Eighth Sunday of Luke



Icon of the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

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

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Sunday — the Lord's Day — Nov. 15, 2026

Eighth Sunday of Luke

Musical Mode: Grave Mode **Second Eothinon Gospel:** Mark 16: 1-8

Readings of the Day: Ephesians 2: 14-22 & Luke 10: 25-37

Today's Saints: Nativity Fast; Martyrs Gouria, Shamuna, and Habib; Thomas II the New, Archbishop of Constantinople

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Apolytikion of the Parish

Μετεμορφώθης ἐν τῷ ὄρει Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, δείξας τοῖς Μαθηταῖς σου τὴν δόξαν σου, καθὼς ἠδυναντο. Λάμψον καὶ ἡμῖν τοῖς ἁμαρτωλοῖς, τὸ φῶς σου τὸ ἀΐδιον, 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.

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. Grave Mode.

You destroyed death by Your Cross, You opened Paradise to the Robber. You turned the Myrrh-bearing Women's lament into joy, and You commanded Your Apostles to preach that You rose, O Christ God, granting the world the great mercy.

For the Saints. Plagal of the First Mode.

You have given us the miracles of Your holy Martyrs as an impregnable fortress, O Christ our God. At their entreaties, frustrate the plots of foreign enemies, and strengthen our nation, for You alone are good and benevolent.

Apolytikion of the Parish. Grave Mode.

[See inside front cover]

Kontakion. Fourth Mode.

The Savior's most pure and immaculate temple, the very precious bridal chamber and Virgin, who is the sacred treasure of the glory of God, on this day is introduced into the House of the Lord, and with herself she brings the grace in the divine Spirit. She is extolled by the Angels of God. A heavenly tabernacle is she.

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 the Eighth Sunday of Luke

᾽Αναγνώσματα Η΄ Κυριακῆς Λουκᾶ





᾽Απόστολος τῆς 24ης Κυριακῆς (Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους 2: 14-22)

Ἀδελφοί, Χριστός ἐστιν ἡ εἰρήνη ἡμῶν, ὁ ποιήσας τὰ ἀμφότερα ἓν καὶ τὸ μεσότοιχον τοῦ φραγμοῦ λύσας, τὴν ἔχθραν, ἐν τῇ σαρκὶ αὐτοῦ τὸν νόμον τῶν ἐντολῶν ἐν δόγμασι καταργήσας, ἵνα τοὺς δύο κτίσῃ ἐν ἑαυτῷ εἰς ἕνα καινὸν ἄνθρωπον ποιῶν εἰρήνην, καὶ ἀποκαταλλάξῃ τοὺς ἀμφοτέρους ἐν ἑνὶ σώματι τῷ Θεῷ διὰ τοῦ σταυροῦ, ἀποκτείνας τὴν ἔχθραν ἐν αὐτῷ· καὶ ἐλθὼν εὐηγγελίσατο εἰρήνην ὑμῖν τοῖς μακρὰν καὶ τοῖς ἐγγύς, ὅτι δι᾽ αὐτοῦ ἔχομεν τὴν προσαγωγὴν οἱ ἀμφότεροι ἐν ἑνὶ πνεύματι πρὸς τὸν πατέρα. ἄρα οὖν οὐκέτι ἐστὲ ξένοι καὶ πάροικοι, ἀλλὰ συμπολῖται τῶν ἁγίων καὶ οἰκεῖοι τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἐποικοδομηθέντες ἐπὶ τῷ θεμελίῳ τῶν ἀποστόλων καὶ προφητῶν, ὄντος ἀκρογωνιαίου αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἐν ᾧ πᾶσα ἡ οἰκοδομὴ συναρμολογουμένη αὔξει εἰς ναὸν ἅγιον ἐν Κυρίῳ· ἐν ᾧ καὶ ὑμεῖς συνοικοδομεῖσθε εἰς κατοικητήριον τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν Πνεύματι.

Apostolos of the 24th Sunday (Ephesians 2: 14-22)

Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Εὐαγγέλιον Η΄ Κυριακῆς Λουκᾶ (Λουκᾶ ι΄ 10: 25-37)

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, νομικός τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ πειράζων αὐτὸν καὶ λέγων· διδάσκαλε, τί ποιήσας ζωὴν αἰώνιον κληρονομήσω; ὁ δὲ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτόν· ἐν τῷ νόμῳ τί γέγραπται; πῶς ἀναγινώσκεις; ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπεν· ἀγαπήσεις Κύριον τὸν Θεόν σου ἐξ ὅλης τῆς καρδίας σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ψυχῆς σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ἰσχύος σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς διανοίας σου, καὶ τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν· εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ· ὀρθῶς ἀπεκρίθης· τοῦτο ποίει καὶ ζήσῃ. ὁ δὲ θέλων δικαιοῦν ἑαυτὸν εἶπε πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν· καὶ τίς ἐστί μου πλησίον; ὑπολαβὼν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν· ἄνθρωπός τις κατέβαινεν ἀπὸ Ἰερουσαλὴμ εἰς Ἰεριχώ, καὶ λῃσταῖς περιέπεσεν· οἳ καὶ ἐκδύσαντες αὐτὸν καὶ πληγὰς ἐπιθέντες ἀπῆλθον ἀφέντες ἡμιθανῆ τυγχάνοντα. κατὰ συγκυρίαν δὲ ἱερεύς τις κατέβαινεν ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ ἐκείνῃ, καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν ἀντιπαρῆλθεν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ Λευΐτης γενόμενος κατὰ τὸν τόπον, ἐλθὼν καὶ ἰδὼν ἀντιπαρῆλθε. Σαμαρείτης δέ τις ὁδεύων ἦλθε κατ᾽ αὐτόν, καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν ἐσπλαγχνίσθη, καὶ προσελθὼν κατέδησε τὰ τραύματα αὐτοῦ ἐπιχέων ἔλαιον καὶ οἶνον, ἐπιβιβάσας δὲ αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τὸ ἴδιον κτῆνος ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς πανδοχεῖον καὶ ἐπεμελήθη αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν αὔριον ἐξελθών, ἐκβαλὼν δύο δηνάρια ἔδωκε τῷ πανδοχεῖ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἐπιμελήθητι αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὅ τι ἂν προσδαπανήσῃς, ἐγὼ ἐν τῷ ἐπανέρχεσθαί με ἀποδώσω σοι. τίς οὖν τούτων τῶν τριῶν πλησίον δοκεῖ σοι γεγονέναι τοῦ ἐμπεσόντος εἰς τοὺς λῃστάς; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν· ὁ ποιήσας τὸ ἔλεος μετ᾽ αὐτοῦ. εἶπεν οὖν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· πορεύου καὶ σὺ ποίει ὁμοίως.

Gospel Reading, The Eighth Sunday of Luke (Luke 10: 25-37)

In those days, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, `Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Parish Council On Duty: Demetra Lilly/Alex Miltiades
Greeters On Duty: Maria Alberts/Pat Koutouzis
Ushers On Duty: Demetra Moshonas/Jeff Alberts/Spiro Priovolos/Daniela Chereches
Simpson Shuttle Drivers: Ellen Linebaugh/Johnny Francis
Prosforo Bakers: Julie Orologas/Karen Panov/Rosemary Peppas

Sun. Nov. 15	**Eighth Sunday of Luke**	
	8:45 am	Orthros
	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy
	11:15 am	Youth Catechism classes-PLC Classrooms
	12:30 pm	Parish General Assembly-PLC Banquet Hall
	12:30 pm	Cretan Dance Practice-PLC Classroom
	12:30 pm	GOYA WYR Boys Basketball Practice-PLC Gym
	5:00 pm	Great Vespers-St. Matthew the Evangelist
Mon. Nov. 16	**Feast of St. Matthew the Evangelist**	
	9:00 am	Orthros
	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy
	10:00 am	TOA-Enrichment Day
	2:00 pm	Office Opens
	5:30 pm	Greek School Classes-PLC Classrooms
	7:00 pm	Spiritual Book Club-PLC Library (St. Basil Conf. Room)
Tue. Nov. 17	8:20 am	TOA Divine Liturgy & Fellowship
	9:35 am	TOA Classes-PLC Classrooms
	10:45 am	Kafenion-PLC Atrium
	12:00 pm	TOA Lunch/Recess-PLC Banquet Hall & Kitchen
	4:30 pm	Rental: Les Marmitons of Atlanta
	7:00 pm	Mixed Choir Practice-Church Sanctuary
Wed. Nov. 18	10:00 am	Chair Exercise Program-PLC Classroom #127
	11:00 am	Bible Study of Ephesians-PLC Library/St. Basil Conf.
	5:30 pm	Greek School Classes-PLC Classrooms
Thur. Nov. 19	8:20 am	TOA Divine Liturgy & Fellowship
	9:35 am	TOA Classes-PLC Classrooms
	11:00 am	Parea General Meeting/Luncheon-PLC Banquet Hall
	7:00 pm	Men's Choir Practice-Sanctuary
Fri. Nov. 20	6:00 pm	Great Vespers
Sat. Nov. 21	**Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos**	
	8:45 am	Orthros
	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy
	5:00 pm	Great Vespers

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

Scan or click the QR Code to access the Ministry News email to see flyers and further details regarding ministry events.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

General Parish Assembly Meeting: Sun. Nov. 15, immediately following the Divine Liturgy in the PLC. A light meal will be provided. Please note: In order to be eligible to vote, you must have filled out a 2026 or 2027 Membership/Stewardship form and be a baptized/chrismated Eastern Orthodox Christian.

Special Collection to commemorate the 35th anniversary of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew's election as Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch. To support this endeavor, donate online to the **Second Tray fund** and note the purpose in the comments section (EP Bartholomew), or make a donation through the Sunday tray with a note (EP Bartholomew). Thank you for your support.

Greeters Needed: Greeters welcome visitors, answer questions, and introduce newcomers to our church and ministries. No experience is needed; training is provided. Serve approximately once every six weeks. Interested? Contact Pat Koutouzis at **koutouzisjd@comcast.net** or 404-542-1924.

Christmas Remembrance: Members of GOYA will be in the PLC Lobby collecting names and donations for the **Parish Christmas Card** (deadline for submissions is Sun. Nov. 29) and will also have a flyer for the **Christmas Poinsettias** (deadline for submissions is Mon. Dec. 14). Scan above QR code to see flyer.

TOA Open House: Thur. Nov. 19, 10:15 am-12:00 pm. Meet the staff, curriculum overview, campus tour, Q & A session. RSVP at **tinyurl.com/toaopenhouse**. Scan above QR code to see flyer.

Philoptochos Christmas Party: Save the Date. Annual Christmas party in the PLC Atrium on **Thu. Dec. 3**. Scan above QR code to access ministry info.

Greek School Holiday Bake Sale: Sun. Dec. 13 in the Lobby of the Parish Life Center after Divine Liturgy. Scan above QR code to see flyer.

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

Blessing of the Animals: Join us with your pet on **Sun. Dec. 20** at 3:30pm in the upper PLC lobby for the blessing of the animals in honor of St. Modestos, Protector of Animals. Scan above QR code to see flyer.

Winter Youth Rally: Registration is open for all 7th-12th graders that are Orthodox Christians in the Metropolis of Atlanta. The WYR will be held in Atlanta, GA, Sun.-Wed., Dec. 27- 30. **Registration deadline is Mon. Nov. 30th.** Contact Rebecca Zavala at **beccamatinaz@gmail.com** with questions.

RECURRING MINISTRY EVENTS

Adult Bible Study: next meets on **Wed. Nov. 18, 11:00 am-12:30 pm** and continues every Wednesday through Nov. 18. Fr. John will lead the meeting in the PLC Library. Scan above QR code to access flyer.

Chair Exercise Program: Our next meeting will be **Wed. Nov. 18 at 10:00 am** in PLC Classroom #127. Please text Ann Zakreski at 770.329.7421 if you plan to come.

GOYA (6th-12th): Bi-Weekly meetings for fun and fellowship on Wednesdays. Email **goya@holytransfiguration.info** to join our email list. **Next meeting Nov. 18.**

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

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

Hope & Joy (K-5th): Service Project - Members will be serving a Thanksgiving Meal at St. John the Wonderworker on **Wed. Nov. 25.** Scan above QR code to access ministry info.

Mixed Choir: Next practice **Tues. Nov. 17** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Church.

Men's Choir: Next practice **Thur. Nov. 19** from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Church. Singing the Divine Liturgy on **Sun. Nov. 22.**

Parea: Our next meeting is on **Thur. Nov. 19**. 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. Dec. 1,** at 11:00 am**.** Book - *The Little Liar* by Mitch Albom.

Spiritual Book Club: Watch the free movie *Mysteries of the Jesus Prayer* (**https://tinyurl.com/2j974dpr**) then join us on **Mon. Nov. 16 at 7pm** in the PLC Library to discuss it. 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. Dec. 13 (Second Sunday after communion in the Lighthouse).
Other events: Diakonia Retreat, Jan. 15-17 at the Alexios Retreat Center in Salem, SC

Youth Catechism: for children ages 3 years old through 12 grade. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED** - SEE YOUTH MINISTRIES REGISTRATION - SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE.

LINKS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 & 2027 Annual Membership Campaign: see the Stewardship section to learn more.

Holy Transfiguration Endowment: Donations now being accepted to the Holy Transfiguration Endowment. To learn more about Planned Giving and the Endowment, visit **https://holytransfiguration.info/endowment**. Remember the Endowment in your will and estate planning. Scan above QR code to access flyer.

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 above QR code to access flyer.

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 above QR code to access flyer.

Simpson Shuttle Drivers Needed: 1-hour shifts on Sunday to transport people from Simpson Middle School. Must be 21+ yrs. old. If interested, send just your name and cell number to Steve Tingas at 770-845-5045 or **stingas@holytransfiguration.info**.

Fellowship 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 above QR code to access flyer.

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.

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 flyer.

BEYOND HOLY T.

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



SO YOU KNOW

GENERAL FUND (GF) INCOME AND EXPENSES	01/01/26–11/12/26
Stewardship Contributions:	$798,675
Other GF Income:	$245,599
Total GF Income	$1,044,274
Total GF Expenses:	—$1,045,190
Net General Fund Balance:	—$916

2026 STEWARDSHIP REPORT	AS OF 11/12/26
# of Pledged Households:	506
2026 Budget:	$1,033,237
Total Pledge Amount:	$992,488
Stewardship Shortfall:	—$40,749

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.

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. 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. Michael.

Do We See Jesus?

If you wish to honor the Eucharistic Victim, offer your own soul for which the Victim was immolated. Make your own soul all of gold. If your soul remains viler than lead or clay, what good does it do to have a golden chalice? Do you wish to honor the Body of Christ? Then do not disdain Him when you see Him in rags.

After having honored Him in church with silken vestments, do not leave Him to die of cold outside for lack of clothing. For it is the same Jesus Who says, "This is my Body" and Who says "I was hungry but you would not feed me. Whenever you refused to help one of these least important ones, you refused to help me."

The Body of Christ in the Eucharist demands pure souls, not costly garments. But in the poor He demands all our care. Let us act wisely; let us honor Christ as He Himself wishes to be honored; the most acceptable honor to one whom we would honor is the honor which He desired, not that we ourselves imagine.

Peter thought he was honoring his Master by not letting the Lord wash his feet; and yet it was just the opposite. Give Him the honor which He Himself has asked for, by giving your money to the poor. Once again, what God wants is not golden chalices, but golden souls.

Saint John Chrysostom