

## WHY WAS JESUS BAPTIZED?

**O**n the great Feast Day of THEOPHANY, we commemorate, our Lord's baptism in the Jordan River by John. Have you ever wondered why Jesus was baptized? Why did the Sinless One need to submit to a ritual that symbolized the washing away of sins? St. John himself must have had the same question in his mind. The Gospels tell us that when Christ approached him in the Jordan, he was reluctant to baptize Him, saying: "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" (Matthew 3:14) In the following verse of Matthew's Gospel, Christ answers: "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."

Therein lies our answer. Jesus certainly did not NEED purification. But by making the purification of humanity His own, He would wash away the sin of humanity, grant regeneration and reveal the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Thus, Christ's baptism was necessary for the fulfillment of all of God's righteousness. St. Gregory of Nyssa puts it beautifully: "JESUS ENTERS THE SINFUL WATERS OF THE WORLD, AND WHEN HE COMES OUT, HE PURIFIES THE ENTIRE WORLD WITH HIM."

The Church refers to baptism as a "new birth." In this "new birth," a true mystery takes place, for in the Sacrament of Baptism, we die, going down into the water to be mystically united to Christ in His death. Then we live again, rising up out of the water in His Resurrected humanity.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.

Μετεμορφώθης ἐν τῷ ὄρει Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, δείξας τοῖς Μαθηταῖς σου τὴν δόξαν σου, καθὼς ἠδυναντο. Λάμπσον καὶ ἡμῖν τοῖς ἀμαρτωλοῖς, τὸ φῶς σου τὸ αἰδῖον, πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, φωτοδότα δόξα σοι.

Metemorfóthis en to óri, Hristé o Theós, dexas tis Mathités sou, tin dóxan sou kathós idinanto; lampson ke imin tis amartolis, to fos sou to aidion, presvies tis Theotókou, Fotodóta dóxa si.

You were transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Your disciples, Your glory as much as they could bear. Do also in us, sinners though we may be, shine Your everlasting light, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Giver of Light, glory to You.



# Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church



3431 Trickum Road  
Marietta, GA 30066  
Tel. 770-924-8080 — Fax 770-924-3030



Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou, Ph.D., Protopresbyter  
Fr. George Pallas, Protopresbyter  
Fr. John Brown, Protopresbyter  
Fr. Michael Tishel, Ekonomos

**Sunday—the Lord's Day—January 5, 2025**

**Sunday Before Theophany**

Musical Mode: Third Mode      Sixth Eothinon Gospel: Luke 24:36-53

Readings of the Day: 2 Timothy 4:5-8 & Mark 1:1-8

Today's Saints: Eve of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ;  
The Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas; Righteous Syncletike of Alexandria;  
Gregory of Akrita; Apollinaria of Egypt

We extend a warm welcome to all those worshipping with us today both in person as well as online from around the world. The live stream of the today's Services can be found on the **Trisagion Films YouTube Channel** at <https://www.youtube.com/@TrisagionLivestreams/streams>

*The daily hymns are printed on the inside of the back cover.*

## WHERE TO FIND INFO ABOUT ORTHODOXY

Online Sources for theological and spiritual edification:

**Trisagion Films:** On Youtube, Facebook and webpage [www.trisagionfilms.com](http://www.trisagionfilms.com)

**Follow our Podcasts:** You can now listen to the entire series on iTunes, Spotify, GooglePlay, PlayerFM, and Sticher. You can find the entire series on iTunes here as well "**An Imperfect Podcast**": <http://tinyurl.com/y5ved9lk>

For audio of spiritual discussions: **Ancient Faith Radio:** [www.ancientfaith.com](http://www.ancientfaith.com)

Visit our **Church Bookstore** for books, icons and other spiritual items for your home.

Visit our **Library** at <http://www.holytransfiguration.info/library/>

If you are interested to learn more about the Orthodox Faith, please speak to Father Panayiotis and he will guide you.

Email him at [frpanayiotis@holytransfiguration.info](mailto:frpanayiotis@holytransfiguration.info) to schedule an appointment.

## TODAY'S HYMNS

**Entrance Hymn. 2nd Tone.**

**Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ.  
Save us, O Son of God, who is risen from the dead.  
We sing to You, Alleluia.**

*Please sing along with us after the Small Entrance, as you are able.*

**Apolytikion of the Week. Third Mode.**

Let the heavens be glad. Let the earth rejoice exceedingly. For the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead. Out of the belly of Hades, He has rescued us, and to the world He has granted the great mercy.

**Apolytikion of the Forefeast. Fourth Mode.**

Jordan River once turned back when Elisha struck its stream with his mantle in the wake of Elias's ascent; and the water was parted to the one side and to the other. And thus the fluid stream became a dry way for him, a symbol and truly a type of Baptism, by which we now pass over the streaming passage of the present life. And Christ appeared at the Jordan River to sanctify the waters.

**Apolytikion of the Parish. Grave Mode.**

*[See back of bulletin]*

**Kontakion. Fourth Mode.**

To the flowing streams today of River Jordan comes the Lord and cries aloud to John the Baptist, and He says, "Be not afraid to baptize me now; for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man.

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**The Cherubic Hymn.**

Let us, who mystically represent the Cherubim and who sing the thrice-holy hymn to the life-creating Trinity, now lay aside every worldly care. So that we may receive the King of all.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord Sabaoth, heaven and earth are filled with Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**Communion Hymn.**

Praise the Lord from the heavens. Alleluia.

**Thanksgiving Hymn after Holy Communion**

We have seen the true light; we have received the heavenly Spirit; we have found the true faith, worshipping the undivided Trinity, for the Trinity has saved us.

## Readings for the Sunday before Theophany

Ἀναγνώσματα Κυριακῆς πρὸ τῶν Φώτων

### Πρὸς Τιμόθεον Β΄ Ἐπιστολῆς (4.5-8)

Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, νῆφε ἐν πάσι, κακοπάθησον, ἔργον ποιήσον εὐαγγελιστοῦ, τὴν διακονίαν σου πληροφόρησον. Ἐγὼ γὰρ ἤδη σπένδομαι, καὶ ὁ καιρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀναλύσεως ἐφέστηκε. Τὸν ἀγῶνα τὸν καλὸν ἠγώνισμαι, τὸν δρόμον τετέλεκα, τὴν πίστιν τετήρηκα· λοιπὸν ἀπόκειται μοι ὁ τῆς δικαιοσύνης στέφανος, ὃν ἀποδώσει μοι ὁ Κύριος ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, ὁ δίκαιος κριτής, οὐ μόνον δὲ ἐμοί, ἀλλὰ καὶ πάσι τοῖς ἠγαπηκόσι τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν αὐτοῦ.

### Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον ἀγίου Εὐαγγελίου

Ἀρχὴ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ὡς γέγραπται ἐν τοῖς προφήταις, ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω τὸν ἄγγελόν μου πρὸ προσώπου σου, ὃς κατασκευάσει τὴν ὁδὸν σου ἔμπροσθέν σου· φωνὴ βοῶντος ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, ἐτοιμάσατε τὴν ὁδὸν Κυρίου, εὐθείας ποιεῖτε τὰς τρίβους αὐτοῦ, ἐγένετο Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ καὶ κηρύσσων βάπτισμα μετανοίας εἰς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν. Καὶ ἐξεπορεύετο πρὸς αὐτὸν πᾶσα ἡ Ἰουδαία χώρα καὶ οἱ Ἱεροσολυμίται, καὶ ἐβαπτίζοντο πάντες ἐν τῷ Ἰορδάνῃ ποταμῷ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἐξομολογούμενοι τὰς ἁμαρτίας αὐτῶν. Ἦν δὲ ὁ Ἰωάννης ἐνδεδυμένος τρίχας καμήλου καὶ ζώνην δερματίνην περὶ τὴν ὀσφὺν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐσθίων ἀκρίδας καὶ μέλι ἄγριον. Καὶ ἐκήρυσσε λέγων· ἔρχεται ὁ ἰσχυρότερός μου ὀπίσω μου, οὗ οὐκ εἰμὶ ἱκανὸς κύψασθαι τὸν ἱμάντα τῶν ὑποδημάτων αὐτοῦ· ἐγὼ μὲν ἐβάπτισα ὑμᾶς ἐν ὕδατι, αὐτὸς δὲ βαπτίσει ὑμᾶς ἐν Πνεύματι Ἁγίῳ.

### Paul's 2nd Epistle to Timothy (4.5-8)

Timothy my son, as for you, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

### Gospel according to Mark (1.1-8)

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight—" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**Parish Council On Duty:** Demetra Lilly/Steven Pelky  
**Greeter On Duty:** Kate Sklikas/Tammy Dionas  
**Ushers On Duty:** Andy Johansen/Steve Kargas/Chris Kastner  
**Prosforo Bakers:** Alexandra Milios/Jennie Miltiades/Mary Miltiades/Penny Miltiades

Sun., Jan. 5 **Sunday before Theophany**  
 8:45 am Orthros  
 10:00 am Divine Liturgy  
 11:15 am Youth Catechism classes-PLC lower level classrooms  
 A one year Memorial Service is given for Thomas Comsudes; father of Gabrielle & Samuel, husband of Maria, son of Margaret, brother of Karen Fox. May his memory be eternal!  
 A 3 year Memorial Service is given for Tierani Hendrix; daughter of Stephen and Marla Hendrix, sister of Leycei Hendrix Gordon. May her memory be eternal!  
 12:30 pm Constantinides Fellowship/Coffee Hour-Parish Hall  
 12:30 pm Cretan Dance Group-PLC lower level classrooms  
 12:30 pm Hellenic Dance HDF practice-Gym  
 5:00 pm Great Vespers of Holy Theophany

Mon., Jan. 6 **Theophany of Christ**  
 8:30 am Orthros  
 9:45 am Divine Liturgy followed by the Great Ayiasmos (Blessing of the Waters)  
 5:30 pm Hellenic Studies/Greek School classes-PLC lower level classrooms  
 6:00 pm Great Vespers-Synaxis of St. John the Baptist

Tues., Jan. 7 **Synaxis of St. John the Baptist**  
 9:00 am Orthros  
 10:00 am Divine Liturgy  
 10:45 am Kafenion-Atrium  
 11:00 am Philoptochos Book Club  
 6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting-Church Library (St. Basil Conf. Rm)  
 7:00 pm Mixed Choir practice-Main Church

Wed., Jan. 8  
 10:00 am Chair Exercise class-PLC lower level classroom #127  
 5:30 pm Hellenic Studies/Greek School classes-PLC lower level classrooms  
 6:00 pm Hellenic Dance HDF practice-PLC Parish Hall  
 7:00 pm Intro to Orthodoxy class-PLC lower level classroom #131

Thur., Jan. 9  
 8:30 am TOA Divine Liturgy-Lighthouse  
 9:15 am TOA classes-PLC lower level classrooms  
 7:00 pm Philoptochos Board meeting-Church Library (St. Basil Conf. Rm)

Phishing Scam Awareness

We are aware that several phishing-type communications have been received by parishioners from supposed members of the church leadership. The church (priests, staff, Parish Council, ministry leads) will never email or text you asking for you to buy gift cards or send money for any reason. If you receive such a message, it is a scam. Please disregard the request and report it to the church office. Always verify requests for financial assistance through direct communication with the church office. Protect yourself, your personal information, fellow parishioners, and the church by being cautious of these fraudulent attempts.

Sat., Jan. 11  
 10:00 am Rental: Mary Miltiades-Kitchen  
 12:00 pm Hellenic Dance HDF practice-Gym  
 5:00 pm Great Vespers-Chapel

Sun., Jan. 12 **Sunday after Theophany**  
 8:45 am Orthros  
 10:00 am Divine Liturgy  
 11:15 am Youth Catechism classes-PLC lower level classrooms  
 11:30 am Second Sunday YA Class & Discussion-Lighthouse  
 Philoptochos Vasilopita & 2nd Tray to benefit St. Basil Academy  
 Parish Council Oath of Office  
 12:30 pm Fellowship/Coffee Hour-Parish Hall  
 12:30 pm Cretan Dance Group-PLC lower level classrooms  
 12:30 pm Hellenic Dance HDF practice-Gym

Mon., Jan. 13  
 5:30 pm Hellenic Studies/Greek School classes-PLC lower level classrooms  
 6:00 pm Hellenic Dance HDF practice-PLC Parish Hall  
 6:30 pm Strategic Planning Committee meeting-St. Gregory Conf. Rm  
 7:00 pm Spiritual Book Club-Church Library (St. Basil Conf. Rm)

Tues., Jan. 14  
 8:30 am TOA Morning Prayers-Main Church  
 9:15 am TOA classes-PLC lower level classrooms  
 10:45 am Kafenion-Atrium  
 6:00 pm Hellenic Dance HDF practice-PLC Parish Hall  
 7:00 pm Mixed Choir practice-Main Church

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Calendars 2025:** Calendars for 2025 are in! Please pick yours up in the Parish Life Center Foyer counters on each side of the middle doors.

**Chair Exercise Program:** Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, Jan. 8th, at 10:00 am** in LL PH classroom #127. Please text Ann Zakreski at 770.329.7421 if you plan to come.

**Fellowship/Coffee Hour Sponsorship** is a great way to honor someone's birthday, nameday, memory, or a significant event with your church family. For ministries, it is a great opportunity to bring awareness to your group and gain members. Reserve your date by scanning or clicking the QR codes



2025 COFFEE HOUR

**Hellenic Dance** Marietta Greek Festival dance practices begin January 26th.

**Mixed Choir:** The Mixed Choir practices on Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Next practice **Jan. 14th.**

**Philoptochos Book Club: Calling ALL Book Lovers! Come join the Philoptochos Book Club!** We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 11:00 am in the Church Library (St. Basil Conference Room) followed by an optional lunch out. **ALL book lover readers are welcomed to come. NEXT MEETING - Jan. 7th, at 11:00 am.** Book - *The Reckoning* by John Grisham.

**Young Adults** in their 20's and 30's meet twice a month for continuing education and fellowship. Want to learn more? Join the HTGOC Young Adults GroupMe chat for notifications on events. Contact Fr. Michael ([frmichael@holytransfiguration.info](mailto:frmichael@holytransfiguration.info)) or Ministry Lead Maria H. ([youngadults@holytransfiguration.info](mailto:youngadults@holytransfiguration.info)).





## INTRO TO ORTHODOXY CLASS AT HOLY TRANSFIGURATION

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE BASICS OF ORTHODOXY CHRISTIANITY?

WHETHER YOU ARE A CASUAL INQUIRER, OR WANT TO BECOME ORTHODOX, OR A LIFELONG ORTHODOX

LOOKING FOR A REFRESHER, THIS CLASS IS FOR YOU!

THE CLASS IS BASED ON THE "INTRO TO ORTHODOXY" VIDEO SERIES ON YOUTUBE. EACH WEEK ATTENDEES WILL WATCH A VIDEO PRESENTATION ON THEIR OWN. THEN WE WILL MEET IN PERSON ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS TO DISCUSS. THE IN-PERSON CLASSES WILL REVIEW THE MATERIAL FROM THE WEEKLY VIDEO, AND WILL EMPHASIZE QUESTION-AND-ANSWER.

**CLASSES ARE HELD ON WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM  
IN PLC CLASSROOM #131 — LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

Email [office@holytransfiguration.info](mailto:office@holytransfiguration.info) to register

**NEXT  
CLASS  
Jan.  
8th**

## Spiritual Book Club

We meet on the second Monday of every month in the Church Library from 7:00-8:30 p.m. / co-hosted by Pres. Patty & Michael Gavalas

Please email us at [mgavalas@icloud.com](mailto:mgavalas@icloud.com) to be added to our email list for updates, videos, and related articles



### UPCOMING SCHEDULE

**Monday, January 13th and Monday, February 10th**  
*Time & Despondency: Regaining the Present in Faith & Life*  
by Nicole M. Roccas

Idleness. Apathy. Restlessness. Procrastination. These are symptoms of what early Christian theologians called despondency (acedia), a spiritual sickness rooted in a lack of care or effort. A condition as old as the ancients, despondency thrives in today's culture of leisure, anxiety, & digital distraction. Time & Despondency is a penetrating synthesis of ancient theology, spiritual memoir, & self-help practicality. It envisions despondency as the extension of a broken relationship with the experience of time. Driven by the fear of death and the anxiety of living, despondency drives us to abandon the present moment, forsaking the only temporal realm in which we have true fellowship with Christ. The remedies offered by time-honored Christian thinkers for this predicament constitute not only an antidote to despondency but also stepping stones back to the present moment. In regaining the sacredness of time, we re-encounter the Resurrection of Christ in the dark and restless moments of our lives.

## MARK YOU CALENDARS FOR OUR FESTIVAL FOOD PREP DAYS!



**MANY HANDS NEEDED, NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY**

Wednesday, January 15 10 am-5pm (Koulorakia)  
Saturday, January 18 10 am-4 pm (Koulorakia)  
Wednesday, January 22 10 am-5 pm (Kourambiedes)  
Friday, January 24 5 pm-9 pm (Kourambiedes)  
Wednesday, January 29 10 am-5 pm (Melomacarna)  
Saturday February 1 10 am-4 pm (Melomacarna)  
Wednesday, February 5th, 10-5 pm  
Friday, February 7th, 5-9 pm  
Saturday, February 8th, 10-5 pm (Spanakopita)  
Friday, February 28th, 5-9 pm  
Saturday, March 1st, 10-5 pm (Keftedes)  
Saturday, April 26th, 10-5 pm (Dolmades)



## JOIN US AS WE DISCOVER CHRIST IN THE PSALMS

### LIFE AND FAITH TRANSITIONS GROUP

**PRAYER • EXPLORATION • PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL  
GROWTH • STRONGER RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR LORD •  
CONFIDENTIALITY • LIVELY DISCUSSIONS • RESPECTFUL  
LISTENING AND SHARING • SERVICE TO OUR LORD**

Join us as we journey through the Psalms using *Christ in the Psalms* by Fr. Patrick Henry Reardon and *The Orthodox Study Bible* as our guides.



Our discussions focus on supporting and encouraging each other through the myriad of life and faith changes, challenges and transitions. Our goal is to nurture personal and spiritual growth, to strengthen our relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ, and to enhance our service to others on behalf of our Lord.

**UPCOMING SESSIONS VIA ZOOM:  
JANUARY 18; FEBRUARY 1 AND 15  
FROM 10 AM TO 11:30 AM**

For more information an a Zoom invite, please reach out to BJ Spanos at 404-771-9335 or by email at [spanosbj@gmail.com](mailto:spanosbj@gmail.com)

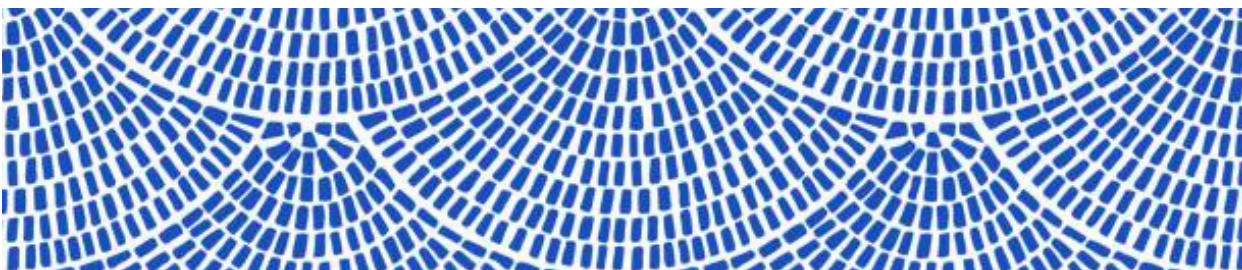


Please join us for the

# Philoptochos Membership Luncheon

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19th  
AFTER DIVINE LITURGY  
IN THE PLC

All current & prospective  
Philoptochos members  
welcome



## Why Join Philoptochos

Philoptochos is a society of dedicated women united in love and service to help the less fortunate. Philoptochos is a way to show you care and to share your love through ministry to others. Join Philoptochos to:

- Be part of philanthropic endeavors
- Change someone's life
- Develop friendships
- Express yourself
- Get involved in community
- Help those in need
- Learn from others
- Make an impact
- Use skills to help others

Receive the rewards that Christian Fellowship and Love offer! Whether you become an active or supportive member, Philoptochos will provide you with opportunities you choose to participate in and during times convenient to your busy schedule.



**2025 Membership Form**  
**Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society**  
 Panagia Chapter #5070  
 Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church  
 3431 Trickum Road, Marietta 30066-4660 Tel. 770-924-8080 Fax. 770-924-3030

RENEWAL	NEW MEMBER	ASSOCIATE MEMBER
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NAME:	
ADDRESS:	HOME PHONE:
CITY/STATE/ZIP:	CELL PHONE:
EMAIL:	

In gratitude for God's blessings, I pledge the following for Christ's work as a Philoptochos member. My stewardship will be allocated to National, Metropolis, and Panagia Chapter (Local) Philoptochos as follows:

1. NATIONAL STEWARDSHIP	\$15.00
2. METROPOLIS STEWARDSHIP	\$10.00
3. PANAGIA CHAPTER (LOCAL) STEWARDSHIP	\$_____ (Please write in amount)
My total Philoptochos donation (total all three lines): *tax deductible (501c3)	\$_____ TOTAL

I would like to offer my TIME and TALENTS to assist the following Philoptochos efforts:  
(PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

<input type="checkbox"/> Help sick/shut-ins (please circle) prepare meals provide transportation visit	<input type="checkbox"/> Dye Red Eggs for Pascha
<input type="checkbox"/> Baking (please circle) Koulouria Paximadia Vasilopita Phanouropita	<input type="checkbox"/> Lenten Retreat (please circle) food prep set-up clean-up help serve
<input type="checkbox"/> Godparents Luncheon (please circle) food prep set-up clean-up help serve	<input type="checkbox"/> Fall Fundraiser (please circle) food prep set-up/decorate clean-up help serve
<input type="checkbox"/> Souper Bowl Luncheon (please circle) food prep set-up clean-up help serve	<input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Back Luncheon (please circle) set-up clean-up help serve

Completed forms with payment (checks payable to Philoptochos) may be mailed to church address or dropped off in church office or book store (Credit card payments available in the book store). If using Online Giving at [holytransfiguration.info](http://holytransfiguration.info), please scan and email completed form to: [llopos624@gmail.com](mailto:llopos624@gmail.com).

# Home Blessings



Home Blessing Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Availability: please write an "X" below to indicate the times when you are generally NOT available, or use a checkmark (✓) to indicate when you generally ARE available.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Morning	X						
Afternoon							
Evening							

Please send this completed form (or a copy of it) to the parish office ([office@holytransfiguration.info](mailto:office@holytransfiguration.info)) as soon as possible.

A priest will be in touch with you to schedule a home blessing, which will begin on January 12th.



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA  
**METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA**

## Save the Date

The Enthronement of  
His Eminence  
Metropolitan +SEVASTIANOS of Atlanta

**Saturday, January 25th, 2025**  
at 10 o'clock in the Morning  
Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation

Luncheon to Follow  
(\$100 per ticket)\*\*

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His Eminence will serve  
His First Divine Liturgy as Metropolitan  
on **Sunday, January 26th, 2025**  
with a reception to follow in his honor.

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Purchase and/or reserve tickets at  
<https://www.atlmetropolisevents.org/tickets>

# 2025 Cretan Glendi!

Samaria Chapter

Pancretan Association of America



Saturday, January 25, 2025

Parish Life Center  
Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church  
3431 Trickum Road  
Marietta, Georgia

Dinner Dance Featuring  
Traditional Cretan Cuisine  
Cretan Dancing

Live Cretan Music by:  
Manolis Tsikoudakis (Lyra)  
Demetri Spatharakis (Laouto)

6:00 pm: Cocktails  
6:30 pm: Dinner  
8:00 pm: Dancing

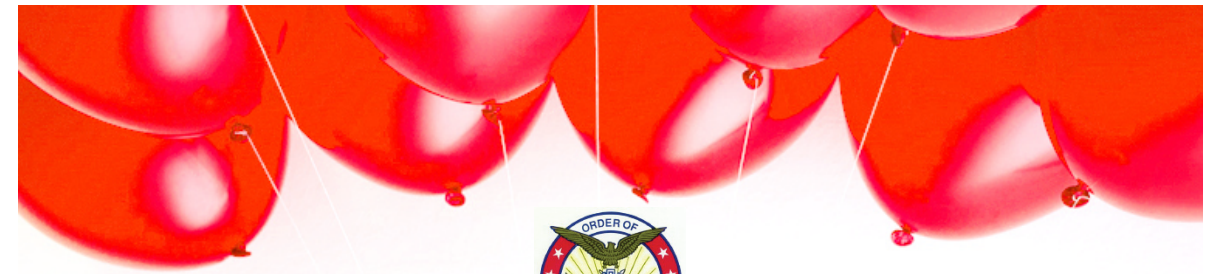
Adults: \$65  
Students (13-17): \$30  
Children 12 and under: Free  
Early order special: \$480 for table of 8  
if purchased by January 12, 2025



Purchase tickets online using the QR code above or the link below: <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/2025-cretan-glendi>

\*\*e-ticket price will have a default donation to the website. Next to "Contribution" select "other" and add \$0\*\*

Please get your tickets early! Only 350 tickets will be sold. The last day to purchase tickets is Tuesday, January 21, 2025. Absolutely no tickets will be sold at the door!



**AHEPA CHAPTER #519**  
Presents the 12th Annual

# Scholarship GAME Night

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND  
DOORS OPEN AT 6.00 PM  
DINNER AT 7.00 PM  
GAMES START AFTER DINNER

PARISH LIFE CENTER  
3431 TRICKUM RD,  
MARIETTA, GA 30066

**All Profits Provide College Scholarships  
for Deserving Students in the Atlanta Area**

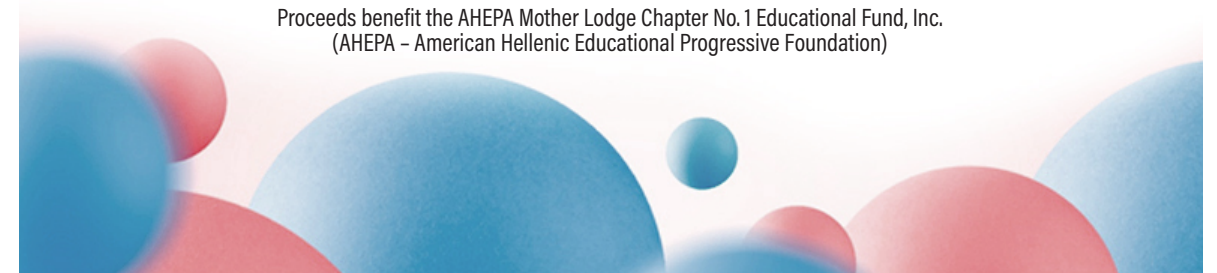
Your \$120 donation includes a fabulous dinner (steak, salmon, all the sides, dessert buffet, open bar), and an exciting evening of games. (Dinner only, \$60 donation.)

Winnings provide you entries for prize drawings at the end of the evening!  
**Come and make it a Date Night!!!**

**To RSVP**

**Email:** [ahepachapter519@gmail.com](mailto:ahepachapter519@gmail.com) or **Call or Text:** 678.525.1344

Proceeds benefit the AHEPA Mother Lodge Chapter No.1 Educational Fund, Inc.  
(AHEPA - American Hellenic Educational Progressive Foundation)





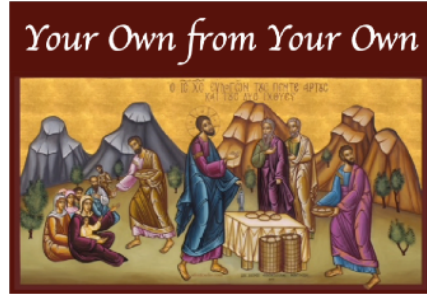
## 2025 Stewardship Campaign

### How to submit your 2025 Membership/ Stewardship Card:

**1. PAPER:** Grab a paper Stewardship form from a Parish Council member in the Narthex on Sunday. You may mail back the completed paper form to the Church or drop the completed form in the offering tray.

**2. ONLINE:** You can complete the Online Membership/Stewardship Form at <https://forms.gle/D6aTSDEMtm9W3Rgd6>.

**3. SCAN:** use this QR code. Simply point your camera on the QR code and click the yellow link that appears within your picture frame.



### So You Know

#### Operating Income and Expense 01/01/24-12/31/24

Income Received:	\$998,189
Total Expenses:	\$1,024,621
Net Income:	—\$26,484

#### Stewardship Report as of 12/31/24

# of Pledges to date:	438
Pledges to date (\$):	\$768,646
2024 Budget:	\$882,000
\$\$\$ needed to reach budget:	\$113,354

#### Philoptochos Impact Report 2024



**TOTAL IMPACT: \$30,062**

Be a part of the  
impact.

Join Philoptochos!

Membership  
Luncheon  
Jan. 19th

### Receiving Holy Communion

Orthodox Christians who have prepared spiritually are invited to come forward "with the fear of God, with faith, and with love" to receive Holy Communion.

Non-Orthodox Christians may receive the blessed bread (*antidoron*) offered at the conclusion of the service, but not Holy Communion. They may come up to receive a blessing during Holy Communion if they wish.

Preparation for Holy Communion includes confession of sins (even of sinful thoughts) and repentance, making peace with those around us, forgiving those who hurt us, asking for forgiveness from those we have hurt, and prayer. There is a special set of prayers called "Preparation for Holy Communion" to help prepare.

If you have further questions regarding the proper preparation for Holy Communion, please speak with Fr. Panayiotis.

2024-2025

## GREEK SCHOOL REGISTRATION

HELLENIC STUDIES OF  
HOLY TRANSFIGURATION  
GREEK ORTHODOX  
CHURCH



REGISTRATION STILL OPEN USING THE LINK BELOW

<https://tinyurl.com/4v8636zn>

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