

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



Icon of the Nativity of the Theotokos, the Mother of God -- September 8th

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. Michael Tishel, Protopresbyter frmichael@holytransfiguration.info

Fr. Christopher Zaferes, Presbyter, frchris@holytransfiguration.info

Fr. John Brown, Protopresbyter, frjohn@holytransfiguration.info

SUNDAY—THE LORD’S DAY—SEPT. 6, 2026

Fourteenth Sunday of Matthew

Musical Mode: Plagal of First Mode

Third Eothinon Gospel: Mark 16: 9-20

Readings of the Day: 2 Corinthians 1: 21-24; 2: 1-4 & Matthew 22: 2-14

Today’s Saints: Miracle of Archangel Michael in Colossae; Martyr Calodote and the 1,104 soldiers with him; holy martyrs Evdoxius, Zeno, Romulus and Macarius; Sts. Faustus the presbyter, Macarius, Andrew and the monks Bibus, Kyriacus, Dionysius, Andronicus, and the holy women Andropelagia and Thecla; and also Theoctistus a skipper, and another Kyriacus a plebian, died by the sword.

APOLYTIKION OF THE PARISH

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.

TODAY'S HYMNS

Entrance Hymn. Second Mode.

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

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

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Plagal of the First Mode.

As the Father and Spirit are unoriginate, * so the Word, who was born from the Virgin for us.
* Let us praise Him, O believers, and let us worship Him. * For our salvation He was pleased
* to be crucified in the flesh, * and to undergo death, * and to resurrect the dead, by His
glorious resurrection.

For the Archangel. Fourth Mode.

Chief Commander of the heavenly armies, * we the unworthy now entreat you in earnest, * to
fortify us by your supplications to the Lord, * and shelter us beneath the wings of your
spiritual glory, * guarding us who run to you and fervently entreat you: * As the Commander
of the hosts on high, * rescue us faithful from dangers of every kind.

Apolytikion of the Parish. Grave Mode.

[See inside front cover]

Kontakion. Fourth Mode.

Joachim and Anna were released from the reproach of childlessness, and Adam and Eve
delivered from death and destruction, through your holy childbirth, O immaculate Virgin.
We, your people, now redeemed from the guilt of transgressions, celebrate your holy birth as
we sing to you: "The barren one bears the Theotokos, the nurturer of our Life."

WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION 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 or schedule an appointment with a priest,
email the church office at office@holytransfiguration.info.



Readings of 14th Sunday of Matthew Αναγνώσματα ΙΔ' Κυριακῆς Ματθαίου

Απόστολος 14ης Κυριακῆς (Β' Πρὸς Κορινθ. α' 21 - β' 4)

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ δὲ βεβαιῶν ἡμᾶς σὺν ὑμῖν εἰς Χριστὸν καὶ χρίσας ἡμᾶς θεός, ὁ καὶ σφραγισάμενος ἡμᾶς καὶ δοὺς τὸν ἄρραβῶνα τοῦ πνεύματος ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ἡμῶν. Εγὼ δὲ μάρτυρα τὸν θεὸν ἐπικαλοῦμαι ἐπὶ τὴν ἐμὴν ψυχὴν, ὅτι φειδόμενος ὑμῶν οὐκέτι ἦλθον εἰς Κόρινθον. οὐχ ὅτι κυριεύομεν ὑμῶν τῆς πίστεως ἀλλὰ συνεργοὶ ἐσμεν τῆς χαρᾶς ὑμῶν. τῇ γὰρ πίστει ἐστήκατε. ἔκρινα γὰρ ἐμαυτῷ τοῦτο τὸ μὴ πάλιν ἐν λύπῃ πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἐλθεῖν. εἰ γὰρ ἐγὼ λυπῶ ὑμᾶς, καὶ τίς ὁ εὐφραίνων με εἰ μὴ ὁ λυπούμενος ἐξ ἐμοῦ; καὶ ἔγραψα τοῦτο αὐτὸ, ἵνα μὴ ἐλθὼν λύπην σχῶ ἀφ' ὧν ἔδδει με χαίρειν, πεποιθὼς ἐπὶ πάντας ὑμᾶς ὅτι ἡ ἐμὴ χαρὰ πάντων ὑμῶν ἐστίν. ἐκ γὰρ πολλῆς θλίψεως καὶ συνοχῆς καρδίας ἔγραψα ὑμῖν διὰ πολλῶν δακρῶν, οὐχ ἵνα λυπηθῆτε ἀλλὰ τὴν ἀγάπην ἵνα γνῶτε ἣν ἔχω περισσοτέρως εἰς ὑμᾶς.

Epistle Reading, Fourteenth Sunday (2Cor. 1:21 - 2:4)

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. But I call God to witness against me --it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

Εὐαγγέλιον 14ης Κυριακῆς Ματθαίου (Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 22|2-14)

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος πρὸς τοὺς ἑαυτοῦ μαθητάς· Ὡμοιώθη ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν ἀνθρώπῳ βασιλεῖ, ὅστις ἐποίησεν γάμους τῷ υἱῷ αὐτοῦ. καὶ ἀπέστειλεν τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ καλέσαι τοὺς κεκλημένους εἰς τοὺς γάμους, καὶ οὐκ ἤθελον ἐλθεῖν. πάλιν ἀπέστειλεν ἄλλους δούλους λέγων, Εἴπατε τοῖς κεκλημένοις, Ἰδοὺ τὸ ἄριστόν μου ἡτοίμακα, οἱ ταῦροί μου καὶ τὰ σιτιστὰ τεθυμένα καὶ πάντα ἑτοιμα· δεῦτε εἰς τοὺς γάμους. οἱ δὲ ἀμελήσαντες ἀπῆλθον, ὃς μὲν εἰς τὸν ἴδιον ἀγρόν, ὃς δὲ ἐπὶ τὴν ἐμπορίαν αὐτοῦ· οἱ δὲ λοιποὶ κρατήσαντες τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ ὕβρισαν καὶ ἀπέκτειναν. ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς ὠργίσθη καὶ πέμψας τὰ στρατεύματα αὐτοῦ ἀπώλεσεν τοὺς φονεῖς ἐκεῖνους καὶ τὴν πόλιν αὐτῶν ἐνέπρησεν. τότε λέγει τοῖς δούλοις αὐτοῦ, Ὁ μὲν γάμος ἑτοιμός ἐστίν, οἱ δὲ κεκλημένοι οὐκ ἦσαν ἄξιοι· πορεύεσθε οὖν ἐπὶ τὰς διεξόδους τῶν ὁδῶν καὶ ὅσους ἐὰν εὔρητε καλέσατε εἰς τοὺς γάμους. καὶ ἐξελθόντες οἱ δοῦλοι ἐκεῖνοι εἰς τὰς ὁδοὺς συνήγαγον πάντας οὓς εὔρον, πονηροὺς τε καὶ ἀγαθοὺς· καὶ ἐπλήσθη ὁ γάμος ἀνακειμένων· εἰσελθὼν δὲ ὁ βασιλεὺς θεάσασθαι τοὺς ἀνακειμένους εἶδεν ἐκεῖ ἄνθρωπον οὐκ ἐνδεδυμένον ἑνδύμα γάμου, καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ, Ἔταῖρε, πῶς εἰσῆλθες ὧδε μὴ ἔχων ἑνδύμα γάμου; ὁ δὲ ἐφिमώθη. τότε ὁ βασιλεὺς εἶπεν τοῖς διακόνοις, Δήσαντες αὐτοῦ πόδας καὶ χεῖρας ἐκβάλετε αὐτὸν εἰς τὸ σκότος τὸ ἐξώτερον· ἐκεῖ ἔσται ὁ κλαυθμὸς καὶ ὁ βρυγμὸς τῶν ὁδόντων. πολλοὶ γὰρ εἰσιν κλητοὶ, ὀλίγοι δὲ ἐκλεκτοί.

Gospel Reading, Fourteenth Sunday of Matthew (Matt. 22:2-14)

The Lord said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.' But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment; and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

Parish Council On Duty: Steve Tingas/Chérie Cookorinis

Greeters On Duty: Dennis & Pat Koutouzis

Ushers On Duty: Dennis Koutouzis/Maria Alberts/Jeff Alberts/Noah Feldman

Prosforo Bakers: Georgia Hutt/Amalia Vlachos/Susan Awad

Sun. Sept. 6

Fourteenth Sunday of Matthew

8:45 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

A 40 day Memorial Service for Michael Chrisohoides is given by the Chrisohoides family. May his memory be eternal!

A 22 year Memorial Service for Lillian Markatos is given by Bobis Markatos and the Henderson family. May her memory be eternal!

12:30 pm Fellowship Coffee Hour sponsored by Holy Transfiguration Greek School

12:45 pm GOYA WYR Girls Basketball Practice

1:30 pm YA Bible Study-Lighthouse

3:30 pm Cortes Baptism (Angelo)

Mon. Sept. 7

Church Office Closed — Labor Day

6:00 pm Great Vespers-Nativity of the Theotokos

Tue. Sept. 8

The Nativity of the Theotokos

9:00 am Orthros-Sanctuary

10:00 am Divine Liturgy-Sanctuary

8:20 am TOA Divine Liturgy & Fellowship-Lighthouse

9:35 am TOA Classes-PLC Classrooms

11:30 am Kafenion-PLC Atrium

6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting

7:00 pm Mixed Choir Practice-Sanctuary

Wed. Sept. 9

11:00 am Bible Study of Colossians

5:30 pm Greek School classes-PLC classrooms

7:00 pm Intro to Orthodoxy-PLC Banquet Hall

Thur. Sept. 10

8:20 am TOA Divine Liturgy & Fellowship-Lighthouse

9:35 am TOA Classes-PLC Classrooms

11:00 am Parea General Meeting/Luncheon

2:00 pm Homeschooling 101 with TOA Head of School Angie Nasrallah-PLC Library

6:00 pm GOYA WYR Girls Basketball Practice

7:00 pm Philoptochos Board Meeting-St. Basil Conf. Room

Fri. Sept. 11

10:00 am Set-up Rental: Beaufrand Reception-PLC Banquet Hall

Sat. Sept. 12

2:00 pm Beaufrand Baptism

3:00 pm Rental: Beaufrand Baptism

5:00 pm Great Vespers

See full calendar for the rest of the schedule: www.holytransfiguration.info/calendar

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Golf Cart Drivers Needed: 1-hour shifts on Sunday to transport people from Simpson Middle School. Must be 18+ yrs. old w/clean driving record. If interested, send just your name and cell number to Steve Tingas at 770-845-5045 or stingas@holytransfiguration.info.

TOA Enrichment Program: A nature themed extracurricular program for homeschool children. **The program continues on Mon. Sept. 14.** Scan above QR code to access flyer on Ministry News page. Email the TOA office at office@toamarietta.com for more information.

Homeschooling 101 with TOA Head of School Angie Nasrallah on **Thu. Sept. 10** from 2-3 pm in the PLC Lower Level Library. Welcome to all families who have questions and would like to get more insight on homeschooling your children! Open to all. Young children are welcome! RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/ycxt8fx4>

Cartersville Divine Liturgy: All are invited to the Orthodox Divine Liturgy in Cartersville, GA on **Sat. Sept. 19** at 10:00 am at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 850 Douthit Ferry Rd, Cartersville, GA 30120. We will also meet on **Sat. Oct. 10**.

5th Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive: Registration open for **Sat. Sept. 19** as Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Macon is hosting their annual cross dive. Scan QR code to access flyer on Ministry News page.

Park Street Elementary Uniform Drive: Philoptochos is asking for assistance in supporting the children at Park Street Elementary. Scan QR code to access flyer on Ministry News page for more details on how you can help.

St. Nicholas Market: Sun. Nov. 1 - Save the date!! - Annual Philoptochos fundraiser open to all parish and community vendors. For details email Marty Driscoll at martydriscoll@bellsouth.net.

Donate to Focus Atlanta: FOCUS Atlanta serves food to the homeless every weekday at St. John the Wonderworker in Atlanta. Please support their efforts. Visit focusna.org/give to donate.

Scan above QR code to access video on Ministry News page.

RECURRING MINISTRY EVENTS

Adult Catechism and Bible Study:

— **Intro to Orthodoxy** next meets on **Wed. Sept. 9** and continues every Wednesday through Sept. 9. Fr. John will lead the meeting in PLC Banquet Hall (upstairs) from 7:00-8:30 pm.

— **Bible Study** (Colossians) next meets on **Wed. Sept. 9** and continues every Wednesday through Sept. 16. Fr. John will lead the meeting in the PLC Library from 11:00 am-12:30 pm.

Chair Exercise Program: Our next meeting will be **Wed. Sept. 16, 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. Email goya@holytransfiguration.info to join our email list. **Next meeting Sept. 16.**

Greek School: Greek language and culture classes for youth and adults, funded through tuition. **The 2026-2027 school year began Monday, Aug. 24.** Private & Semi-Private Lessons available. Scan above QR code to access flyer on Ministry News page.

Hellenic Dance: Greek dance troupes for Pre-K through adults. Email Paulina Vastakis at hellenicdance@holytransfiguration.info with questions.

Mixed Choir: Next practice **Tues. Sept. 8** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Church.

Men's Choir: Next practice **Thur. Sept. 17** from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Church. Singing the Divine Liturgy on **Sun. Sept. 24.**

Parea: Our next meeting is on **Thur. Sept. 10.** Join us as all are welcome.

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

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. Oct. 1,** at 11:00 am. Book - *My Friends* by Frederick Bachman.

Spiritual Book Club: We are reading *Everyday Saints* (available in church bookstore). Join us on **Mon. Sept. 14 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. Chris (frchris@holytransfiguration.info) or Ministry Lead (youngadults@holytransfiguration.info).
Next meeting: Sun. Sept. 13 (Second Sunday after communion).

Youth Catechism No classes today: Begin again **Sun. Sep. 13. REGISTRATION REQUIRED** - SEE YOUTH MINISTRIES REGISTRATION - SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE

LINKS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Clergy or Pastoral Assistant Home Visit: 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? 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/personal appts., Grocery stores/errands, Church services/parish events, & other essential local needs. Scan QR code (on left page) to access further details on Ministry News page.

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

Parish Life Committee Seeks Team Members! Parish Life, the behind-the-scenes group that brings the community together, is looking for volunteers to help with Sunday coffee hour and other events. Please contact:
Eleni: EReese@holytransfiguration.info
Cherie: CCookorinis@holytransfiguration.info
Lela: LBridgers@holytransfiguration.info

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 asking 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.

BEYOND HOLY T.

Scan the QR code on the previous page to access announcements & 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 01/01/26–09/03/26	
Stewardship Contributions:	\$631,146
Other GF Income:	\$174,557
Total GF Income	\$805,703
Total GF Expenses:	—\$845,323
Net General Fund Balance:	—\$39,620
2026 STEWARDSHIP REPORT AS OF 09/03/26	
# of Pledged Households:	480
2026 Budget:	\$1,030,102
Total Pledge Amount:	\$971,230
Stewardship Shortfall:	—\$58,872

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 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.

Treasury and Treasurer

Mary alone forms the boundary between created and uncreated nature, and no one can come to God except through her and the Mediator born of her, and none of God’s gifts can be bestowed on angels or men except through her. As in the case with lamps on earth constructed of glass or some other transparent material, it is impossible to look at the light or enjoy its rays except through the lamp, so it is beyond the reach of all to look upwards to God or be helped by Him to make progress in any direction, except through the Ever-Virgin, this God-bearing lamp who is truly radiant with divine brightness. “God is in the midst of her,” it says, “she shall not be moved” (Ps 46: 5).

If God requites us according to the measure of our love for Him, and he who loves the Son is loved by Him and by His Father, and becomes

in a mysterious way the dwelling of Both, as they make their home and walk in his soul, as the Lord promised (Jn 14: 23; cf. 2 Cor 6: 16), who could love Him more than His Mother? For not only was He her only Son, but she bore Him on her own without a spouse, so her parental love was naturally double, not being shared with a partner.

Thus she is both the treasury and the treasurer of the riches of the Godhead, and the highest ranks of Cherubim look to her and trust in her. They, above all others, are seized with longing for her, as, more than all others, they long for the outpouring of light and the granting of indescribable divine graces which come through her.

St. Gregory Palamas