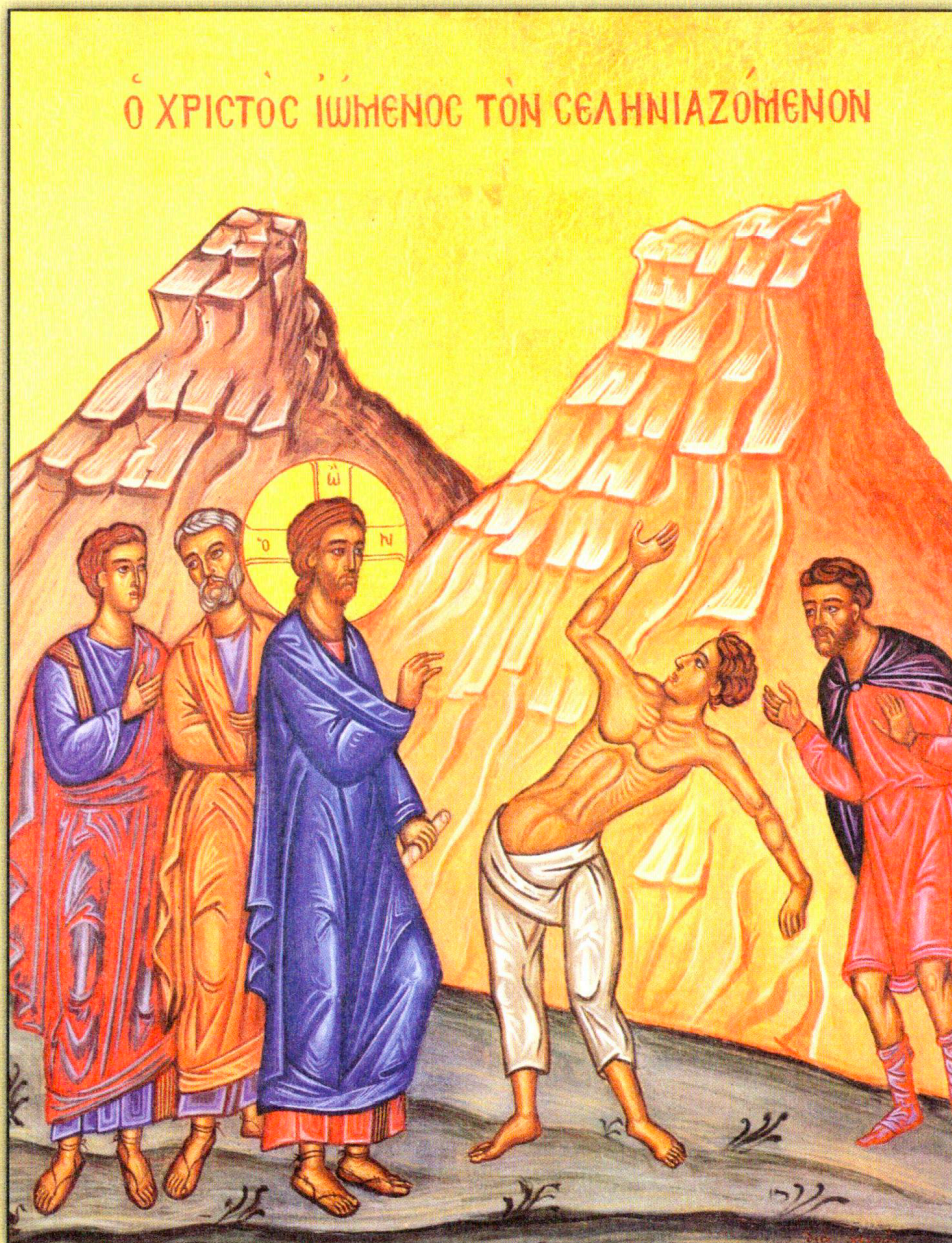


SUNDAY OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS



Icon of Healing the Boy with a Demon

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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



Our purpose is to lead people to the Kingdom of God.

*Our mission is to provide a place of worship
where people actively gather to practice their authentic
Orthodox Christian faith to impact the world.*



Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou, Ph.D., Protopresbyter

Fr. John Brown, Protopresbyter

Fr. Michael Tishel, Presbyter

Fr. Christopher Zaferes, Presbyter

SUNDAY—THE LORD'S DAY—MARCH 22, 2026

Sunday of St. John of the Ladder

Musical Mode: Plagal of the Fourth Mode

Eighth Eothinon Gospel: John 20: 11-18

Readings of the Day: Hebrews 6: 13-20 & Mark 9: 17-31

Today's Saints: Basil the Holy Martyr of Ancyra; Kalliniki & Vassilisa the Martyrs; Euthemios the New Martyr.

APOLYTIKION OF THE PARISH

Μετεμορφώθης ἐν τῷ ὄρει Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, δείξας τοῖς Μαθηταῖς σου τὴν δόξαν σου, καθὼς ἠδύναντο. Λάμπσον καὶ ἡμῖν τοῖς ἀμαρτωλοῖς, τὸ φῶς σου τὸ αἰῶδιον, 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.

TODAY'S HYMNS

Entrance Hymn. Second Mode.

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. Plagal of the Fourth Mode.

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and consented to a three-day burial, to free us from the passions. O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to You!

For the Devout Man. Plagal of the Fourth Mode.

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O John, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

Apolytikion of the Parish. Grave Mode.

[See inside front cover]

Kontakion. Plagal of the Second Mode.

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you. Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

WHERE TO FIND INFO ABOUT ORTHODOXY

Trisagion Films: On YouTube, Facebook and website, www.trisagionfilms.com

Follow our Podcasts: "*An Imperfect Podcast*" - 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: <http://tinyurl.com/y5ved9lk>

For audio of spiritual discussions: **Ancient Faith Radio:** www.ancientfaith.com
Visit our **Church Bookstore** for books, icons and other spiritual items for your home.
Visit our **Library** at <https://holytransfiguration.info/ministries/education/library/>

To learn more about the Orthodox Faith, peak to Father Panayiotis and he will guide you. Email him at frpanayiotis@holytransfiguration.info to schedule an appointment.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Festival Cooking Request for Volunteers: Sat. Mar. 28 from 9am-4pm. we will be making 5,000 dolmades. Please join us!

Myrrh-bearers, Handmaidens, & Altar Servers:
During Holy Week, we welcome those willing to serve:

—**Myrrh-bearers** (middle & high school girls) serve on **Holy Friday, Apr. 10**. Please scan QR code to access announcement and sign-up link.

—**Handmaidens** (3rd thru 5th grade girls) serve on **Holy Saturday, Apr. 11**. Please scan QR code to access announcement and contact info.

—**Altar servers** (boys age 8-18) have a workshop on **Sat. Apr. 4** from 12:30-1:00 pm in the church to go over Palm Sunday and Holy Week processions.

Holy Week Meal Volunteers: Requested for Palm Sunday, Resurrection Midnight Service, and Agape Picnic. We need help with setup & serving the meals. Please email Lela Bridgers at lbridgers@holytransfiguration.info to volunteer.

Great Lent: This week we have Great Compline on Mon. at 6pm; Great Vespers on Tue. at 6pm; Orthros & Liturgy for the Annunciation on Wed. at 8:45 am/10 am; Great Vespers Wed. night at 6:00 pm; the Canon of St. Andrew on Thu. at 6:00 pm; and the Akathist Hymn on Friday at 7:00 pm. Scan QR code to see the flyer on the Ministry News page.

Pascha Flowers & Luminaries: If you'd like to donate for Pascha Flowers and/or Holy Friday Luminaries in memory of family or friends who have reposed, please scan above QR code to access flyer on Ministry News page. There will also be a table set-up in the PLC lobby this Sunday.

Greek Independence Day Luncheon: Join us on **Sun. Mar. 22** for our Greek Independence Day Luncheon sponsored by Hellenic Studies. The traditional fish luncheon is \$15 and to go plates are available.

Parish General Assembly: Sun. Mar. 29 following Divine Liturgy. Scan QR code for more information.

AHEPA Celebration of Education: Save the Date **Sat. June 6** for AHEPA's 3rd Annual Fundraiser. Please scan above QR code to access flyer.

Vacation Church School Camp: Mark your calendars. **Mon-Fri, Jun. 22-26**. Theme: Behold the Light! Registration details coming soon. Please scan above QR code to access flyer on Ministry News page.
TOA Offering Middle School Courses:
Transfiguration Orthodox Academy is excited to offer new Middle School Courses in Math, Science, Composition, and History. Please scan above QR code to access flyer on Ministry News page.

Save the Date: The evening of **Sat. Aug. 22**, honoring Father Panayiotis' Retirement, immediately following Vespers. More details to come!

RECURRING MINISTRY EVENTS

Catechism (Youth PreK-12th grade): Classes meet on Sundays in the classrooms of the PLC following Communion. ALL CHILDREN MUST BE REGISTERED! Register online, <https://holytransfiguration.info/ministries/education/catechism/>

Chair Exercise Program: Our next meeting will be **Wed. Mar. 25, at 11:30 am** in PLC Classroom #127. Please text Ann Zakreski at 770.329.7421 if you plan to come.

GOYA: For rising 6th-graders thru High schoolers. Weekly meetings for fun and fellowship on Wednesdays. Contact goya@holytransfiguration.info to join our email list. **Next meeting Wed. Mar. 25** after Great Vespers in the PLC.

Greek School Registration: Greek School classes began in August, but the program is still accepting students. Biblical and Modern Greek Classes available! Please scan above QR code to access flyer on Ministry News page.

Hellenic Dance: Practices for all groups continues **Sun Mar. 22**. See the previous page for the schedule. See also the parish website or scan the above QR code to see this week's ministry news email for a detailed schedule. Email Paulina Vastakis at hellenicdance@holytransfiguration.info with questions.

Life and Faith Transitions Group: Join us as We Discover *Christ in the Psalms*. Upcoming Session via Zoom: **Sat. Mar. 28**. For info & Zoom invite reach out to BJ Spanos at 404-771-9335 or spanosbj@gmail.com.

Mixed Choir: Next practice **Tues. Mar. 24** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Church.

Men's Choir: Next practice **Thu. Mar. 26 & Thu. Apr. 2** from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Church. Singing the Divine Liturgy on **Sun. Mar. 22.**

Parea: Our next meeting is on **Thu. Apr. 16.** Join us as all are welcome.

Philoptochos 2026 Membership Drive: renew or join for the first time, <https://holytransfiguration.info/philoptochos>

Upcoming Philoptochos Events:

Tue. Apr. 7: Philoptochos Book Club

Philoptochos Book Club: Calling ALL Book Lovers! Come join the Philoptochos Book Club! We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 11 am in the PLC Library followed by optional lunch out. ALL book lover readers are welcomed to come. **NEXT MEETING - Tue. Apr. 14,** at 11:00 am. Book - *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult.

Spiritual Book Club: We are reading *The Sayings of the Desert Fathers* (available in bookstore). This month, we are focusing on the sayings of Abba Anthony, Agathon, Arsenius, Poemen and Amma Syncletica & Theodora. Join us as we discuss these sayings and why they are relevant even today on **Mon. Mar. 23 at 7pm** in the PLC Library Email mgavalas@holytransfiguration.info to register. Scan above QR code to access flyer.

Young Adults in their 20's and 30's meet twice a month for continuing education & fellowship. Want to learn more? Join the HTGOC Young Adults GroupMe chat for notifications on events. Contact Fr. Michael (frmichael@holytransfiguration.info) or Ministry Lead (youngadults@holytransfiguration.info).
Next meeting: Sun. April 19 (Second Sunday)

LINKS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 Annual Membership Campaign: see the Stewardship section to learn more.

Request a Home Visit with Clergy or Pastoral Assistant: Are you or someone you know unable to attend church due to illness or some other reason? Would you or someone you know like a visit from a member of our clergy team or lay volunteer? If so, please scan or click the QR code to fill out a form and we will do our very best to arrange times to

visit! Scan QR code (on left page) to access further details on Ministry News page.

Driver Ministry: The Driver Ministry is here to support our parish family by offering transportation to those who need assistance getting to: Medical or personal appts., Grocery stores & errands, Church services & parish events, & other essential local needs. This ministry is open to any parishioner who may benefit from a little extra help. We are also warmly welcoming volunteer drivers who feel called to serve. Even one ride a month can make a meaningful difference in someone's life. If you or someone you know needs a ride or want to volunteer please contact Eleni Reese, elenireese@gmail.com, or 630-854-2174.

Philoptochos Assistance: If you or someone who's part of your community is in need, Philoptochos is here to help. Please contact Jamie Hughes at 770-710-7733 or jahughes421@gmail.com for details.

Phishing Scam Awareness: 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 (office@holytransfiguration.info or 770-924-8080). Always verify requests for financial assistance through direct communication with the church office. Protect yourself, your personal information, fellow parishioners, & the church by being cautious of these fraudulent attempts.

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 code. Scan QR code (on left page) to access further details on Ministry News page.

Youth Ministries Registration: Registration for our 2025-2026 youth ministries (Catechism, Hellenic Dance, HOPE & JOY, GOYA) is mandatory for youth to participate in these ministries. Register online via the Catechism webpage, Youth section, <https://holytransfiguration.info/ministries/education/catechism/>

BEYOND HOLY T.

Scan QR code on previous page to access flyers on Ministry News page.



2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

How to submit your 2026 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 may complete the Online Membership/Stewardship Form on the website's Stewardship page (<https://holytransfiguration.info/join/>).

3. SCAN: use this QR code. Simply point your camera at the QR code and click the yellow link that appears in the image frame.



SO YOU KNOW

GENERAL FUND (GF) INCOME AND EXPENSES 01/01/26-02/28/26

Stewardship Contributions:	\$162,833
Other GF Income:	\$21,754
Total GF Expenses:	-\$206,829
Net General Fund Loss:	-\$22,242

2026 STEWARDSHIP REPORT AS OF 03/12/26

# of Pledged Households:	322
2026 Budget:	\$1,033,327
Total Pledge Amount:	\$823,042
Stewardship Shortfall:	-\$210,285

KEEP UP TO DATE ON MINISTRY NEWS

- To keep up with events digitally, please register with our email database if you haven't already at <https://tinyurl.com/yudcpubr>. If you're on our list, make sure you've added office@holytransfiguration.info to your safe senders list and contact list.
- Ministry News is emailed every Wednesday complete with flyers and details about special events, recurring ministries, and events beyond Holy Transfiguration. Scan the QR code on the right to access the most recent email.
- The Church Website has an up-to-date calendar and ministry pages and can be found at <https://holytransfiguration.info>.
- Weekend Email with livestream links and a weekend schedule reminder goes out every Friday.
- Check out the Ministry Bulletin Boards on the upper and lower level of the Parish Life Center for details about upcoming events.



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.

Journeying to Pascha

Jesus continues today his work of healing and exorcism, and that is appropriate for this time of Lent, because Lent is a time for healing and exorcism. It is a time for us to heal the wounds of our souls – self-inflicted wounds due to our complacency and laziness and self-indulgence. It is time to get rid of those demons of our own sinful habits and anything that keeps us away from God and from living that abundant life that Christ came to give us.

We start to make our way toward Jerusalem. At the end of today's Gospel already there is the prediction of the passion, the death and the resurrection of Christ, giving a little hint in the Gospel that the course of Lent is moving now towards Jerusalem. We have gone through several weeks now of spiritual preparations, Scripture texts, prayers and activities. Now our focus

is starting to turn towards Jerusalem. That will be made more explicit in next Sunday's Gospel, but we are already getting a hint of it now.

There are only three weeks now until Easter, two weeks until Palm Sunday, when we are really liturgically accompanying Christ into the mystery of His Passion.

So it is coming soon, and we have to start turning towards Jerusalem. We have to get focused, we have to get recollected, we have to really revive our Lenten prayer and fasting so that we can make the rest of this journey and be fruitful and overcome the demons and find healing for the wounds of our souls – and go with Christ to his Passion and, through the mystery of His Cross, come to that great, transfiguring, glorious celebration of His Resurrection.