

# A Call to Action



# A Call to Action: Reaching, Shining, Building Together

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today, let us look to a surprising image for divine inspiration: the giraffe. With its neck stretched toward heaven, it reaches for leaves no other creature can touch. It moves with quiet dignity, not struggling to fit in but embracing its purpose in God's creation.

This noble creature reminds us of our own spiritual calling. Christ tells us in Matthew's Gospel:

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden."

These are not simply poetic words—they are a call to action. We are meant to reach upward and outward,

to let our faith find expression in service, and our joy take root in community.

## Faith Finds Fruit When We Serve

Just as the giraffe seeks its sustenance in the treetops, we too must seek the fruits of the Spirit through prayer, sacrifice, and devotion. But this journey doesn't stop with personal nourishment. It blooms when we serve one another—especially within our parish.

St. Christopher Church is not merely a building—it is the living Body of Christ. And every member, every family, every child and eldest member, has something beautiful to offer. Be it the gift of teaching, music, woodworking, kindness, or simply time—each talent is a leaf waiting to be shared for God's glory.

# Let Your Light Shine in Our Parish

We are called to be visible lamps, not hidden away. The ministries, programs, and worship here at St. Christopher grow strong only when we show up, not just with attendance, but with our hearts and hands.

When you serve, you shine. When you give of yourself, your faith begins to breathe and move—and inspire others.

# **Joy Takes Root in Community**

Let your joy find its roots here. In fellowship. In shared meals. In working together to beautify this holy space. In teaching our children. In visiting the sick. In praying as one. The giraffe reaches for nourishment above—but brings it back down to support the body. So must we. Let us build God's Holy Church—together.

A City on a Hill. A Lamp on a Stand. A Giraffe Reaching High. A Parish Called to Serve.

May we answer this call with boldness. May we rise up—not for comfort, but for Christ. May we, the faithful of St. Christopher Church, lift one another up

# —by sharing, serving, and loving—

So that this parish may shine like a beacon of God's Kingdom on earth. Amen.

+Fr. George Tsahakis, 7.13.25

#### St. Christopher Church: "A Call to Action"



"Cast your nets at His word." - Luke 5:5

As Christ stood on the shore and called His disciples to trust and act, so He calls each of us today. In the sacred rhythm of Orthodox life, our gifts are nets—woven through prayer, tradition, and love—ready to be cast into the waters of ministry. Beginning 7.13.25, Fr. George introduced "A Call to Action". Let us not hesitate, but respond with faith, knowing that in obedience, the catch is always abundant. This resource is also posted on our website.

# Discover Your Gift. Serve with Joy. Build Up the Body of Christ.

Beloved Parish Family,

Have you ever wondered how your unique talents—your voice, hands, heart, or skills—can become a sacred offering to the

Church? This summer, we're opening wide the doors of ministry, and inviting YOU to take part in the beautiful work of parish life.

With over **80 opportunities** across liturgical service, youth and family engagement, outreach, hospitality, education, and more, there's a place for everyone to offer their gift. Whether you sing, teach, greet, organize, mentor, bake, troubleshoot tech, or simply care deeply—you belong here.

## New or unsure where to begin?

Check out our **Parish Ministry Interest List** below where you can easily explore options and let Fr. George know what calls to your heart.

Let your faith find expression in service. Let your joy take root in community. Let us build God's Holy Church—together.

# "Each one has received a gift. Use it to serve one another..." – 1 Peter 4:10

Please review the categories below and check any areas where you feel drawn to serve or would like to learn more. Your response will help Fr. George guide and strengthen our parish with joyful service and fellowship.

"There are different gifts, but the same Spirit." – 1 Corinthians 12:4

# **Parish Ministry Interest List**

Family Names: _	 
Phone or Email: _	

## PLEASE CHECK THE MINISTRIES YOU'D LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OR JOIN.

Liturgical & Educational	□ Event Cooking	
☐ Church Reader (non-chanting)	☐ Event Set-up	
☐ Epistle Reader (English – Females)	☐ Coffee Fellowship	
☐ Epistle Reader (Greek)	☐ Church Decorations	
☐ Chantor (Byzantine Greek/English)	☐ Church Flowers	
☐ Altar Server (Youth & Adults)	☐ Bookstore Support	
☐ Myrrhbearer (Youth & Adults)	☐ GreekFest Volunteer	
☐ Religious Education	☐ Golf Classic Volunteer	
☐ Youth Ministry (Hope, Joy, GOYA)	□ Fundraising Volunteer	
☐ Young Adult Fellowship	☐ Volunteer for Special Events	
☐ Church Choir	$\square$ Blessing of Animals	
☐ Hellenic Language & Culture	□ Philoptochos (Women's Ministry)	
☐ Prosfora (Offering Bread baking)	☐ Prayer Shawl (Knitting/Crocheting)	
☐ Koliva (Memorial wheat)	☐ Inventory & Church Property	
☐ Artoklasia (Feast Day bread offering)	☐ Facilities Maintenance	
☐ Other:	☐ Church Office Support	
	☐ Medical Support	
Youth & Family Engagement	□ Legal Guidance	
☐ Playground Support	☐ Finance / Accounting Volunteer	
☐ Family Retreats & Family Nights	$\square$ Real Estate / Construction / Trades	
☐ Parent Support for Youth & Culture	☐ Parish Council	
☐ Family Game or Movie Nights	□ Welcome Committee	
☐ Youth Choir	□ Parish Directory	
☐ Music Ensemble	□ Let's EAT!	
☐ Summer Church School	☐ Other:	
☐ Youth Athletics	Technology & Communication	
☐ Mentoring / Big Brother–Sister		
Program	□ Livestreaming Volunteer	
☐ Other:	□ Audio Volunteer	
	□ Publicity & Design	
Parish Life	□ Social Media Support	
☐ Ushering / Greeters	□ Parish E-Bulletin	
☐ Visitation of Elderly/Shut-ins	□ Website Support	

□ Sunday Liturgical Guide	Outreach & Evangelism	
☐ Other:		
	□ Welcoming Newcomers	
Community Service	□ Neighborhood Canvassing	
☐ Food / Clothing Drives	□ Social Media	
☐ Homeless Outreach	☐ Interfaith Outreach	
□ Environmental Clean-Up	$\square$ Atlanta Inter-Orthodox Parish	
☐ Prison Ministry Support	Association (AIOPA)	
☐ Blood Drives	$\square$ Sharing the Faith with Inquirers	
☐ Habitat for Humanity	☐ Church Tours	
☐ School Supply or Meal Distribution	☐ Other:	
☐ Disaster Relief Coordination	Stewardship	
□ Community Garden	•	
□ Soldiers Angels	☐ Stewardship Committee	
□ Just Our Soldiers' Helpers (JOSH)	☐ Annual Campaign Support	
☐ K9s for Warriors	☐ Stewardship Education & Events	
☐ Toys for Tots	☐ Writing or Speaking on Stewardship	
☐ Other:	☐ Helping Others Discover Their Gifts	
	□ Other:	
Other Talents	s or Interests	
Describe below anything else you'd lik	ke to share about your skills or ideas	
for ministry!		
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# "There are different gifts, but the same Spirit."— 1 Corinthians 12:4

Thank you for sharing your gifts with our parish family! Please email or call Fr. George so he can reach out to you soon with next steps or ways to get involved. <u>May your offering of time and talent be a blessing to others and a joy to your heart.</u>

Together, we build the Church—one faithful soul, one loving act, one ministry at a time.

With gratitude in Christ, +Fr. George Tsahakis



