

# THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM PALM SUNDAY



*Icon of the Entrance into Jerusalem*

# 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—APRIL 5, 2026

### Palm Sunday

**Musical Mode:** Festal Hymns

**Festal Eothinon Gospel:** Matthew 21: 1-11; 15-17

**Readings of the Day:** Phil. 4: 4-9 & John 12: 1-18

**Today's Saints:** Martyrs Claudius, Diodore, Victor, Victorinus, Pappias, Nicephorus, & Serapion; Theodora the Righteous; Agathopodes & Theodulos; George 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 αἰδῖον, πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, φωτοδότα δόξα σοι.

Metemorfóthis en to óri, Hristé o Theós, dixas 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.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us.  
Save us, O Son of God, who sat on a donkey's colt. We sing to You, Alleluia.

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

### Apolytikion of the Feast. First Mode.

To confirm the general resurrection before Your Passion, You resurrected Lazarus from the dead, O Christ our God. Therefore imitating the children, carrying the symbols of victory, we cry out to You the Victor over death: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are You, the One, who comes in the name of the Lord.

### Another. Fourth Mode.

We were buried with You through Baptism, O Christ our God, and thus by Your Resurrection we have been granted immortal life, and extolling You we cry aloud, "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are You, the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

### Apolytikion of the Parish. Grave Mode.

*[See inside front cover]*

### Kontakion. Plagal of the Second Mode.

In heaven upon the throne, on earth upon the colt, \* You were carried, O Christ our God; \* and the praise of the Angels, and the hymns of the children, You received as they cried to You, \* "Blessed are You, the One, who is coming to call Adam back again.

---

## WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION ABOUT ORTHODOXY

**Trisagion Films:** On YouTube, Facebook and website, [www.trisagionfilms.com](http://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](http://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](mailto:frpanayiotis@holytransfiguration.info) to schedule an appointment.

**Parish Council On Duty:** Cherie Cookorinis/Philip George  
**Greeters On Duty:** Chrisa Farrey/Ken Farrey  
**Ushers On Duty:** James Westin/Daniela Chereches/Julie Petrakes/Jamie Hughes  
**Prosforo Bakers:** Nomiki Catsulis/Paula Christopher/Cathy Costarides/Christos Costarides

Sun. Apr. 5                   **Palm Sunday**  
8:45 am           Orthros  
10:00 am          Divine Liturgy  
12:30 pm          Palm Sunday Luncheon  
7:00 pm           Bridegroom Service

Mon. Apr. 6                 **Holy Monday**  
7:00 pm           Bridegroom Service

Tue. Apr. 7                **Holy Tuesday**  
10:45 am          Kafenion-Atrium  
7:00 pm           Bridegroom Service

Wed. Apr. 8               **Holy Wednesday**  
9:30 am           Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts  
3:00 pm           Holy Unction (the service of Holy Oil for Healing)  
6:45 pm           Small Compline  
7:00 pm           Holy Unction (the service of Holy Oil for Healing)

Thu. Apr. 9               **Holy Thursday**  
9:30 am           Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great-The Mystical  
                          Supper  
6:00 pm           The Service of the Passion of Christ

Fri. Apr. 10               **Holy Friday — OFFICE CLOSED**  
9:30 am           The Great Hours of the Passion of Christ  
3:00 pm           The Lowering of the Body of the Lord from the Cross  
7:00 pm           The Burial of Christ-Lamentations at the Tomb of the Lord  
                          (Epitaphios), followed by Procession of the Tomb of Christ

Sat. Apr. 11               **Holy Saturday**  
9:30 am           Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil-Descent of Christ into Hades  
11:00 pm          The Canon of Pascha

Sun. Apr. 12               **Great and Holy Pascha**  
12:00 am          The Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ  
12:30 am          Orthros and Divine Liturgy of Pascha  
2:00 am           Resurrection Meal  
12:00 pm          Great Vespers of Love (During this Service the Gospel is read  
                          in various languages)  
1:00 pm           Agape Picnic

Mon. Apr. 13               **OFFICE CLOSED - SERVICES CANCELLED**  
5:30 pm           Greek School Classes

**See full calendar for the rest of the schedule: [www.holytransfiguration.info/calendar](http://www.holytransfiguration.info/calendar)**

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Journey to Pascha booklet and Holy Week**

**Service Schedule:** Please scan above QR code to access the **Journey to Pascha** booklet and Holy Week schedule on Ministry News page.

**Palm Sunday Luncheon:** Join us **Sun. Apr. 5** after liturgy for our Palm Sunday Luncheon. We will serve baked fish, rice, beans, salad, and a dessert. Adults \$17, Children (under 10) \$12, or \$60 max/family. Tickets will be sold at the door.

**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@holymtransfiguration.info](mailto:lbridgers@holymtransfiguration.info) to volunteer.

**Agape Picnic:** Join us **Sun. Apr. 12** after Agape Vespers for the Agape Picnic (1:30-3:30 pm). Enjoy lamb, chicken, & more. Adults \$20, Children (under 12) \$8, or \$60 max/family. Tickets will be sold at the door.

**Marietta Greek Festival:** Save the Date (May 15-17) & sign-up to volunteer: <https://tinyurl.com/signup-MGF> or scan above QR code to access flyer on Ministry News page.

**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://holymtransfiguration.info/ministries/education/catechism/>

**Chair Exercise Program:** Our next meeting will be **Wed. Apr. 15, at 10:00 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@holymtransfiguration.info](mailto:goya@holymtransfiguration.info) to join our email list. **Next meeting Apr. 15** after Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 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 Apr. 19** See this week's ministry news email for a detailed schedule. Email Paulina Vastakis at [hellenicdance@holymtransfiguration.info](mailto:hellenicdance@holymtransfiguration.info) with questions.

**Life and Faith Transitions Group:** Join us as We Discover *Christ in the Psalms*. Upcoming Session via Zoom: **Sat. Apr. 18**. For info & Zoom invite reach out to BJ Spanos at 404-771-9335 or [spanosbj@gmail.com](mailto:spanosbj@gmail.com).

**Mixed Choir:** Next practice **Tues. Apr. 14** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Church.

**Men's Choir:** Next practice **Thu. Apr. 23** from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Church. Singing the Bridegroom Service **Sun. Apr. 5 & Mon. Apr. 6**. Singing the Divine Liturgy on **Sun. Apr. 26**

**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://holymtransfiguration.info/philoptochos>

**Upcoming Philoptochos Events:**  
Tue. Apr. 14: 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 Syncretica & Theodora. Join us on **Mon. Apr. 20 at 7pm** in the PLC Library Email [mgavalas@holytransfiguration.info](mailto: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](mailto:frmichael@holytransfiguration.info)) or Ministry Lead ([youngadults@holytransfiguration.info](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



<b>SO YOU KNOW</b>	
<b>GENERAL FUND (GF) INCOME AND EXPENSES 01/01/26-03/31/26</b>	
<b>Stewardship Contributions:</b>	<b>\$248,854</b>
<b>Other GF Income:</b>	<b>\$29,530</b>
<b>Total GF Income</b>	<b>\$278,384</b>
<b>Total GF Expenses:</b>	<b>—\$315,303</b>
<b>Net General Fund Loss:</b>	<b>—\$36,919</b>
<b>2026 STEWARDSHIP REPORT AS OF 04/02/26</b>	
<b># of Pledged Households:</b>	<b>380</b>
<b>2026 Budget:</b>	<b>\$1,030,102</b>
<b>Total Pledge Amount:</b>	<b>\$889,417</b>
<b>Stewardship Shortfall:</b>	<b>—\$140,685</b>

## KEEP UP TO DATE ON MINISTRY NEWS

- 1. 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](mailto:office@holytransfiguration.info) to your safe senders list and contact list.
- 2. 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.
- 3. The Church Website** has an up-to-date calendar and ministry pages and can be found at <https://holytransfiguration.info>.
- 4. Weekend Email** with livestream links and a weekend schedule reminder goes out every Friday.
- 5. 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.

### *Misplaced Expectations*

A young boy returned from his first major league baseball game very disappointed. Even though his favorite team won the game, the young boy said to his grandfather, "I'll never go to another game again!" "Why not," his grandfather asked, "your team won the game -why are you disappointed?" The boy answered, "I wanted my favorite player to hit a home run to where I was sitting and I wanted to catch the ball and I wanted to get it autographed after the game!" "I've been hoping for that all my life, too," said his grandfather with a smile.

Quite often, the disappointment that we feel towards a person or about a situation or circumstance is due to the fact that our expectations of that person or about that situation are misplaced, misguided, or misunderstood. We see an example of this in today's Gospel reading about our

Lord's entrance into Jerusalem.

Many of the same people who enthusiastically greeted Jesus when He entered into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday would just as passionately demand His crucifixion only a few days later. Why? It is because their expectations of Him were misplaced. That is, many people presumed that the long-awaited Messiah would be a great military leader or a political revolutionary who would lead them out of Roman subjugation and into independence. They did not consider the possibility of a Messiah who would conquer not armies, but death itself.

What do we expect from God? Like the little boy at the baseball game, are we disappointed when we don't get what we want? Let us recall that the Lord knows what we need even before we ask or are aware of it!