

## 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 Tsahakis, Pastor  
Stephen Sarantis, President, Parish Council  
Jackie Sarantis, Office Administrator

### Pastoral Message from Fr. George for Friday, May 30, 2025



**May 29<sup>th</sup> was truly special!** On the Feast of Holy Ascension, the presence of Fr. Ted Sirotko, an 89-year-old retired Orthodox Priest worshiping with us at our Divine Liturgy was deeply meaningful for all who were present. Father's recollection of his journey into Orthodoxy after decades of service was

filled with wisdom, faith, and devotion. His beautiful testament to faith and divine calling recalled the voice of God leading him from the business world to serve as one of His ministers. His

heartfelt insights reflected a deep spiritual understanding that we are led not just by circumstance, but by a higher purpose. Fr. Ted's journey to become an Orthodox Priest brought a sense of joy and encouragement especially to our youth present. For those who couldn't be there, I hope they can feel the same warmth and inspiration through these words, since our livestreaming video did not succeed in broadcasting his remarks to share with those viewing from home.

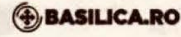
On this Feast of the Ascension of our Lord, it's inspiring to see how God calls people from different walks of life into His service, sometimes in ways they never expected. Hearing stories like Fr. Ted's reminds us that faith often requires courage and the willingness to start anew.

God reveals His grace through the deep humility and resilience of those who have faced difficult challenges and risen above them. I always feel it is incredibly moving to witness someone



seize opportunities and use their experiences to help others connect with the Lord. Indeed, God uses each of us to help transform humanity through our faith and obedience to His will.





# ASCENSION OF THE LORD

TROPARION, TONE IV



O CHRIST GOD, YOU HAVE ASCENDED IN GLORY,  
GRANTING JOY TO YOUR DISCIPLES BY THE PROMISE  
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. THROUGH THE BLESSING THEY  
WERE ASSURED THAT YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD,  
THE REDEEMER OF THE WORLD!



**George Tsahakis is with Marinda Tsahakis and Jeanie McGee at Georgia National Cemetery.**

3d •

As I noticed a wild turkey roaming the cemetery, free and untethered, I was reminded of the protection provided by those who stood on the front lines, ensuring that the ideals of freedom endure. The turkey, like all of us, moves through life in the shadow of sacrifices made by countless servicemen and women.





## Join Us This Sunday with Your Family

### **Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> -Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup>**

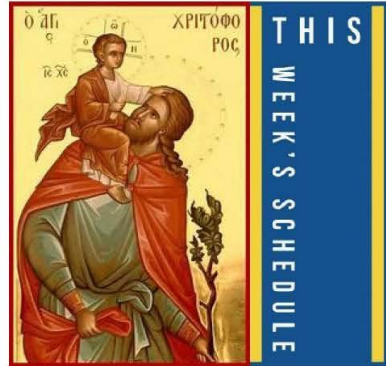
#### **Ecumenical Council**

8:00 Orthros

9:00 Divine Liturgy & Memorial Service  
(*PatMacDougall- 3 years & Manuel  
Rozakis - 3 months*)

10:30 Blessing of Five Loaves (*offered by  
Presbytera Marinda and Fr. George Tsahakis*) & June Commemorations

11:30 Philoptochos General Meeting



### **Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – Saturday of the Souls**

9:00 Divine Liturgy & Memorial Service

3:00 Pan-Orthodox Vespers for Pentecost

*Join our Atlanta Orthodox parishes at St. Philothea Church in Athens for this Vespers Service featuring the Gospel to be read in various languages followed by an outdoor picnic celebration. It is a truly Orthodox family gathering. It is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. to ensure that we have a relaxed fellowship/dinner following the Vespers and return to our homes before dark!*

### **Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> – Holy Pentecost**

7:45 Orthros

9:00 Divine Liturgy & Vespers of the Feast of the Holy Spirit

11:00 Blessing of Prayer Shawls & Bloom Our Youth Presentation



# Property Update





# Pentecost Picnic

St Philothea Greek Orthodox Church

3761 Mars Hill Road, Watkinsville, GA



Saturday, June 7  
3:00 pm Vespers  
& Picnic

*Indoor & Outdoor Seating*



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.



RSVP: Please scan the QR code

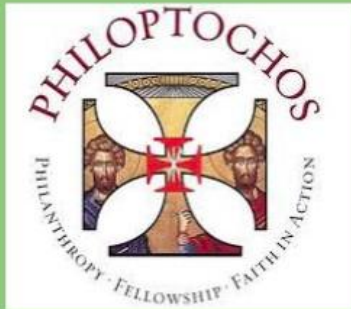
Or go to: [StPhilothea.org](http://StPhilothea.org)

For more information call 706-340-6366

**This is a Pan-Orthodox AIOPA Event**  
Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring their families!



This is a cherished memory  
from our 2024 Pan-Orthodox  
Vespers & Picnic at Saints  
Peter & Paul Serbian  
Orthodox Church, in Lilburn,  
GA. Fr. George invites you  
and your family to join us this  
year in Athens, GA!



# **June 1 General Philoptochos Meeting**

**All members welcome!  
See you there!**



## Pentecost and Prayer Shawls

On the same Sunday we will be celebrating Pentecost, June 8<sup>th</sup>, Fr. George will also be blessing our next donation of Prayer Shawls. In the **Prayer of the Holy Spirit**, we pray: *"Heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things, Treasury of blessings and Giver of life: come and abide in us, cleanse us from every impurity and save our souls, O Good One."* This prayer is one that is, also, prayed numerous times as each shawl is being handcrafted.

Pentecost is also when, upon receiving the Holy Spirit, the disciples began to take God's word to all nations. YOCAMA (Young Orthodox Christian American Mission Adventure) is trying to fulfill this mandate by organizing mission groups to help on the Blackfeet and Navajo Nations. St. Christopher's member, Isabelle Wiley, will be returning to serve on an YOCAMA team in June, and possible taking other members with her. She will also be delivering our Prayer Shawls. Anyone interested in supporting YOCAMA, physically or financially, can learn more at [www.yocama.com](http://www.yocama.com).

Earlier this year through the efforts of Angelique Soulakos, 12 prayer shawls were shared with BeLoved Atlanta. This organization is a 2-year residential program assisting survivors of sex trafficking heal and become independent by the time they leave. These women received their shawls and our prayers (and a teddy bear) as part of a Valentine's Day party they were given. **BELOVED believes every woman escaping sexual exploitation deserves a place of restoration within community.** To learn more about this organization and how to help, check out their website at [www.belovedatlanta.org](http://www.belovedatlanta.org). Fr. George encourages us to pray for these, and all, women affected or entrapped by sex trafficking.

For more information about St. Christopher's Philoptochos Prayer Shawl Ministry, please contact Susan Kleto, (678) 877-9115 or [sbkleto@gmail.com](mailto:sbkleto@gmail.com).







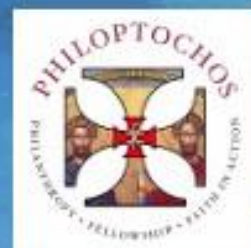
Join us for

# *A Night in Greece*

We're bringing Greece to you!

Everyone welcome for this community event.

## PROCEEDS BENEFIT:



**Saturday, August 16th, 2025**

**6 PM Appetizers | 7 PM Dinner**

**The Shipyard at Trilith**



Tickets include an all-you-can-eat Greek buffet, open bar, live Greek music, Greek dancing, & more!

To purchase, please scan the QR code or visit

[www.GreekFestFayette.com](http://www.GreekFestFayette.com)

Questions? Contact Emilia at [greekfestfayette@gmail.com](mailto:greekfestfayette@gmail.com) or 678-749-1550

Brought to you by St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church





Join us for

# *A Night in Greece*

We're bringing Greece to you!

## Sponsorship Levels

Proceeds benefit St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church's building fund, Beyond Performance & local charities. Thanks for your support!

### **OLYMPIAN \$5000**

10 Tickets with Reserved Seating  
Program Recognition  
Title/Name Mentioned During Event  
Full Page Ad in Program

### **ATHENIAN \$3000**

10 Tickets with Reserved Seating  
Program Recognition  
Title/Name Mentioned During Event  
1/2 Page Ad in Program

### **SPARTAN \$2000**

10 Tickets with Reserved Seating  
Program Recognition  
Title/Name Mentioned During Event  
1/4 Page Ad in Program

### **AGAPI \$1000**

4 Tickets with Reserved Seating  
Program Recognition  
Title/Name Mentioned During Event  
1/4 Page Ad in Program

### **OPA! \$500**

2 Tickets with Reserved Seating  
Program Recognition  
Title/Name Mentioned During Event

### **PILLAR \$150**

1/8 Page Ad in Program

**August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at The Shipyard at Trilith**  
**6 PM Appetizers | 7 PM Dinner**

To purchase a sponsorship, please scan the QR  
code or visit [www.GreekFestFayette.com](http://www.GreekFestFayette.com)



Questions? Contact Emilia at [greekfestfayette@gmail.com](mailto:greekfestfayette@gmail.com) or 678-749-1550  
Brought to you by St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church



## ***"A Night in Greece" - 2025***

**~ ~ We need EVERYONE's Help to Sell Tickets  
and Sponsorships ~ ~**

**Share the link below with family, friends, coworkers!!**

**Click for Sponsorships & Tickets: <https://www.greekfestfayette.com/>**

This is a Fundraiser to support OUR Building Fund and  
Charities within OUR community.

**With a \$100.00 ticket OUR Guests will Enjoy ALL of this!**

- Appetizers - Spanakopita, Tiropita's, and Dolmades
- Dinner - Greek Chicken, Potatoes, Salad, Green Beans, Pastitsio, Souvlaki, Gyros, Giouvetsi, Fresh Baked Bread, Tzatziki Tzatziki
- Dessert - Baklava, Kourambiedes, Koulourakia
- Water, soft drinks, beer and wine

*\*Guests will enjoy a Live Greek Band and Greek Dancing – OPA!*

**Facebook link to share with friends and family!!**

**[https://facebook.com/events/s/greekfest-fayettes-a-night-in-  
/1146921094115751/](https://facebook.com/events/s/greekfest-fayettes-a-night-in-/1146921094115751/)**

**Click below to Sign Up to Volunteer:**

**[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4CA4A62FA4FE3-47913143-  
greekfest#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4CA4A62FA4FE3-47913143-greekfest#/)**

### **Any Questions?**

Contact your GreekFest Tri Chairs

Emilia Moraitis – [emoraitis@bellsouth.net](mailto:emoraitis@bellsouth.net)

Claudia Sliwinski – [claudia.sliwinski@yahoo.com](mailto:claudia.sliwinski@yahoo.com)

Julie Skouteris – [gsjs401mq@gmail.com](mailto:gsjs401mq@gmail.com)

**Thank you for YOUR Support!**





# Greek Fest Baking



Sign up [here](#)



**Includes:**  
**Appetizers, dolmathes,**  
**cookies and baklava**

**Questions? Call Helen 770-298-4493**



PLEASE JOIN  
US FOR A  
**FATHER'S  
DAY**

*Brunch*



**JUNE 22**

SPONSORED BY  
PHILOPTOCHOS







# MENU

Shrimp and Grits  
Fried Shrimp and fries  
Collards  
Bagels  
Salad  
Fruit  
Dessert

## Building Our Future: Join Our \$1.5M Capital Campaign

Dear Parish Family,

We are excited to announce the launch of our \$1.5 million Capital Campaign, a five-year endeavor to build our future home. This is an incredible opportunity for us to come together as a community and create a space that will serve and inspire for generations to come.



To make this vision a reality, we encourage everyone to fill out pledge cards now. Our lenders are looking for a strong show of commitment from the parish, and your early pledges are crucial to meeting their requirements. As we consider discussions with outside donors, our ability to demonstrate the Parish Family's commitment to the capital campaign is an integral part of the process and success to raise funds from outside our parish. During our last campaign, we raised an impressive average of \$264K per year, and with your continued support, we are confident we can do it again.

Your participation is vital. Please continue your existing commitment to the stewardship fund and start giving to the new capital campaign or consider increasing your existing building fund pledge amount. Together, we can turn our dreams into reality.

Let's build our future home with faith, dedication, and collective effort. Please consider completing the online pledge card today, [St. Christopher Capital Campaign Pledge Card Link](#), so we can show the lenders our unwavering commitment and take the next steps toward our shared goal.

Here are some examples to consider:

<b><u>GIVING SCENARIO 1:</u></b> Currently giving \$100/month <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$40 to Building Fund</li><li>• \$60 to Operations</li></ul> <i>During the Building Fund Campaign</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>\$80</b> to Building Fund</li><li>• \$60 to Operations</li></ul> <div>Total Giving Increase = 40%</div>	<b><u>GIVING SCENARIO 2:</u></b> Currently giving \$200/month <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$100 to Building Fund</li><li>• \$100 to Operations</li></ul> <i>During the Building Fund Campaign</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>\$200</b> to Building Fund</li><li>• \$100 to Operations</li></ul> <div>Total Giving Increase = 30%</div>	<b><u>GIVING SCENARIO 3:</u></b> Currently giving \$300/month <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$100 to Building Fund</li><li>• \$200 to Operations</li></ul> <i>During the Building Fund Campaign</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>\$200</b> to Building Fund</li><li>• \$200 to Operations</li></ul> <div>Total Giving Increase = 33%</div>
---	---	---

Please consider giving with your heart.

With gratitude and hope,

Tom Farmakis







## Calendar of Upcoming Events:

June	1	General Meeting for all
	8	Prayer Shawl Blessing Guest: Bloom Our Youth
	19	<u>Batter Day!</u> For GreekFest 8:30
	21	Folding Day! 9:00
	22	Bonus Father's Day Luncheon
	26	<u>Batter Day!</u> For GreekFest 8:30
	28	Folding Day! 9:00

---



During this time of giving, we have the opportunity to offer monetary donations for our month of May "Hands of Love" charity partner: Midwest Food Bank in Peachtree City

Midwest Food Bank (MFB) is a faith-based, non-denominational top-ranked charity in Peachtree City with a 4-star rating by Charity Navigator. Those of us who volunteered last year will be happy to learn that MFB has expanded with the completion an 8,000 sq.ft. addition, as the service they provide is much needed and well managed. Since 2003, when the Kieser family began serving ten food pantries in McLean County, IL, the food bank has grown to more than ten distribution centers in the US, as well as overseas - in Africa and Haiti.

---



The Georgia distribution center was established in Peachtree City in 2011 and it now supplies food items to over 320 agencies in 52 counties throughout the Southeast.

We thank you for your continuous support and, as always, please place your donations in the "Hands of Love" RED BOX in the church entryway, online at:

<https://stchristopherphiloptochos.square.site/product/hands-of-love/57?cs=true&cst=custom>

or mail to 313 Dividend Dr, Suite 210, Peachtree City, 30269

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



# FOUR (4) DAYS LEFT TO REGISTER!



*SELECT A 'PARTICIPATION TRACK' TO REGISTER ONLINE!*

- [Active Clergy / Laity / Philoptochos](#) — \$495
- [Presbyteres](#) — \$300
- [Retired Clergy & Presbyteres](#) — \$100
- [Young Adult League \(YAL\)](#) — NOW ONLY \$95
- [SFGOCM](#) — \$195

Can't attend? Consider a Parish or Philoptochos Chapter sponsorship instead!

**MAKE YOUR PARISH OR CHAPTER-LEVEL SPONSORSHIP**

\*\*\*Individual Ticket Purchases END THIS WEEK!\*\*\*

- [GRAND BANQUET](#) - \$150/person (available through May 28th)
- [PHILOPTOCHOS LUNCHEON](#) - \$85/PERSON (available through May 30th)

EVENT ITINERARY PHILOPTOCHOS SCHEDULE

---



## INDIVIDUAL TICKET OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR GUESTS



**Faith·Family·Love**  
Clergy-Laity 2025 in the Holy City

### Clergy-Laity 2025

GRAND BANQUET - \$150/PERSON

THURSDAY, JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 4:30-9:00 PM

NEW! PHILOPTOCHOS LUNCHEON - \$85/PERSON

FRIDAY, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>, NOON-2PM

THOMAS HEYWARD JR. HOUSE COCKTAIL HOUR

- \$75/PERSON

FRIDAY, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>, 6:30-8:00 PM

---

SPACE IS LIMITED!  
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!!

CLERGY-LAITY 2025



SUMMER 2025

# CAMPER REGISTRATION

St Stephen's Summer Camp offers teens of the Metropolis of Atlanta entering 8th through 12th grades when school begins in the fall, an opportunity to spend a week at our Diakonia Retreat Center.

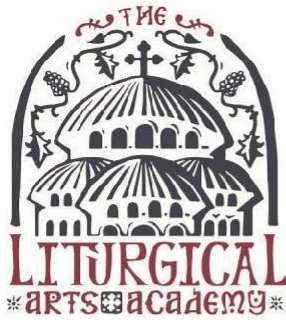
**REGISTER TODAY!**



amazon  
wishlist

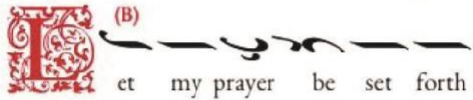
St. Stephen's Camp Wishlist





## Now accepting applications for The Liturgical Arts Academy August 17 -23, 2025

Diakonia Retreat Center, Salem, SC



### Byzantine Chant

This is a 1-week intensive in-person training that offers Intermediate, Advanced and Master Class levels.

Instructors: John Boyer, Samuel Herron  
and Photini Downie Robinson



### Byzantine Iconography

A week of intensive instruction in gilding and painting an icon at the Intermediate and Advanced levels.

Instructors: Fr. Anthony Salzman

Visit [TheLiturgicalArts.org](https://TheLiturgicalArts.org)

[info@theliturgicalarts.com](mailto:info@theliturgicalarts.com)



[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](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](#)



*Copyright © 2025 St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church, All rights reserved. You are receiving this email because you are a Parishioner or Friend of St. Christopher*

**Our mailing address is:**

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church  
313 Dividend Dr.  
Ste. 210  
Peachtree City, GA 30269

[Add us to your address book](#)

[Want to change how you receive these emails?](#)

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).





