

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation

2500 Clairmont Rd NE Atlanta, GA 30329 (404) 633-5870 atlgoc.org

Sunday, May 28 | Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council

Hieromartyr Eutychius, Bishop of Melitene, Nikitas, Bishop of Chalcedon, Helikonis the Martyr, Heladios the Hieromartyr of the East, Zacharias the New Martyr



Memorial Day is a day to remember, honor and thank the men and women who died while serving in our nation's Armed Forces. These men and women sacrificed many things in order to protect our country. We will hold a Trisagion Service for their memory.



May Their Memory Be Eternal!

Thank you and Farewell to our Pastoral Assistants Sarah Stewart & Theodore Mantzikos!

Theo and Sarah began their duties as Pastoral Assistants in 2022. They have served our Cathedral Parish Family by offering their many God-given talents, teaching in our Sunday and Day Schools, chanting for our holy services, supporting all youth programs and so much more.

As they leave their positions at the end of this month (May 31), they will refocus their energies and explore new endeavors. We pray for many blessings to be bestowed upon them.



2023 Annunciation Day School 8th Grade Graduates

Reid Council Billingsley Matthias Alemayehu Dejene Andrew James Fuoco Anna Kallis Eva Kallis Pete Demetrios Kostopoulos Michael Timofey Kurilo Jesse Edward Lin Nicolette Georgea Moraitakis Liam Eberhard-Nead John George Pribas Nina Micaela Sherwood Kerubeal Yonas

Saturday of Souls

There are times of the year when we commemorate all those who have departed this life. During these services, we commemorate the names of the DEPARTED and while we may not be able to attend the services, this <u>LINK</u> will give us the opportunity to submit those names. Please note that once your names have been offered they will be commemorated at the Saturday of Soul services, which will take place on June 3rd in St. Barbara's Chapel at Greenwood Cemetery.

Parish Contact Information

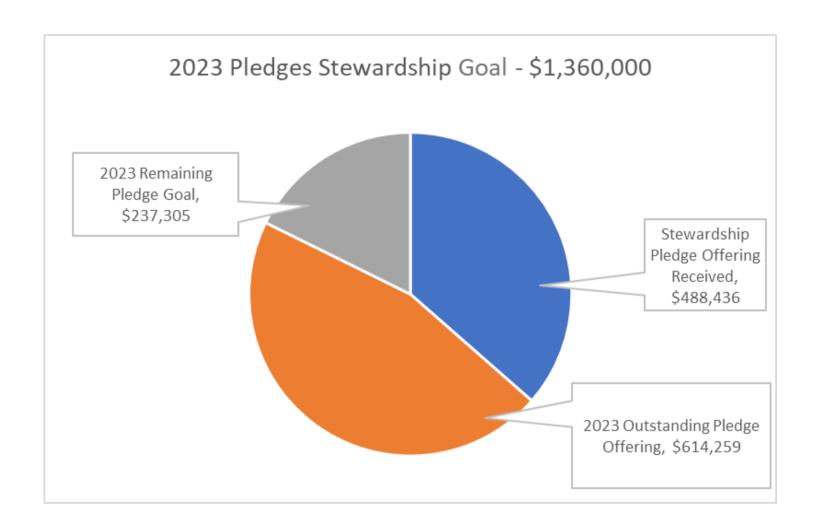
Rev. Fr. Paul A. Kaplanis, Dean Rev. Fr. Christos P. Mars, Protopresbyter Theodore Mantzikos, Pastoral Assistant Sarah Stewart, Pastoral Assistant office@atlaoc.org Ms. Voula Giannakopoulos Parish Council President pcpresident@atlgoc.org



Visit atlaoc.org

Stewardship

We want to thank you for your continued support of the Cathedral. We are one community, worshiping and praying together.



Support our Cathedral



Or visit us at atlgoc.org to light candles and submit names for prayers, manage your online giving, make a quick donation, and more.

Ministries

GOYA

Six Flags Tuesday, May 30 10:00 am Drop off at the Cathedral 7:00 pm Pick up at the Cathedral



Sunday June 4 4:00 pm GOYA Pool Party at the Simitses' Home



PreK is full for Week 1. KinderCamp is full for both Weeks! All other groups have availability.



Annunciation Day School



STEM Bus; Fernbank & Tellus Science Museum





Pentecost Picnic

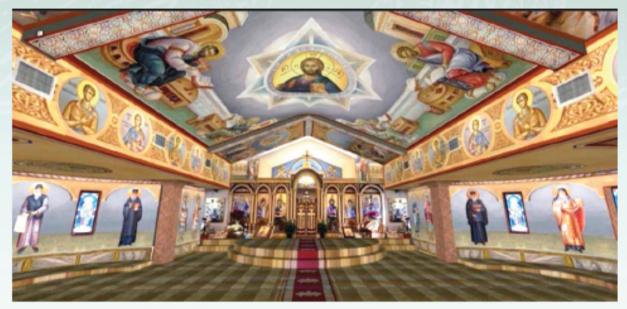
June 3, 2023

VESPERS AT 3:00 PM

PICNIC TO FOLLOW

S.S. Constantine and Helen Romanian Orthodox Church

664 Dickens Rd. NW, Lilburn, GA



Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who made fisherman all-wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them, drawing all the world into Your net.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO RSVP

This is a Pan-Orthodox AIOPA event

Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring their families.

May 22, 2023

Dear Cathedral Parish Family,

Christ is Risen!

It seemed very important to share some thoughts about the status of our Atlanta Greek Festival. It will be challenging to provide a comprehensive outline of the state of the Atlanta Greek Festival in one note, however, here is an attempt to do just that!

A survey was sent out in early February to receive feedback from the parishioners regarding the Festival. Some have expressed in various ways--in-person, via email, on social media, etc.--that the Festival survey was biased. In reality the survey was composed by a parishioner who composes hundreds of surveys for a living. Gratefully, we received 162 responses to the survey which incorporated an opportunity for everyone to share written feedback and exchange new thoughts and ideas. In addition, the survey introduction made it clear, that there was a need to have a Festival paradigm shift, and that doing the same outside festival, just because we have done so for many years, is not a viable solution. It cannot be ignored that the present format is a tremendous financial risk to the Cathedral. One rainy festival weekend and we would lose approximately \$200,000. Thanks be to God that last year, we were blessed in many ways, with hard-working Festival chairpersons, committee members and, thankfully, the most perfect weather. It was amazing!

As a follow-up to the survey, an open Town Hall Festival discussion was offered in March where the survey results were shared (approx. 50 in attendance). In summary, the survey demonstrated that there is a core of committed parishioners who volunteer throughout the festival, regardless of the format while at the same time revealing that there are others who only want the Glendi but are not fully committed to do the work. Although there are a fair number of festival volunteers, the bulk of the work seems to fall upon the few. Perhaps, we were not fully aware of this, but for many years, unfairly, the burden of set-up, clean-up and many other pre and post festival duties have fallen upon the same few. Additionally, there has been a stark misconception that others will do the work and somehow everything will be ready and waiting for them when the festival opens.

At the Town Hall, a very open and honest public discussion took place. The conclusion at the time was that for this year, 2023, we should try something more weatherproof, and reduce overhead. The Parish Council agreed and is supportive of this approach. Additionally, at the Town Hall we had someone who offered to chair the 2024 Atlanta Greek Festival. Moreover, another person recently offered to assist in 2024 as well. The thought was to begin working from now on the 2024 Festival, so that a new approach/format can be constructed while keeping in mind the risks mentioned above.

For 2023, the preliminary idea is to have a Greek Night format. What does this really mean? The format would be an all-inclusive in-door Greek Night including Cathedral Tours, appetizers, buffet dinner, dessert, live entertainment, music and Greek Dance performances. Tickets would be a set price per person, pre-sold for the event, so as to properly prepare for the number of guests. It is possible that several sessions could be offered, i.e., one on Friday evening, two on Saturday and one on Sunday. This would take place on the same weekend that is reserved for the 2023 Festival. There are more things to consider, but as mentioned above, not everything can be covered in this brief note.

We will need many volunteers to make this event possible, however if we roll up our sleeves and work together, we can make this an amazing experience while trying something new. Perhaps there are other helpful and constructive ideas out there. (Please feel free to contact us). To offer the excellence we are known for, we will need to come together as a Cathedral Parish Family. This means we must work within the structure of our Church, working together as one team, both clergy and laity.

Finally, it is possible that we could fail, there is always a risk when trying something new. If we remain positive and open-minded there is nothing we cannot do. With love, respect, humility and working together in harmony we can rejoice and celebrate together. We have a wealth of amazing talent and skills in our Cathedral Parish Family to be successful, so let's join together to get this accomplished!

Faithfully in Christ,

Fr. Paul, Fr. Christos and Voula Giannakopoulos

Ecclesiastical Calendar

Sunday, May 28 1st Ecumenical Council	Orthros in the Cathedral Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral	8:00 am 9:30 am
Wednesday, May 31	Orthros followed by Divine Liturgy in the Metropolis Chapel	8:15 am
Saturday, June 3 Saturday of Souls	Orthros at St. Barbara's Chapel Divine Liturgy at St. Barbara's Chapel Pan-Orthodox Vespers at S.S. Constantine & Helen Romanian Orthodox Church	8:30 am 9:30 am 3:00 pm
Sunday, June 4 Pentecost	Orthros in the Cathedral Divine Liturgy in the Cathedral Great Vespers Service of Kneeling following Divine Liturgy	7:45 am 9:00 am

The Metropolis and Cathedral Offices will be closed, Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day

Events & Activities

Sunday, May 28	No Pickleball due to Memorial Day Weekend	
Tuesday, May 30	GOOFS Coffee and Doughnuts AIOPA Meeting via Zoom	9:00 am 7:00 pm
Wednesday, May 31	Mahjong and Games in the Kafenion	10:00 am
Saturday, June 3	Pickleball in the Gym	10:00 am
Sunday, June 4	Pickleball in the Gym	4:00 pm

Youth

Tuesday, May 30	GOYA going to Six Flags	10:00 am
Sunday, June 4	GOYA Pool Party at the Simitses' Home	4:00 pm

