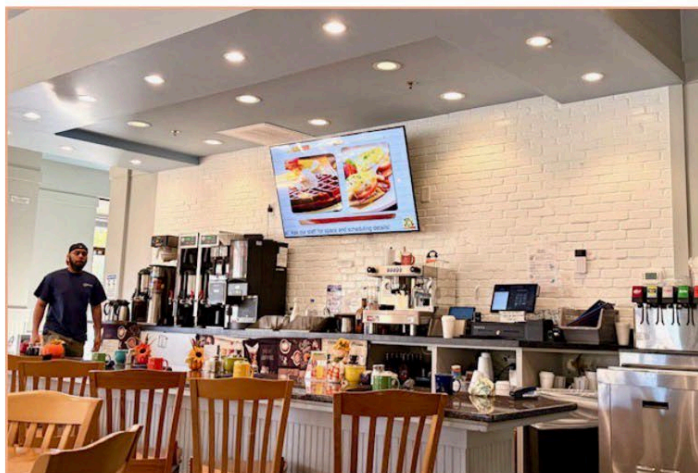
Imagine what it would look like if our tables—whether in our homes, parish halls, or even restaurants—were places where Christ’s love was evident. Hospitality begins with seeing the image of God in every person, especially those who serve quietly and faithfully. In this season of Thanksgiving, we have the potential to change

the outlook of others so they can fulfill the potential God gave them. A kind word, a sincere compliment, or an invitation to share a meal can be the spark that rekindles hope in a weary soul.

As St. John Chrysostom reminds us, *“If you cannot find Christ in the beggar at the church door, you will not find Him in the chalice.”* Every act of kindness is an encounter with Christ Himself. Let us make our gratitude tangible by extending hospitality beyond our circle—so that in blessing others, we too may be blessed.

Pause and Reflect

- *Who in your life might feel unseen or forgotten?*
- *How can you extend hospitality—not only through a meal, but through words of encouragement, a listening ear, or an act of kindness?*
- Prayer: *Lord Jesus, open my heart to welcome You in every person I meet. Teach me to give without expecting return, trusting that Your grace will bless both giver and receiver.*



Closing Prayer

O Christ our God, You welcomed all who came to You with love and mercy. Grant me the grace to see Your image in every person and to offer hospitality with joy and humility. May my words and actions bring comfort to the lonely, hope to the broken, and peace to the outcast. For You are the Giver of every good gift, and to You we give glory, now and forever. Amen.



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS ^{OF} ATLANTA
ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΛΑΝΤΑΣ

November 17, 2025

Very Rev. Fr. George Tsahakis, Mr. Stephen Sarantis, Parish Council President and Esteemed Parish Council Members of Saint Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church
313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210
Peachtree City, GA 30269

My Beloved in the Lord,

I greet you with love and joy in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Upon reviewing your plans for the construction of your new parish home—including the church, the administrative offices, & the meeting spaces—and with the advice of both Archon Frank Boardman (AIA), Chairman of the Parish Facilities Committee, and George Matthews, of blessed memory, I am pleased to offer my permission and blessings to proceed. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, Fr. George, the Parish Council, and all the faithful who have undertaken the responsibility to ensure a stable future for your parish family. With Christ's love in my heart, you have my understanding that 'time is of the essence' and I congratulate you on this development.

Per our discussion, after your site work is completed, I also look forward to joining you on Meatfare Sunday, February 15th, 2026, to visit with your community, worshipping & breaking bread together, before we perform the Groundbreaking Service at the construction site.

May this endeavor meet with our Lord's abundant grace and every blessing from Above. I remain,

In the love and service of the Lord,

+SEVASTIANOS
Metropolitan of Atlanta

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Christopher Church in Peachtree City Announces Plans for New Church Complex



Peachtree City, GA — St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church joyfully announces its decision to pursue the construction of a new church complex on its 10-acre Ebenezer Road property, marking a significant milestone in the life of the parish and its mission to serve Orthodox Christians of Peachtree

City and surrounding communities throughout the southern Atlanta metro region.

The new complex will include a traditional Byzantine-style sanctuary, administrative offices, meeting spaces, and the initial shell of a future fellowship hall. This comprehensive plan is designed to support the parish's continued spiritual and communal growth for generations to come. It will begin breaking ground in January 2026.

"Our vision is to create a sacred space that reflects our Orthodox faith, fosters fellowship, and welcomes all," said Fr. George Tsahakis, Pastor of St. Christopher Church. "We are lifting high the banner of courage, conviction, faith, and sacrifice as we begin this holy endeavor."

The parish is deeply grateful for the encouragement and support of His Eminence Metropolitan Sevastianos of Atlanta, who offered his episcopal blessing and spiritual guidance for the project. "May this new church complex be a beacon of light and a place of peace, prayer, and healing for all who enter," said Metropolitan Sevastianos. "I commend the faithful of St. Christopher Church for their devotion and vision."

St. Christopher Church invites the broader community to join in prayer and support as this exciting chapter unfolds. Updates on the project will be shared through the parish website and future announcements.

Special thanks to our partners helping us build for the future: Jefferson Browne Architecture in Peachtree City, Tomco Construction in Newnan, and Renasant Bank in Peachtree City.

Contact:

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church, info@saintchristopherhoc.org, 770/347-7729, www.saintchristopherhoc.org

Stephen Sarantis, President, Parish Council & Building Committee Chair, stsarantis@gmail.com



ST. CHRISTOPHER HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

313 DIVIDEND DRIVE, SUITE 210

PEACHTREE CITY, GA 30269

770/347-PRAY OR 770/347-7729

PASTOR: VERY REV. FR. GEORGE TSAHAKIS

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Dear Parishioners:

This year we will be electing three (3) parishioners to the Parish Council to serve a three (3) – year term. Elections will be held on Sunday, December 14, 2025, from 10:45 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. There is no absentee balloting or proxy voting. There is no limit to the number of nominees.

Nomination of candidates begins Wednesday, November 19th and continues through Sunday, November 30th at 11:30 a.m. If you wish to be nominated, you must use the attached form. The fully signed form must be received by this deadline by one of the Board of Elections members elected at the General Parish Assembly on November 23rd. During weekday office hours, you can hand deliver to Jackie Sarantis for her to give to one of the three Board members by the deadline.

*Qualifications to be a Candidate for the Parish Council – Candidates of the Parish Council must be a parishioner in good standing of the Parish for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of the election and must live his or her life in accordance with the faith and canons of the Church. The Priest shall determine whether the parishioners are in canonical and financial good standing as specified in Part Three, Article 18, Sections 1-3 of the Uniform Parish Regulations. All candidates must attend a seminar prior to the election of members of the Parish Council. The purpose of the seminar will be to learn the Uniform Parish Regulations and Affirmation of Office. At the conclusion of the seminar, all candidates will acknowledge their attendance by signing the Parish Council Candidate Pledge as promulgated by the Metropolitan and agreeing to abide by it if elected. **This year's mandatory Parish Council Candidate Training Seminar will be via Zoom on Monday, December 1st at 7:00 p.m. All Candidates must attend this session to be listed on final election ballot (except for those previously trained in 2023 or later). There is no make-up session possible.***

Faithfully yours,

+ Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis

+Fr. George Tsahakis

2025 Parish Council Nomination for 3-year Term (2026-2028)

(The two (2) parishioners making the nomination complete this section)

We, the undersigned (two (2) parishioners), nominate:

(Print Name of Candidate Nominated):

as a candidate for election to the Parish Council of the St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church in Peachtree City, Georgia.

(Signature of member in good standing)

(Print Name)

(Signature of member in good standing)

(Print Name)

(The Nominated Candidate completes this section)

I accept the nomination for election to the St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Parish Council in Peachtree City, Georgia, and if elected will serve a THREE-YEAR TERM, January 2026 – December 2028.

(Signature of Nominee in good standing)

(Print Name)

Please Note: This fully signed form must be received by Sunday, November 30th, 11:30 a.m. by one of the Board of Elections members elected at the November 23rd General Parish Assembly. During weekday office hours, you can hand deliver to Jackie Sarantis for her to give to one of the three Board members by the deadline. This year's mandatory Parish Council Candidate Training Seminar will be via Zoom on Monday, December 1st at 7:00 p.m. All Candidates must attend this session to be listed on final election ballot (except for those previously trained since 2023 when Fr. George introduced new training materials). There is no make-up session possible.



CELEBRATING IOCC'S WORK

IOCC Sunday | November 23, 2025

Each year, the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops sets aside the Sunday before Thanksgiving to highlight humanitarian relief.

Please consider a gift to support IOCC's worldwide humanitarian work, or visit ioccsunday.org for more ways to get involved, and help spread awareness about IOCC in your parish and community.

Get started at ioccsunday.org





Light & Life

This stained-glass window speaks a timeless truth: **Christ is our Light (φως) and our Life (ζωη)**. The warm amber tones frame the autumn leaves outside. Even as seasons change, His light

shines through, and His life renews us. *"I am the Light of the world... I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."* (John 8:12; 10:10)

As leaves fall and nature transitions, the promise of life in Christ remains unchanging, illuminating our path and renewing our spirit.



*Where do you see
God's light
breaking through the ordinary today?
How can you share His gift of life with
someone who feels surrounded by
shadows?*



Join Us Often

Sunday, November 23rd – 9th Sunday of St. Luke/IOCC Sunday

8:00 Orthros

9:00 40 Day Blessing of Mother & Child,
Divine Liturgy, followed by General Parish Assembly



Tuesday, November 25th – Feast of St. Catherine the Great Martyr of Alexandria

9:00 Divine Liturgy at PTC

Wednesday, November 26th

8:00 Orthros & 9:00 Divine Liturgy at Archangel Michael Chapel

6:00 Zoom YAL Formational Meeting

Thursday, November 27th – Thanksgiving Day

8:00 Orthros & 9:00 Divine Liturgy at Archangel Michael Chapel

Sunday, November 30th – Feast of St. Andrew the 1st-Called Apostle

7:45 Orthros

9:00 Divine Liturgy

10:45 Religious Education (all ages) – Preparation for Christmas Pageant

Monday, December 1st

7:00 pm Parish Council Training for Candidates for Fall PC Elections
(via Zoom)

Family Reflection Questions

for the The Parable of the Rich Fool

1. **What are some blessings we've received this week that we haven't thanked God for yet?**

Take time as a family to name them out loud and offer a prayer of thanksgiving together.

2. **Are there any "barns" we're building—things we're focusing on—that might be distracting us from God or each other?**

Discuss how your family spends time, energy, and money. Are there ways to shift toward more eternal goals?

3. **How can we use what we have—our home, our time, our talents—to bless someone else this week?**

Choose one act of generosity or service you can do together as a family.

4. **If Jesus came to our house tonight and asked, "Are you rich toward God?"—what would we say?**

Talk about what it means to be spiritually rich, and how your family can grow in faith, love, and gratitude.