



# St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

**313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210  
Peachtree City, Georgia 30269**

**Phone: (770) 347-PRAY (7729)**

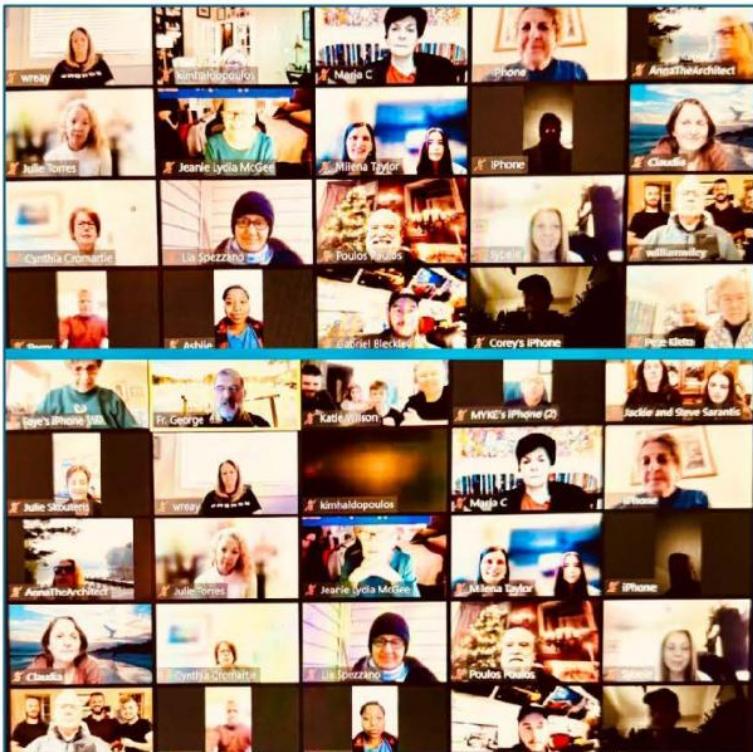
Website: [www.saintchristopherhoc.org](http://www.saintchristopherhoc.org)

**Very Rev. Fr. George Tsahakis, Pastor  
Stephen Sarantis, President, Parish Council  
Jackie Sarantis, Office Administrator**

## **Pastoral Message from Fr. George, January 28, 2026**

**Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,**

A collage of 25 small video frames showing people participating in an online Zoom worship service. Each frame displays a participant's name and a small icon indicating the device used (e.g., iPhone, Zoom). The participants are diverse in age and background, representing a community gathered online.



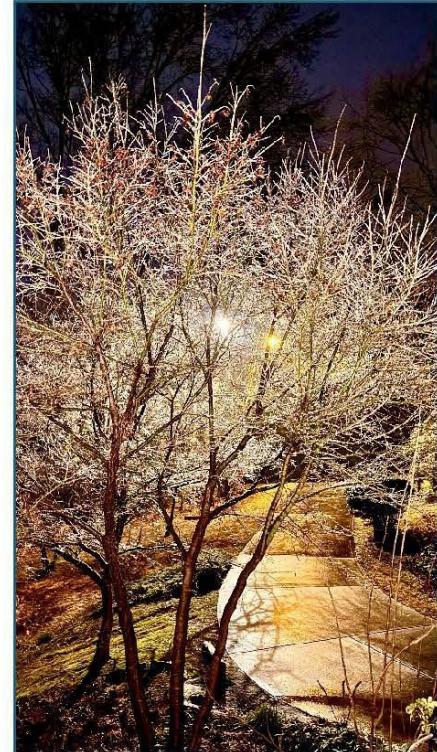
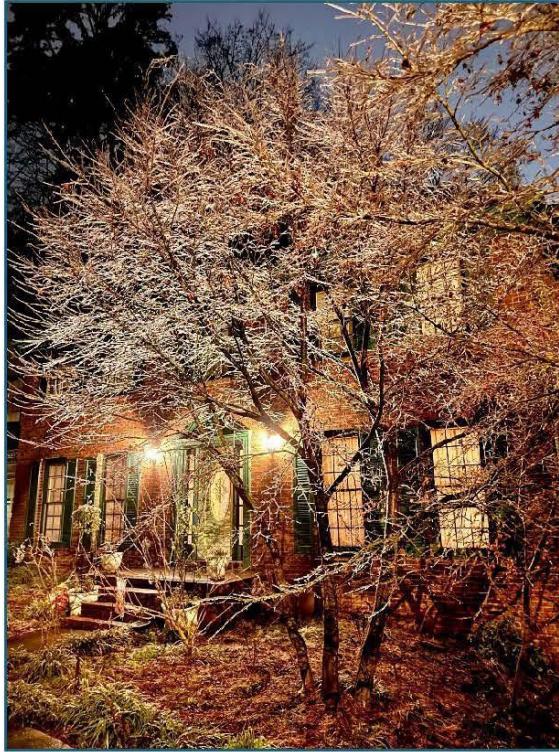
Our inability to travel did not diminish our desire to worship. In fact, it revealed something beautiful: *faith that adapts, love that connects beyond distance, and a shared commitment to lift our hearts to God no matter the circumstances.* Even through screens and across neighborhoods blanketed in ice, we prayed together as one Body, united by the Holy Spirit.

Thank you for making the effort to log in, to sing, to listen, to pray, and to encourage one another. Thank you for keeping our parish family safe by staying off dangerous roads. And thank you for demonstrating, yet again, that our unity in Christ is not limited to our building—*it lives in our hearts and in our willingness to gather however we can.*

May God bless you for your faithfulness and protect you in the days ahead. May He warm our homes, soften the ice around us, and prepare us soon for the joy of worshiping together in person once more.

During the inclement weather, I wrote several reflections and I am sharing the following that was inspired by the ice that accumulated not only on the roads, but also the trees, even causing several large branches to fall near our house. We are thankful that our power remained on despite the high probability that ice storms can topple trees and branches,

disrupt power and even harm those underneath them. My reflection follows:



Sunday night's icy beauty reminded me how life can look peaceful on the surface, even while heavy burdens quietly accumulate. The same ice that sparkles in the light is also the weight that may cause branches to snap and even bring down power lines.

So it is with us.

Sometimes the responsibilities and worries we carry begin to bend us more than others can see. Yet even in these

moments, Christ's light still shines—gently illuminating the places where our strength feels thin.

My prayer Sunday night:

*Lord, when life feels heavy, strengthen what is weak within us. Keep us rooted in Your peace until the warmth of Your mercy melts every frozen place.*

*Stay safe, stay warm, and may God's grace help all of us weather this storm.*

The days ahead will feature record cold temperatures so take precautions to keep warm and shelter safely.

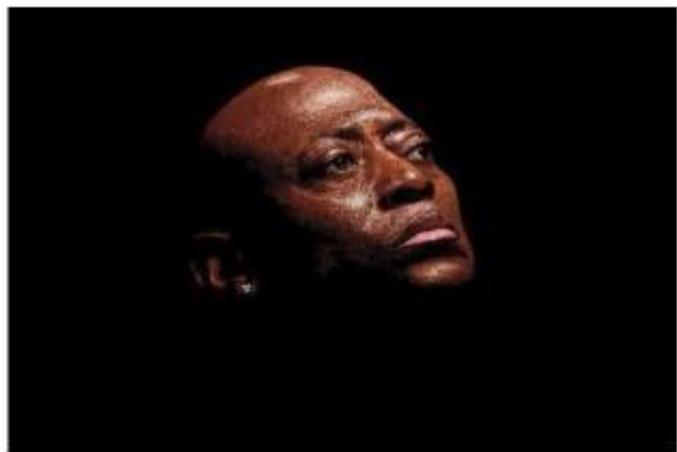
With love in the Lord,

Fr. George

## **Re-Scheduled Sacrament of Chrismation**

With no in-person church services this past Sunday, we rescheduled the Sacrament of Chrismation for Dele Tuboku-Metzger to Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate Dele's and his family's patience and that of his Godparents, Perry and Aimee Panos. Dele has selected St. Moses the Black as his patron saint, so I am sharing a newly-released and timely update from the *Orthodox Observer News (1.27.26)*:

## **Yelena Popovich's 'Moses the Black' Knows Redemption Is No Fairy-Tale**



*Photo courtesy of Simeon Entertainment*

The upcoming film *Moses the Black* adapts the story of St. Moses the Black, a former gang leader in 4th-century Egypt who repented and became a revered Desert Father and martyr. The filmmaker, Yelena Popovich, emphasizes in this interview the film's gritty realism and refusal to offer a simplistic view of redemption. [Read our interview.](#)

**Presbytera Marinda and I plan to see this new movie. Reserve tickets for *Moses the Black*, starring Omar Epps, Wiz Khalifa and Quavo [here](#). The movie is scheduled for release to theaters nationwide January 30.**

## Join Us Often with Your Family

### Wednesday, January 28, St. Ephraim the Syrian

8:00 Orthros & Divine Liturgy at Archangel

Michael Chapel (Metropolis Office)



THIS  
WEEK'S SCHEDULE

### Sunday, February 1, 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of The Publican & The Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today

8:00 Orthros

9:00 Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Five Loaves & February Commemorations (Thanks to Dedee & Kirk Panayis & Maria Panayi for offering the five loaves today.)

11:00 Religious Education Classes (*for all ages*)

### Sunday – Saturday, 2/1-7/26 – Fast Free Week

### Monday, February 2, The Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple

8:00 Divine Liturgy (Note early start time) & Blessing of the Candles



## Hands of Love 2026

### These are hands on events

 <p><b>Jan- March</b> <b>Youth Services</b> <b>Chairs: Aimee Panos</b> 1. <b>Vasilopita</b> 2. <b>Bloom Our Youth Event</b></p>	 <p><b>April- June</b> <b>Backpack Buddies Of Newnan</b> <b>Chair: Dede Panayis</b> <b>Event Coming Soon</b></p>
 <p><b>July-Sept</b> <b>North Carolina Assistance</b> <b>Chairs: Pres. Marinda</b> <b>Event Coming Soon</b></p>	 <p><b>Oct-Dec</b> <b>Soldiers Angels</b> <b>Chair: Paula Price</b> <b>Event Coming Soon</b></p>



## Go Red For Women

Join The Ladies and Men of Philoptochos and wear **RED** on Sunday, February 1.

Learn more about heart disease in women:

<https://www.goredforwomen.org/en/>



tacklehunger.org



## Souper Bowl of Caring Tailgate! Sunday, February 8

Bring your favorite tailgate Apps, side dishes and desserts!

Please donate: Canned foods, canned meats, baby products, etc. will be collected to benefit Fayette Samaritans.

And donate [online](#) to benefit IOCC

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# SAINT CHRISTOPHER HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

## LENTEN RETREAT

Saint Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church  
Presents

### Lenten Retreat

## The Sublime Mystery of Christ's Passion

All Christians in our community are warmly invited to join us for this Lenten Retreat as we reflect together on the mystery of Christ's Passion.

Speaker:

**Dr. Eugenia Constantinou**

Professor, Author, Speaker, Podcaster

Saturday March 28, 2026

9:00 AM – 2:30 PM

Venue: All Saints Anglican Church  
149 Ebenezer Road  
Fayetteville, GA 30215

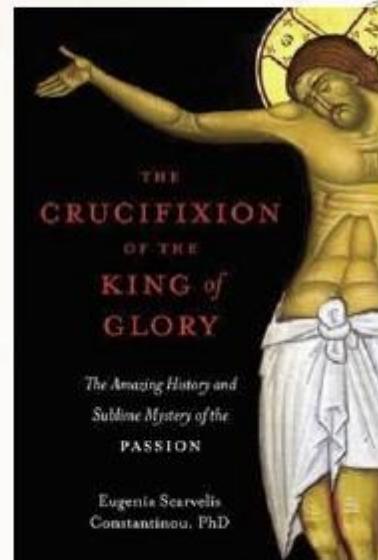
We are inviting our sister Christian parishes in Fayette and Coweta Counties as an opportunity for shared prayer, learning, and fellowship during the Lenten season.

To register go to:

<https://forms.gle/hd81gGH14wChNRxs6>

Or Scan the QR Code:

Contact: [StChristopherRetreat@gmail.com](mailto:StChristopherRetreat@gmail.com)  
or 770-347-7729.



Price/person \$25  
Lenten Breakfast and  
Lunch Included



Presvytera Jeannie Constantinou, Ph.D. will lead us through a first century exploration of the historical and religious context in which the Crucifixion of Christ took place.

Dr. Constantinou taught biblical studies and early Christianity extensively at Orthodox and non-Orthodox universities and graduate schools of theology, including Hellenic College/Holy Cross.

She is the host of Search the Scriptures LIVE on Ancient Faith Radio.

<https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/searchthescriptureslive/>

We are grateful to All Saints Anglican Church for hosting and to our sister Christian parishes for joining us in this journey of faith.

*Together in Christ's love and sacrifice.*

## 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:

**GIVING SCENARIO 1:**  
Currently giving \$100/month  
• \$40 to Building Fund  
• \$60 to Operations

*During the Building Fund Campaign*  
• **\$80** to Building Fund  
• **\$60** to Operations  
Total Giving Increase = 40%

**GIVING SCENARIO 2:**  
Currently giving \$200/month  
• \$100 to Building Fund  
• \$100 to Operations

*During the Building Fund Campaign*  
• **\$200** to Building Fund  
• **\$100** to Operations  
Total Giving Increase = 30%

**GIVING SCENARIO 3:**  
Currently giving \$300/month  
• \$100 to Building Fund  
• \$200 to Operations

*During the Building Fund Campaign*  
• **\$200** to Building Fund  
• **\$200** to Operations  
Total Giving Increase = 33%

Please consider giving with your heart.

With gratitude and hope,

Tom Farmakis



HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK  
SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO

# Valentine's Day Dance

FEBRUARY 14TH

Food - Drink - Dance - Music

Join us for a night of Greek dancing and celebration in support of the Greek School, with part of the proceeds benefiting the Loaves and Fishes Program. Doors open at 6:00 for dance lessons, with special hors d'oeuvres served at 6:30.

Come dance, connect, and support a great cause!

Adults \$50; Youth and Students \$35 with college ID; children under 10 free. Cash bar.



Feat. Famous DJ Chris Sarris



METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA PHILOPTOCHOS SPIRITUAL RETREAT

# Bearing Myrrh

Extending the beauty, compassion,  
and steadfastness of our faith into  
our daily lives

## METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA PHILOPTOCHOS **SPIRITUAL RETREAT**

### PLANNED ACTIVITIES:

- Friday Night Salutations
- Excellent Sessions by our Speaker
- Lake Side exercise class
- Arts and Crafts
- Time for quiet reflection
- Opportunities for Confession
- Chapter Sharing
- Time by the fire pit in the evening

MARCH  
**20-22**  
2026

ALEXIOS RETREAT CENTER  
Salem, SC



GUEST SPEAKER  
**EDNA KING**

Family Life Ministry of Atlanta  
Orthodox Author



REGISTRATION  
LINK AVAILABLE AT  
THIS QR CODE

TOTAL COST FOR  
RETREAT \$250

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [🌐 https://atlmetropolis.org/spiritual-retreat-2026](https://atlmetropolis.org/spiritual-retreat-2026) [✉️ sarah.e.kalaris@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.e.kalaris@gmail.com)



# The Liturgical Arts Academy

Winter Academy - for Beginners  
Summer Academy - for Upper Levels  
*at The Diakonia Retreat Center in Salem, SC*

WINTER ACADEMY: FEB 8 - 14, 2026 \* Registration opens 09/23/25  
SUMMER ACADEMY: AUG 23 - 29, 2026 \* Registration opens 03/23/25

## Byzantine Chant



A week of intensive in-person training in Byzantine notation, modal theory, ornamentation and rubrics. Students are accepted into Beginner thru Master Class levels based on their application. Instructors: J.M. Boyer, S. Herron, G. Cremeens, P.D. Robinson

## Byzantine Iconography



A week of intensive instruction in line drawing, color theory, gilding, painting, and varnishing. Beginners learn the basics of the Byzantine technique; Summer Academy is for more advanced icon painting. Instructor: Fr. Anthony Salzman



## Foods in Faith

Learn to make and offer Prosphora, Artoklasia, and Koliva for the worship life of the Church.  
Winter Academy only.

Instructor: Presvytera Meredyth Houpos

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

info@theliturgicalarts.org



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

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE for Academic Year 2026 – 27

Scholarships range from \$1000 to \$3000

APPLICATION NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE at

<https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/program/AHEPAApp26>

Application deadline—11:59 p.m., EST, March 15, 2026

### ACADEMIC and ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 (or 83 out of 100) and planning to be enrolled full-time at an accredited college or university for the 2026 – 2027 academic year to be eligible.

### AREA OF CONSIDERATION and RESIDENCY / OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Multiple scholarships will be awarded based on scholastic achievement.
- Multiple 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@ahēpaATLscholarship.org](mailto:applications@ahēpaATLscholarship.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



## YOUR JOURNEY TO DISCOVERING YOUR HERITAGE STARTS HERE.

The National Hellenic Society opened their applications for all Summer 2026 Heritage Greece® Programs, offering Greek-American/Canadian college students a two-week, immersive journey into Hellenic history, culture, and identity. Students can apply to any/all of the 3 program options (but only attend one) in June or July in Athens (ACG or CYA) or Thessaloniki (ACT), each blending language lessons, cultural workshops, historic site visits, and meaningful connections with Greek peers. The National Hellenic Society covers tuition, housing, meals, transportation in Greece, and all program costs leaving students to only cover airfare and personal expenses. Find program dates, application deadlines, and some sample itineraries for all three programs below and [on our website](#).

This year, NHS is sponsoring 100 students to discover their Greek heritage. More than 900 alumni have taken part in this life-changing program, often calling it transformative for both their personal and professional growth.

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### Criteria for Eligibility (for all programs):

- 18-26 years old and enrolled as an undergraduate/graduate student with a 3.0+ GPA
- A US/Canadian citizen of Hellenic descent\*
- Preferably (not mandatory) visiting Greece for the first time

*\*Hellenic descent is defined as having one or more parents, grandparents, or great grandparents born in Greece or Cyprus. Please note that siblings or first cousins of past and/or current participants, who meet the program's eligibility criteria, may be considered but they must reimburse NHS for all expenses related to participation in the Heritage Greece® Program*

[FIND ALL HERITAGE GREECE® INFO AND APPLICATIONS HERE](#)



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



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

-online-  
*giving*  
fast. simple. secure.

[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](#)



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