

The Annunciator

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation

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First Quarter 2021

THE MYSTERY OF MARRIAGE A FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE

By Hiermonk Gregorios

Offered by: Rev. Father Paul A. Kaplanis

The current pandemic has caused a new type of stress in our lives. The fear of losing our health and possibly our lives has caused us to alter how we live and our daily choices. Each day, scores of news updates both inform and sometimes confuse us, which adds to our anxiety about the future.

One of areas that has been greatly impacted in both a positive and negative way are relationships. Studies are showing that being quarantined for a long period can cause our most intimate relationships to suffer and in the case of close relationships and in particular married couples leads to revealing pre-existing weaknesses



and flaws that are exacerbated by the constraints of the pandemic.

In our Pre-Marital Counseling sessions, there is an excellent source that we use to

assist couples with strengthening and sustaining their relationship. In one section in the book entitled, "The Journey of Marriage", couples join together for a one on one discussion in order to focus on areas for a successful relationship. These themes are purposely placed in order of importance and are listed as fol-

lows: Communication, Problem solving, Finances, Sexuality, In-Laws, Inter-Christian Challenges, Friends, Personal Time vs.

Couple Time, and other miscellaneous topics. Since communication is number one on the list, it is clear that without healthy, kind, patient and continual communication the relationship in the long term cannot survive.

This morning we are going to examine a wonderful book entitled, "The Mystery of Marriage, A Fellowship of love", by the Hiermonk Gregorios, a monk of Mt. Athos. Although offers us his wise counsel particularly for married couples that can also be applied to most close relationships. The Hiermonk uses his experience as a confessor the Holy Scriptures and wisdom of the Holy Fathers of the Church as his sources. You may be asking yourself right about now, why would a monk offer guidance on marriage relationships.

In the Prologue of his book, the Hiermonk offers the following disclaimer. *"The author long ago decided not to write about*

his experiences concerning the mystery of marriage, painful and passionate experiences gleaned from the Sacrament of Confession. He believes the most competent to perform this task are his married brothers and concelebrants, who are also spiritual fathers, and who have themselves personally experienced the mystery of marriage. However, he has chosen to reverse this decision...and present his related insights, derived from decades of humbling experiences in the Sacrament of Holy Confession, as a spiritual father of married persons."

It should not come as a surprise to us that marriage is in a general a state of crisis. The continuous rise in divorce rates is alarming. It is not that marriage hasn't always had its challenges, however, now there appears to be a different mindset that makes it too easy to give up. Many do not want to put in the necessary work to overcome the difficulties and challenges that occur.



Of course, there are some relationships that are abusive or toxic. Abuse is not something that should be ever be tolerated and so our Church acknowledges that there are circumstances when for safety and health reasons, a loss of physical, spiritual and emotional peace, a couple may need to separate. In these scenarios, our Church does grant an ec-

clesiastical divorce. Nevertheless, today's marriage crisis does exist. We must examine the "why" question and address the causes of this fundamental crisis of marriage and family. As our author states, "unfortunately, nowadays, marriage has evolved into a minefield of endless selfish conflicts that make married life unbearable. When the foundation of the household is not



Christ, that is, Love, but rather selfishness and willfulness, namely ourselves, the union soon ends in divorce, either during the early stages of the relationship and betrothal or shortly after the wedding ceremony."

This seems to paint a bleak picture of marriage, however, the Hieromonk offers hope with the following steps.

1) The first step in creating a fellowship of love is the denial of our own ego. Love presupposes the eradication of egoism (self-centeredness), because the ego is the rejection of love. Christ said, "The one who saves his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will obtain it" (Matthew 10:39). By losing a person wins, by winning a person loses. The faithful experience this reality within marriage.

In winning a disagreement, we lose. Marriage is not a game or a contest. If the husband and the wife love each other, and in so loving, love themselves, the two together will love Christ and Christ will love both of them and the couple will live in a fellowship of love.

2) The second step is for the couple to attain the measure of love, as Christ urged them. This means the

couple is to understand that everything belongs to one another. When there is true love, we surrender our own authority to our beloved. Within marriage, there must be a communion and mutual sharing of material and spiritual wealth. Whatever belongs to the husband is offered in love to the wife, and whatever belongs to the wife is offered in love to the husband. The Hieromonk says, "*When you hear a couple saying, 'These things are mine, those things are yours,' something bad is happening. It suggests that they are not treading the pathways to love.*" "*This is my money, my salary, this is what suits me, these are my wants and desires,' today these expressions are heard everywhere and they betray a lack of love.*"

In marriage, the loving union of husband

and wife is expressed by the phrase, "and the two shall be one flesh", (Genesis 2:24) those who before the Sacrament of Marriage were two, now have become one body. Two persons, who while retaining their individuality, live a shared life of love and self-offering.

This is a successful marriage: two bodies with one soul, always and in all things together with Christ. Each is equal before God and receives the same glory and honor at the Sacrament. When the couple is blessed with the wedding crowns, a hymn follows which we joyfully chant: "O, Lord our God, crown them with glory and honor."

3) The 3rd Step for a successful marriage is recognizing and accepting each person's strengths and weakness.

The bond of husband and wife recognizes the strengths and weaknesses of each partner. If these weaknesses are not handled with loving patience, and tolerance, they will develop into problems in the spousal relationship. Here the apostolic saying applies, "bearing with one another in love" (Ephesians 4:2). No one is perfect. Therefore, just as we want the other to tolerate and endure our weaknesses, we must also be patient and endure theirs.

It is very helpful for us to be mindful of the positive elements in our partner and to value them and to rejoice over them; as with joy and love we will endure whatever is negative. The Hiermonk says, "There are instances where the sins and mistakes of one spouse push a couple to the brink of divorce. In such cases, if loving patience

and forgiveness is shown by the other spouse, in combination with the spiritual artillery of inspired prayer; a family can be saved from certain divorce. Then they can live the miracle of a situation wondrously transformed by the Christ." St. Paisios states, "By patient love the marriage is saved."

It is understood that there is so much more that can be said about the marriage relationship. Hiermonk Gregorios has presented his experiences as related through his many years as a spiritual father and confessor. We must strive to deny our own ego/self-centeredness, share everything we have physically and spiritually and we need to learn and accept each other's strengths and weaknesses.

May these meaningful tips assist everyone in celebrating healthy relationships and marriages and reverse the course of the present marriage crisis. Let us remain strong during the challenges of this pandemic and may we remain vigilant and loving in all our relationships.

In closing, St. John Chrysostom offers these words for couples striving to achieve a loving and peaceful relationship, "Let us do everything [in our power] to maintain absolute peace with our spouse...Because in this way, everything else [in our life] will be peaceful, and we will sail with ease on the sea of life."

Amen!



SAINT NICHOLAS PLANAS

By Rev. Father Christos P. Mars

Those who know me know that I speak often about a saint that is near and dear to my heart, and his name is St. Nicholas Planas.

St. Nicholas Planas was born of devout parents in 1851, on the island of Naxos in Greece. From his very earliest years, he was distinguished by his simplicity and piety; he gave away the bread that his mother gave him to the poor in the village, and even gave his clothing to needy children. Throughout his life, he never kept for himself anything that would be for his personal

satisfaction or comfort. He married at a very young age, and had a son, but soon after that his wife died, and St. Nicholas entrusted his son to his parents, and gave the whole family inheritance to a fellow country man who was crippled by debt. Thus, he could consecrate himself entirely to the Lord's service and, in the middle of Athens, Greece he led

the life of the desert ascetics.

He was ordained a priest in 1884, and was soon driven out of the church that he was assigned to. He became attached and settled in

a small church called St. John the hunter, a parish comprised of only eight families.

Humble and lacking any education, St. Nicholas nevertheless became the most popular priest in Athens. For fifty-two years straight he celebrated the Divine Liturgy every day in various churches and chapels thought the city, and what a liturgy he served! Having identified his existence with the life of



the Church, it was unthinkable to him to offer the Liturgy without accompanying it with all the ecclesiastical offices as they celebrated in the strictest monasteries. He began at about eight o' clock in the morning and finished around two or three o'clock in the afternoon. He spent two or three hours com-

memorating at the prothesis (table of preparation) the names of the living and the dead that were given to him.

He was not educated at all, and could barely read, mispronouncing words here and there, but those who attended his liturgies never made fun of him, nor did they correct the mistakes that he made.

He never kept the money that was given to him by the faithful, but gave it away at once to the needy or devoted it to some ecclesiastical work. His face was constantly illumined by a childlike smile, and it was impossible for him to make enemies, because he forgave those who stole from him, found excuses for those who did him harm or slandered him, and never got angry at anyone, unless they interrupted him at prayer, or hindered him in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.

When he went along a road, walking slowly and with difficulty because of his endless standing in church, children went with him, women crossed themselves, and men removed their hats and stood respectfully aside to give him room to pass. Taxi drivers squabbled about who should take him, certain that it would be a good day for

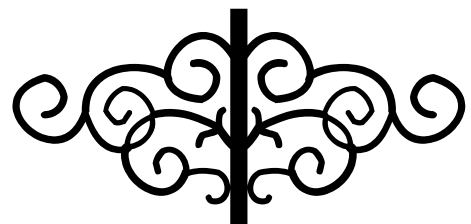
them.

St. Nicholas was strict on himself, but was full of tenderness towards the faithful who came to confession in order to receive from him the comfort of the heavenly Father.

He had insight into the depths of souls and foresaw the future. He even drank a bottle of arsenic, believing that it was communion wine, but protected by divine grace, he suffered no ill effects.

A model of an Orthodox celebrant of the Divine Liturgy, a man whose being and Holy tradition have become one and the same, a shepherd of the simple and humble, Saint Nicholas Planas is a model for all of us in not only what it means

to be a true Christian, but what it means to follow the commandment that Christ gave us in the Gospel *"that which you did to the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."* (Mt. 25:40) Saint Nicholas Planas, after a short illness, fell asleep in the Lord on March 2, 1932.



SAINT PHOTIOS THE GREAT

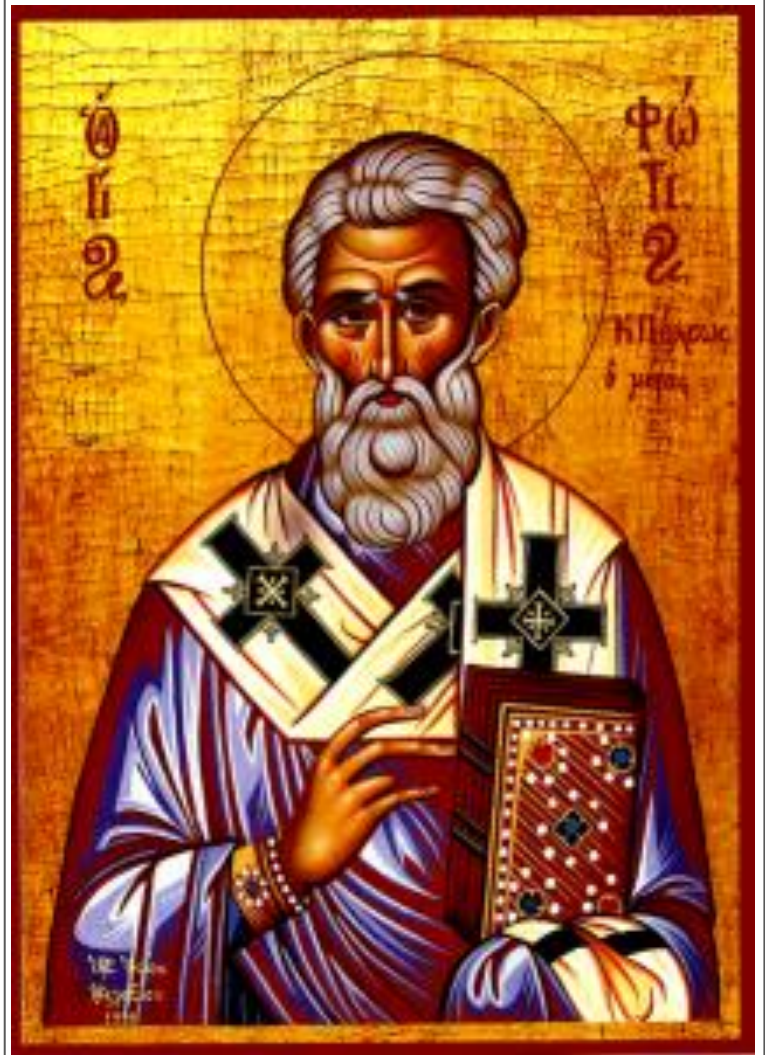
By Rev. Dn. Andrew T. Wythe

On February 6th, we commemorate a saint who was an expert in many affairs, but was also challenged by those who wanted to reach conclusions which would satisfy their own desire for power. Saint Photios the Great was a Saint from the ninth century. There was a less-than-friendly rivalry between the Pope of Rome and the Patriarch of Constantinople. While still in communion with one another, the Eastern and Western Churches were becoming increasingly antagonistic, with innovative doctrines appearing in the west. In an era like St. Photios's, opportunities abounded for self-appointed experts and judges to take advantage and manipulate the political and ecclesiastic environment.

St. Photios was born in the ninth century to a wealthy Byzantine family. With his father serving the Emperor, Photios had all of the connections necessary to live a privileged life in Constantinople. Instead, St. Photios focused his efforts, not on power, but on monasticism. He taught both the future Emperor Michael and St. Cyril, who would one day evangelize the Slavs. Because of his piety, he was rapidly elevated to Patriarch. While enthroned as Patriarch of Constantinople, St.

Photios combatted the emerging Roman doctrine of the dual procession of the Holy Spirit in his work *The Mystagogy of the Holy Spirit*.

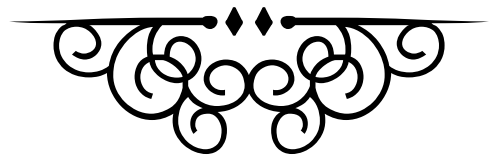
In 867, then Patriarch Photios was deposed by Basil the Macedonian, who had seized the throne by murdering Emperor Michael. Photios's credibility was promptly questioned by the new Emperor Basil. It was Basil's hope that challenging the papacy's harshest critic, St. Photios,



would earn the new Emperor favor from Rome. A group of Roman legates attended the Synod of 869. These legates brought accusations against Photios in an effort to have him condemned by the Eastern Bishops. To the amazement of those in attendance, St. Photios remained silent during his questioning. Finally, he spoke, asking, "Why do you consider yourselves judges?" rebuking those whose desire for political power had made them too foolish to see clearly.

"Why do you consider yourselves judges?"

Pope John VIII later restored St. Photios to his position in Constantinople, where he would continue to face slander from Emperor Basil the Macedonian. He was eventually deposed again in 886. Photios reposed in the Lord on February 6, 891 and was buried at the Monastery of the Armenias. St. Photios's desire to focus on what is true, over what was politically expedient twice cost him his Patriarchal throne but earned him veneration as an imitator of Christ.



"Photography is a way of feeling, of touching, of loving. What you have caught on film is captured forever...It remembers little things, long after you have forgotten everything."

- Aaron Siskind

There is so much going on with our Cathedral Parish Family!

Help us capture these moments by sharing your photos and videos with us!

We have created a fast and easy way to share and upload your photographs right from your mobile device. Visit <https://www.atlgoc.org/photo-gallery> to get started.

We look forward to using your photos or videos on our website or printed materials.

Thank you for sharing them with us!

Youth, Parent & Adult "Check-up Day"



Saturday, March 20, 2021

Presentations to take place in the Cathedral.

Please Pre-register for These Events by Clicking the Links Below!

We invite everyone in our Cathedral Parish Family to a special in-person opportunity to listen to experienced healthcare professionals help us deal with the many challenges and stresses facing us today.

Presentation #1

**"Our Youth:
Healthy Mind, Healthy Body"**

Grades 6th-12th

12 Noon -2:00 pm

Youth Social & Sports Activities

2 – 4 pm

Register [HERE](#)

Presentation #2

**"Making Parents Partners
in Youth Suicide Prevention"**

Open to all Adults

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Register [HERE](#)

Lead Presenter: Dr. Dorian Lamis, PhD, ABPP, a Board Certified Licensed Clinical Psychologist and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Emory University School of Medicine.

Supporting Presenter: Dr. Dora Soublis, PhD Counseling Psychology with a specialization in child and family psychology. She has extensive experience in providing individual therapy focusing on adolescents and young adults, family therapy and parent consultation. Both Doctors will be present for the question and answer portion of the presentations.

Click [HERE](#) to view the doctor's complete bios and photos.

PARISH REGISTRY

February 2020-March 6, 2021

BIRTHS

Baby Girl born to Mark & Leah Hayes
Baby Girl born to Constantine & Katerina Katsadouros
Baby Girl born to James & Eleni Morris
Baby Boy born to Petros & Rosario Giannakopoulos
Baby Girl born to Daniel & Olga Forrester
Baby Girl born to Brian & Christine Bolton
Baby Girl born to Samuel & Arielle Jacobs
Baby Boy born to Daniel & Elizabeth Ryan
Baby Girl born to Amar & Nikoletta Aburas
Baby Boy born to Steve & Doria Less
Baby Boy born to Stephen & Jenny Halkos
Baby Boy born to Demetry & Erin Millas
Baby Boy born to Stephen & Alyssa Hallick
Baby Girl born to James & Ashley Overstreet
Baby Boy born to Daniel & Anna Hays
Baby Girl born to Will & Alexis Frehse
Twin Girls born to Ivan & Mary Harfoot Mucio

BAPTISMS

Parents: Barry & Deborah Reese
Baby: Brittany
Godparent: James Thomas

Parents: Robert & Aglaia (Lia) Hooff
Baby: Nicholas
Godparent: Virginia Cook

Parents: Blaine & Anastasia Terry
Baby: Christian
Godparents: Sophia & Isabella Halkos

Parents: William & Nicole Reid
Baby: Irine
Godparents: Parris Skiouris & Maia Porzio

Parents: William & Nicole Reid
Baby: Ariadne
Godparents: Jacob & Alexis Gassert

Parents: Phillip & Kristi Arnold
Baby: Maria
Godparents: Peter & Maris Kalogerinis

Parents: John & Anne Symbas
Baby: Peter
Godparent: Chris M. Carlos

Parents: Mark & Leah Hayes
Baby: Athena Eleni
Godparent: Alexis Reeves

Parents: Constantine & Katerina Katsadouros
Baby: Emilia
Godparents: Angelo & Maria Katsounis

Parents: James & Eleni Morris
Baby: Demitra Marianna
Godparents: Constantine & Katerina Katsadouros

Parents: Petros & Rosario Giannakopoulos
Baby: Alexandros
Godparent: Vivian Syribeys

Parents: Georges & Valerie Tene
Child: John
Godparents: Irene Fotos & Dimitri Shreckengost

Parents: Corey & Pagona Alford
Baby: Michael Lazarus
Godparent: Effie Skiouris

Parents: Daniel & Olga Forrester
Baby: Olga
Godparent: Anne Symbas

Parents: Brian & Christine Bolton
Baby: Keelie (Gabriella)
Godparent: Theodoros Konidaris

Parents: Samuel & Arielle Jacobs
Baby: Elizabeth
Godparents: Alexander Jacobs & Nikoleta Kountakis

Parents: Daniel & Elizabeth Ryan
Baby: Joseph
Godparent: Emily Trettel

Parents: Amar & Nikoletta Aburas
Baby: Sofia
Godparent: Vasiliki Pouloukefalos

Parents: Steve & Doria Less
Baby: Philip
Godparent: Pamela Gjerde

Parents: Stephen & Jenny Halkos
Baby: Nicholas
Godparents: Michael & Danielle Halkos

Parents: Demetry & Erin Millas
Baby: Nikolaos
Godparents: William & Victoria Simitse

Adult: Anna Shaulova
Godparent: Emily Kantsios

Parents: Stephen & Alyssa Hallick
Baby: Stephen
Godparent: Christine Bower

Parents: James & Ashley Overstreet
Baby: Maria
Godparent: Alexander Long

Parents: Daniel & Anna Hays
Baby: Alexander
Godparents: Corey & Pagona Alford

Parents: Will & Alexis Frehse
Baby: Theodora
Godparent: Angeliki Hilyer

CHRISMATIONS

Matthew Hopper
Sponsor: William Kantsios

Theodore Pruitt
Sponsor: William Simitse

WEDDINGS

James Liadis & Soledad Guerrero
Constantine Daniels & Lauren Woodyard
Lucio Benzor & Christina DeMariq
Christopher Kipreos & Taylor Gordy
Tyler Heinzelmann & Alexandra Bright
Jonathon Thurmond & Maria Konidaris
Austin Schoech & Pauline Vastakis
George Thomas & Brittany Reese
William Caras & Alexandra Smith
Richard Deitz & Argyro Patellis
Jacob Gassert & Alexis Reid
Robert Nissen & Lauren Rogers
Kolin Kliossis & Julie Bailey
Hamilton Way & Sophie Hays

ASLEEP IN THE LORD

James (Dimitrios) Angeles
Nicholas Argendeli
Irene Kipreos
Aglaia Moraitakis
Barbara Darby

George Betros
Harold (Aristides) Pryles
Michael Creety, Jr
Stellios Lawandales
George Skouris
Lula (Nicolette) Poulos
Christopher David Stewart
George Demetriades, Sr.
Nena Bratianu
Christopher Geschke
Hytho Bagiatis Symbas
John Papageorge
Theodore Tzianabos
Athanasios Platanis
Mary J. Campbell
George Nick Poolos
Nella (Helen) Poolos
Elaine (Helen) Andrews
James (Demetrios) Stalks
Pete George Costopoulos
Sylvia (Argyro) Costopoulos
Evangeline Gouvas
Katheryn Tsiropoulos
Olga Biehler
George Skardasis
Christopher Schneider

WAYS TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH US



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www.twitter.com/atlgoc

Visit our website www.atlgoc.org

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral

Accepting Online Donations!

Click [HERE](#) for instructions on Guest Donations or click on one of the links below to Donate now.



(Above is an example of what to look for on our Cathedral website, www.atlgoc.org)

The Cathedral now has text messaging options!

Please sign up when filling out your Stewardship Card

Sunday School News

Our Sunday School Calendar is a virtual learning schedule.

Classes will be held at 11:30 am on the Sundays listed below.

March 14 th	Cheesefare Sunday - Virtual class schedule <i>9th & 10th Grade and 11th & 12th Grade presentations</i>
March 14 th	Parish Level St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival in the Cathedral
March 19 th	*First Heretismi Service - Teachers & Students in grades K-2
March 21 st	Sunday of Orthodoxy - ALL students and teachers attending the Divine Liturgy will bring an icon from home
March 26 th	*Second Heretismi Service - Teachers & Students in grades 3-5
March 28 th	Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas - Virtual class schedule Oratorical speeches in Church
April 2 nd	*Third Heretismi Service - Teachers & Students in grades 6-8
April 4 th	Sunday of the Holy Cross - Virtual class schedule
April 9 th	*Fourth Heretismi Service - Teachers & Students in grades 9-12
April 11 th	Sunday of St. John Climacus - Virtual class schedule
April 16 th	Akathistos Hymn - Teachers & Students in ALL grades
April 18 th	Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt - Virtual class schedule
April 24 th	Saturday of Lazarus - 9:00 am Divine Liturgy followed by Making of Palm Crosses (location TBA)
April 25 th	Palm Sunday - Remain in the Divine Liturgy with your family Sunday School Classes are not held
April 28 th	Holy Wednesday - Services at 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm
May 2 nd	Pascha - AGAPE Service 11:00 am Remain in the Divine Liturgy with your family-- Sunday School Classes are not held
May 9 th	Virtual class schedule
May 16 th	Graduation & Attendance Recognition in Cathedral at 12:00 pm Virtual class schedule

Special Notes:

**Heretismi Services: ALL teachers & students attending the services may present flowers. It does not have to be your class' assigned evening.*

***Class Presentations will be video taped and posted, and some classes may do partial presentations in the Cathedral. More details will be sent out to individual classes.*

Right: Sunday School Class Presentations were done in person and online this year! If you did not see them in person, you can go to the Cathedral website, watch each class' presentation and see pictures of the students in Church. <https://www.atlgoc.org/sunday-school-presentations>

Sunday School Presentations



Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd
Grades "The Lord's Prayer"
3rd & 4th Grades "The Fruits of the
Spirit"
5th & 6th Grades "A Picture of Our
Faith"
7th & 8th Grades "Our
Favorite Commandments"
9th & 10th Grades "Creed To Me"

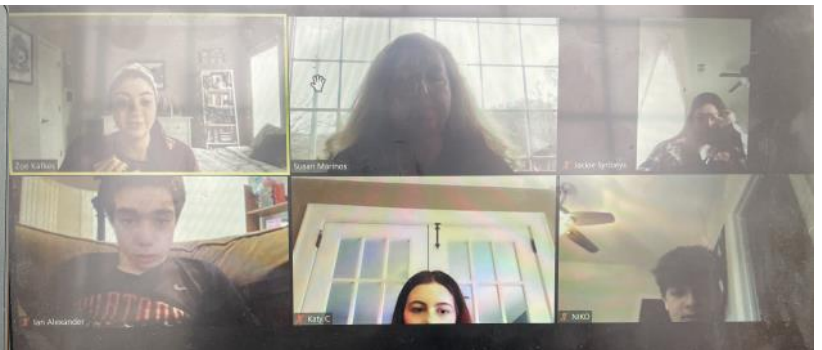


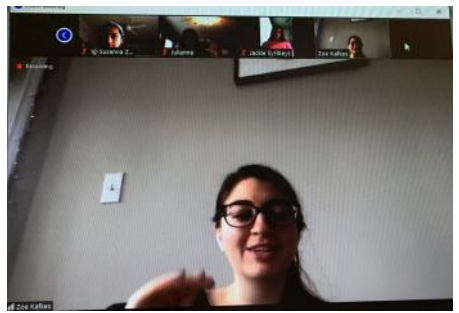
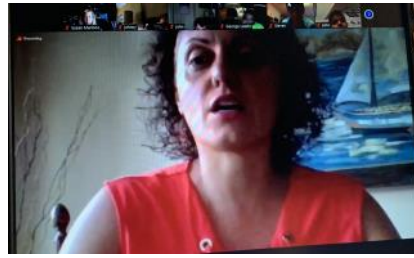
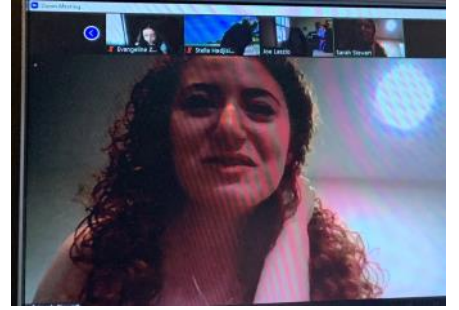
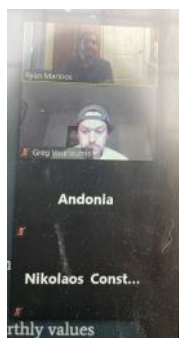
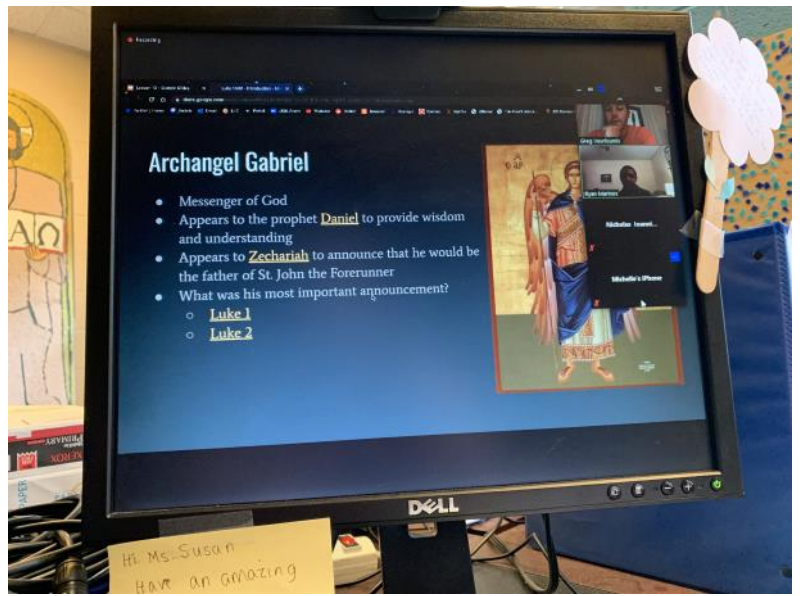
Sunday School ZOOM

Sunday School students, ages 5 - 18 attend Zoom Classes each Sunday at 11:30 am.

Our PreK Class, ages 3 -4 attend Zoom Classes each Sunday at 12:00 pm.

For more information on our Zoom classes, please contact Susan Marinos at SundaySchool@atlgo.org.





H.O.P.E. & J.O.Y., G.O.Y.A.

Youth Weekend Events

Tentative Schedule Spring 2021

"Serve the LORD with gladness; come into His presence with joyful songs."

Ps 100:2



We are excited to bring back our Cathedral's Youth Weekends. The dates for these weekends and their activities are listed below.

On Youth Weekends, HOPE & JOY meetings will be from 10am – 12pm on Saturday morning. GOYA meetings will be from 5pm – 7pm on Sunday evenings. These meeting times apply to all Youth Weekends unless stated otherwise in the schedule. We will be following all COVID-19 procedures at our Youth Events.

H.O.P.E. & J.O.Y. Theme

Liturgics

G.O.Y.A. Theme

The Church Calendar

April 10th – 11th

Anaphora

The Lenten Spring
(Lord, Teach us to Pray)

May 22nd – 23rd

Prosfora Baking and Communion

Incense Making

YOUNG ADULT YOUNG PROFESSIONALS MINISTRY SPRING 2021



In 2021, let's put the social in social distancing! Check out these awesome events.

Events may be either in person or via Zoom depending on circumstances

Sat April 10th 11AM

Sun April 11th 12PM

Mon April 12th
6PM

Sat May 15th
4PM

Tsoureki Care
Package Making

Compline: Lenten
Talk

Picnic & Hike

Hellenic Center Kitchen

Cathedral & Ballroom

Stone Mountain
National Park

FOR QUESTIONS:

Fr. Christos Mars: frchristos@atlgoc.org or 404-633-5870

Dn. Andrew Wythe: dnandrew@atlgoc.org or 404-633-5870

Christina Callesis: cmcallesis@gmail.com or 305-439-6025

Nicholas Grivas: nicholas.grivas@gmail.com or 678-561-5267



WEDNESDAYS DURING GREAT LENT

*An Opportunity for
Spiritual Enrichment*

Each Wednesday during Great Lent, at 7:15pm we will feature a guest speaker via zoom following The Ninth Hour and Presanctified Liturgy which begin at 5:00 pm in the Cathedral. Please join us for this opportunity.

March 17th

Rev. Dn. Andrew T. Wythe

Pastoral Assistant at Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation, Atlanta, GA
Speaking on "Faith Tradition in the American Carpatho-Russian Church"

March 24th

Great Vespers for the Feast of the Annunciation

Attend in person or watch via live stream

March 31st

V. Rev. Archimandrite Chrysostoms Gilbert

Priest at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, Manhattan, NY
Speaking on "Offering Forgiveness"

April 7th

His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa

Primate of the American Carpatho-Russian Diocese of North America, Johnstown, PA
Speaking on "Confession and Repentance: Now is the Time of Salvation"

April 14th

Niko and Alyssa Kyritsis

Software Developer for the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese and Former Pastoral Assistant of St. John the Divine in Jacksonville, FL
Speaking on "Orthodoxy...Online?"

April 21st

Rev. Fr. Panteleimon Papadopoulos

Priest at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Resurrection Glen Head, NY
Speaking on "Jesus Praying for us"

SACRAMENT OF HOLY CONFESSION

Holy Confession will be heard on the following days leading up to Pascha (Easter):

Every Friday Evening During Great Lent
(3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23)

5th Sunday of Great Lent Following
Divine Liturgy (4/18)

Palm Sunday Evening (4/25)

Holy Monday Evening (4/26)

Holy Tuesday Evening (4/27)

or by appointment by contacting a member
of the Clergy at 404-633-5870

For preparation for Holy Confession
please refer to www.atlgoc.org/sacraments
and then select Confession.

Sunday of Orthodoxy March 21st



On Sunday March 21st we, as a Cathedral Parish Family, will participate in the Sunday of Orthodoxy procession. Everyone will process around the front drive of the Cathedral during the Divine Liturgy to experience the proclamation, commemorating the restoration of the Holy Icons. The Orthros and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be presided by His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela. Please bring an Icon from home and participate in this momentous event.

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

MARCH 21, 2021

PAN-ORTHODOX
VESPERS AT 5:00 PM

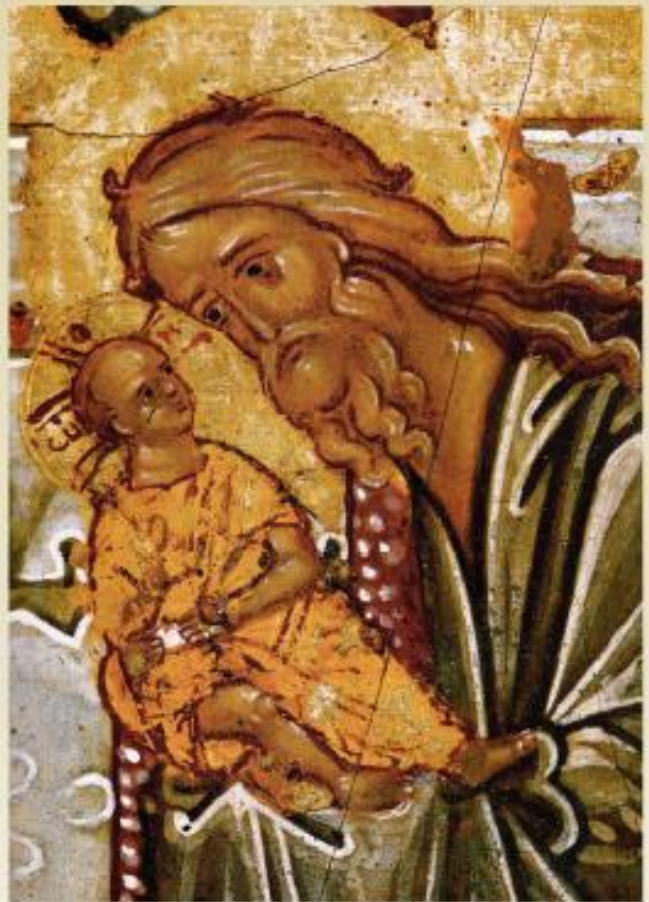
*Great Vespers will be presided by
His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela*

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL

2500 CLAIRMONT ROAD N.E.,

ATLANTA, GA

*Go to www.atlgoc.org
to register for services or live stream.*



VENERATING THE IMAGE OF GOD IN EACH PERSON

GUEST SPEAKER
VERY REV. FR. GEORGE TSAHAKIS



Fr. George Tsahakis earned a B.S. in Chemistry from The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA, a Masters of Health Administration from Duke University in Durham, NC, and a Masters of Divinity from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, MA. After serving as a hospital administrator in Baptist, Catholic, and not-for-profit hospitals for 15 years, he was ordained a Deacon and then a Priest in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. He serves as Chancellor of the Metropolis of Atlanta and services St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church in Peachtree City, Georgia. He and Presbytera Marinda are blessed with three married children and four grandchildren.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PROGRAM 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREEK REVOLUTION



JOIN HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN ALEXIOS AS WE
BEGIN A YEAR LONG CELEBRATION OF
COMMEMORATING GREECE'S STRUGGLE FOR
INDEPENDENCE ON SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021 AT 6PM.

YOU MAY JOIN US IN PERSON BY PRE-REGISTERING AT
WWW.ATLGOC.ORG/WORSHIP-REGISTRATION OR VIA
LIVE STREAM AT WWW.ATLGOC.ORG/LIVE-STREAM

SUNDAY OF THE VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS APRIL 4TH

ON SUNDAY APRIL 4TH WE, AS A CATHEDRAL PARISH FAMILY, WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE SUNDAY OF THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS PROCESSION. EVERYONE WILL PROCESS AROUND THE FRONT DRIVE OF THE CATHEDRAL DURING THE DIVINE LITURGY TO EXPERIENCE AND VENERATE THE HOLY CROSS.

PLEASE BRING A CROSS FROM HOME AND PARTICIPATE IN THIS MOMENTOUS EVENT.



AHEPA

Dear Greek Community, AHEPA and the Sons of Pericles:

Thank you for the very generous support of the USO and providing meals for our brave young men and women serving our Country. When Michael asked me if you could use plastic bags instead of the small brown paper lunch bags for the meals I had no idea it was because of the amount of food that was going to be included. I should have known when you talk about food and Greeks, the Greeks always do it in big portions, flavor and style. Your meals were absolutely the BEST, AS a result one of the Volunteers handing out meals named your bag “Money Ball”. I know why, the Greek pastries and all the other goodies and the very nice note to the Troops that were included in the bags from your community. From that point on we would spread the “Money Balls” amongst every bus load of Soldiers. The volunteers made a big deal each time one was distributed and I have attached one of the “Money Ball” Winners!

We fed in excess of 7500 Troops in under 18 hours. Our Troops were excited, enthusiastic (as much as you can be heading back to training), polite and extremely thankful.

When I reached out to you through my friend the response was simply let me see how many meals we can commit to providing. There was never a question as to whether you would help. What a fantastic response especially during this pandemic when we were concerned if we could provide all the meals as we have done in previous years. I understand that some of you wanted to make more meals and were wondering why you only provided 250. Don't worry you will have a chance next year. Michael Lambros, Jr. has already committed to that.

Thank you all for your generous support of the USO and OUR TROOPS.

Ο Θεός να σας ευλογεί, τα στρατεύματά μας και αυτή τη μεγάλη χώρα. God bless you, our Troops and this Great Country!

Furman Wood





Annunciation Day School



School is in and masks are on! Annunciation Day School (ADS) welcomed back over 140 students in August following all CDC safety protocols with masks, distancing, new sanitizing stations, and investing in a health screening system. The first half of the year has run smoothly and efficiently, not only with our incredible school faculty and staff, but also with the help of our amazing clergy and church staff members.

Although school looks a little different this year, ADS has not compromised on any learning. Students still experience specials, after school clubs, sports, and attending Divine Liturgy twice per month. Due to the generosity of our school and church families, we raised over \$55,000 during our Virtual Gala benefiting COVID-19 school expenditures. These donations make it possible for ADS to continue offering daily face-to-face instruction and the ability to virtually live stream classes for those families that choose distance learning for their children.

After school events and community service projects also continued this first half of the school year including a virtual Thanksgiving performance, K-8th Turkey Trot races, school-wide Open House in November, collecting toys for less fortunate children in conjunction with our church Philoptochos Society & Toys for Tots program, making blankets for a women & children's shelter, and entering a world-wide Christmas drawing contest sponsored by Greek Antenna TV, where several of our students were interviewed on Antenna's evening news channel.

In addition, ADS is looking forward to a great second half of the year including making Valentine cards for grandparents, health care workers, and shut-ins, hosting the Annual 5K Fun Run on March 20th (see flyer for registration information included in this Annunciator), participating in the GISA State Art Show in late March, the GISA State Spelling Bee contest and Student Art Auction in April, awards and graduation ceremony, and end-of-the-year school-wide celebration in May (details forthcoming).

Lastly, ADS is focusing on professional development for their teachers this year including a 35 hour training in Orton-Gillingham. This research-based approach to the teaching of reading is multi-sensory and based in phonics. ADS is grateful for the generosity of the Patterson Family Foundation which supported the cost of this intensive training through a grant with Dyslexia Resource, the teaching training arm of the Schenck School.

ADS would love to welcome more of our church parishioners with their children to join the ADS Spartan family this coming fall where they center every day on Christ, Children, and Community. Please visit the school website to apply your Preschooler and/or K-8th student at www.annunciationdayschool.org. Parishioners in good standing receive a 5% discount on tuition. If you would like a virtual tour, please email the Communications and Development Director, Sophia Tsiotsias at stsiotsias@adsatlanta.org or call (404) 565-2850. We pray everyone has a blessed and healthy New Year!



Free Support of Annunciation Day School

PUBLIX Fundraising

Do you shop at Publix? If so, please help ADS with their fundraising efforts and enter our school name in your on-line Publix account! Follow these easy steps:

- 1) Log-in to your account at Publix.com (or create a new one)
- 2) Go to My Account, scroll down to the bottom of the page
- 3) Click on My Publix Partner and search for Annunciation Day School
- 4) Your phone number on your account will now be linked to ADS. At checkout, simply enter your phone number on the keypad. That's it!

Thank you for supporting ADS!

APOGEE State Scholarship Fund

This program uses Georgia State Tax dollars to fund private school scholarships. The money goes directly to ADS to fund scholarships for students in need. Here's how it works: Individual filers can contribute up to \$1,000, joint filers up to \$2,500, and C Corps up to 75% of GA tax liability. Additionally, S Corps and/or partners in an LLC can contribute up to \$10,000 each year. You will receive a dollar-for-dollar GA tax credit for the amount of your contribution. If you pay your taxes throughout the year, you can still participate. The tax credit is based on your total GA tax liability (6% of your stated adjusted gross income) and not on what you may or may not still owe the State at the end of the year.

Follow these easy steps to participate:

Go to the forms page of the Apogee website

Fill out the forms online or print forms and mail them to Apogee

Write a check to Apogee Scholarship Fund* (or pay via credit card on Apogee's website)

Be sure to choose Annunciation Day School as your recipient school

We hope you will choose to redirect your state taxes to Annunciation Day School! If you have any questions, please visit <https://apogee123.org> or contact Apogee's Executive Director, John Panessa at 404-419-7123. You may also contact Sophia Tsiotsias, at stsiotsias@adsatlanta.org Director of Communications and Development.

GREEK COOKING WITH A HEALTHY TWIST!

Atlanta Annunciation Cathedral Philoptochos
invites you to cook with

CHEF MARIA LOI



The dynamic & innovative owner of "Estiatorio Loi" in New York City. She is the author of "The Mediterranean Diet" cookbook whose recipes are easy, satisfying and delicious!

The philosophy is to change the world, one healthy Greek bite at a time.

Chef Loi will lead three different one hour cooking classes. You are encouraged to cook along with Chef Loi or relax and watch!

SATURDAY, APRIL 17TH
SATURDAY, MAY 15TH
SATURDAY, JUNE 12TH
TIME TBD



Online Registration: atlgoc.org - Click on Chef Maria Loi Cooking
Three classes - \$65.00 Single Class - \$25.00
Raffle Tickets - 1 for \$10.00 3 for \$25.00

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE PHILANTHROPIC OUTREACH OF PHILOPTOCHOS

Summer Day Camp 2021: Registration Open!



Camp will be the weeks of
June 7th, June 14th & June 21st

*This program is offered for children
ages 3-15 (by September 1, 2021)*

Beginning **March 1st**, you can go to the
link below to register your children.
[https://www.atlgoc.org/registrations/
summer-camp-2021](https://www.atlgoc.org/registrations/summer-camp-2021)

Summer Day Camp will be held in person this year, with safety guidelines in place.
There will not be a virtual option.

How to Complete Camp Registration

'ALL steps below are required.'

1. Select if you are a Cathedral Member (Yes or No)
2. Age Group
3. Number of weeks
4. Click "Add to Cart"
5. Fill out information for one camper

To register each additional camper, repeat steps 1-5

Click the Shopping Cart button at the top right to checkout and enter credit card
information

Complete 4 parts of Checkout

Click on Purchase

We look forward to seeing our Cathedral family this summer!

Susan Marinos, Summer Camp Director

***sundayschool@atlgoc.org (please email Susan directly with any questions regarding
the Summer Camp program)***

St. Photini Outreach Ministry



Saturday of Service
Bags of Love Is Back
Saturday, April 3



We're excited to announce that **Bags of Love** is back!! Due to current Covid restrictions, participation to this event will be limited to 25 participants. To register, please go to our Cathedral's website at atlqoc.org and click on the "**Bags of Love**" button. Details below:

Date:	Saturday, April 3, 2021
Time:	10:00AM
Where:	Carlos Hall
What to Bring:	A Mask & Enthusiasm

Bags of Love is our Annunciation Cathedral's mobile ministry which serves the needy and homeless by providing non-perishable food and everyday essentials.

- Contents for the **Bags of Love** will be furnished and placed on tables prior to your arrival for assembly, respecting the 6 feet requirement.
- The **Bags of Love** will be handed out by our Cathedral's Handmaidens on two Sundays after the Liturgy to Parish members as they depart.
- Any remaining **Bags of Love** will be donated to Saint John the Wonderworker and distributed to the homeless.

"Just as Christ met St. Photini where she was in her life, our Annunciation Cathedral Saint Photini Outreach Ministry strives to follow the example of our patron Saint to reach out and meet people where they are."

AHEPA Mother Lodge Chapter No. 1

Educational Fund, Inc.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE for Academic Year 2021-22

Scholarships range from \$1000 to \$3000

APPLICATIONS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE ONLINE
at www.ahepaatlscholarship.org

Application deadline—11:59 p.m., EST, March 31, 2021

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

applications@ahempaATLscholarship.org

PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIPS

This year our Philoptochos Ypapanti Chapter will be offering three \$2000 scholarships. In addition to the Anna Mae Livaditis Memorial and Philoptochos scholarships, the family of Olga Biehler is offering a scholarship in her loving memory. These scholarships are dedicated to promote, encourage, and advance education and are limited to high school seniors and undergraduate college students who are members of the Cathedral. The scholarships are awarded based on financial need foremost as well as academic achievement and involvement in the church & community. Students who have not previously received the scholarship are encouraged to apply. Applications are available on the [Cathedral Website](#) or by emailing Claire Gilmore gilmore11@comcast.net. The deadline to submit the application is Friday, May 14, 2021. All information is held in strict confidence.



To stay up to date with our live streams and Church services,
please visit our YouTube channel:

(<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdK07AEPBaevIYIxDW8DSyg>)

and Subscribe, or select the button above.

FOR SALE

Burial Plots for Sale for \$12k at Floral Hills
Includes:

- (2) Plots side by side
- (2) Vaults
- (2) Open and Close labor cost
- (2) Bronze Markers
- (1) Granite Head stone
- (1) Flower vase.

Call Johnny Panos at 404-660-7883

PICTURES



If you have taken pictures during Church Services or at Church events, please share the images with our office, so that we may use them on our website, or include them in our publications.

You may email them to office@atlgoc.org or FrChristos@atlgoc.org. If you have too many, or would like assistance, please contact our office at 404-633-5870.

THANK YOU!

Can't wait to see you soon!!!



Pre-Covid Picture

Guidelines for Scheduling Meetings

Administrating a large parish takes some careful planning and so we remind our many ministries and cultural organizations to keep in mind the following when scheduling meetings at the Cathedral.

- No meetings should ever be scheduled during Church Services
- All Ministry meetings should take place on Monday or Tuesday evenings between the hours of 5 – 9 PM
- All Meetings should be scheduled on the hour, limiting each meeting to one hour when possible
- All Meetings dates and times must be approved by the Cathedral Administrator and/or Clergy
- Meetings will be placed on the Cathedral Master Calendar by the Administrative Staff
- Meeting space will be assigned by the Administrative Staff and may be changed as the need arises
- Exceptions will be considered in extenuating circumstances

We thank you for your understanding as we try to accommodate all that is happening with our Annunciation Cathedral Parish Family!

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DESIGN: Connie Mondore (office@atlgoc.org)

PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Irene Fotos (pcpresident@atlgoc.org)

All news can be e-mailed to office@atlgoc.org or put on a disk and brought to the Cathedral office during office hours (Mon-Fri 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.)

All Cathedral mail goes to the post office on the same day. If you do not receive your Annunciator in a timely manner, please call your post office and notify them.