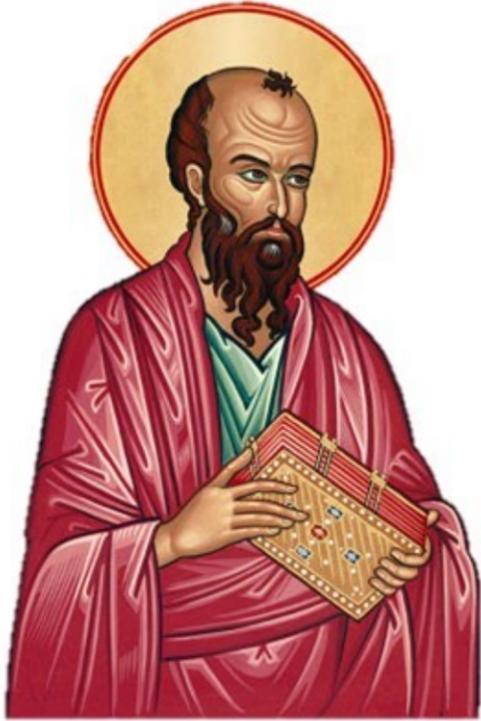


THE VOICE



January-February 2020

**ST. PAULS GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH**



MISSION

The mission of St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church of Savannah, Georgia is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and to serve the spiritual needs of the faithful through worship and sacramental life. We enable individuals to come together in communion with God and with each other through ministries that are centered on the beliefs and values of our Orthodox Faith.

St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church



The Hellenic Center

14 West Anderson St. Savannah, Georgia 31401
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30 am—4:00 pm Tel. (912) 236-8256
Fax. (912) 236-7321

Email: stpaulsgreekorthodox@comcast.net
Website: <https://stpaulsgreekorthodox.org/>

Presiding Priest: Rev. Fr. John Wallace

Office Tel. (912) 236-8256
Mobile Tel: (912) 856-5798
Email: frwallace@comcast.net

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Secretary Connie Preston

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Constantinos Papaconstantinou | Leslye Phillips | Julie Peters | Michael Roach | Tom
Sideris | George Vaveris

live by **FAITH**

a message from Fr. John Wallace

All I Need Is My Bible

Last month, we confirmed the inter-relationship of faith and works in the on-going process of our salvation and described the over-emphasis placed by some on the Bible as the only source of Christian authority. We continue this month with the relationship of the Church to the Bible and how the different understandings of this relationship are manifested in our modern times.

It is important to realize that the Church came before the Bible and that the Church wrote the Bible. The Church created the Bible, the Bible did not create the Church. Since the Church, inspired by God, gave birth to the Bible, the Church is its proper home and knows it best. After all, who knows a child better than its parent? Accordingly, it is the Orthodox understanding that Holy Scriptures cannot be completely and accurately understood unless they are understood within the context of the Church that produced them.

“Since the Church, inspired by God, gave birth to the Bible, the Church is its proper home and knows it best.”

Now this directly contradicts a modern train of thought which holds that any individual can read and accurately interpret Scripture for themselves. The Orthodox Church does not see it this way. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Church is the true author, interpreter, and teacher of Scripture. "The church of the living God (is) the pillar and ground of the truth." (1 Timothy 3:15) The essential thing to understand is that the Church is the judge of Scriptural truth, not any and every private individual. The Apostle Peter confirms this in his second epistle (1:20) when he writes: "no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation."

When the Scriptures are divorced from the Church and subject to private interpretation, anything can happen. Private interpretation has led to disunity and the multiplication of Christian traditions, many of whom hold conflicting positions, such as whether or not infants should be baptized. Some teach it is proper, others disagree. Dedication to the idea that the private interpretation of scripture is the best approach may be a sign of spiritual pride and a rejection of any spiritual authority other than oneself.

Undaunted, some argue that all they need is the Bible. While it is true that they can begin the walk of faith by themselves, they cannot grow to

full spiritual maturity outside the truth found in the Church. Recall the words of Christ, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6) The way to the Father is not through ourselves, but through Jesus Christ; and the way to Christ is through the Holy Spirit and in union with His body, the Church. (Ephesians 4:15-16)

Nevertheless, many believe that “all we need is Jesus.” While it is indeed Jesus Christ who saves us, it is also true that He established the Church, His body. (Ephesians 4:16) If we are joined to Him then we are joined to His body, the Church. To say we love Jesus, who is the Head of the Church (Ephesians 4:15) and at the same time reject His body is

to deny New Testament teaching.

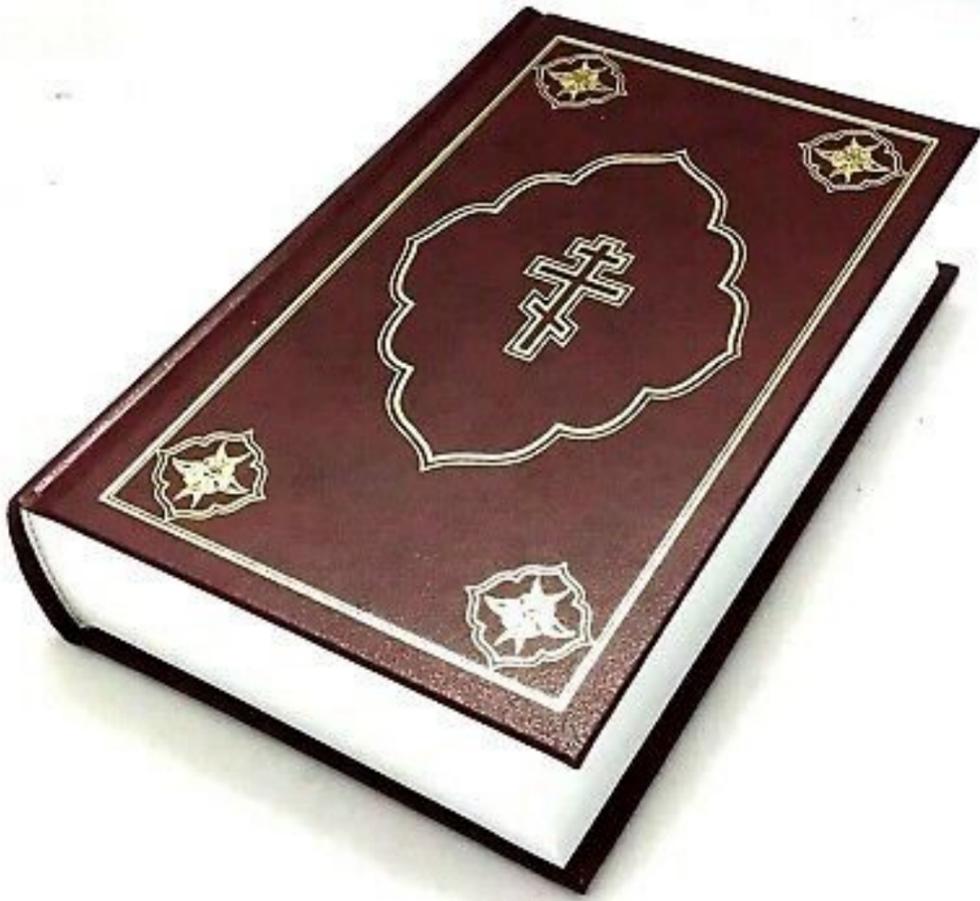
It also denies the clear witness of Scripture as when the Apostle Peter baptized three thousand believers into the Church on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38, 41). Having been joined to Christ through His Church, these new believers began living as the body of Christ. (Acts 2:42-47)

Now some believe that the early Church got lost along the way. But this again contradicts Scripture which testifies

that Christ is the leader of the Church (Ephesians 4:15) and that the gates of hell will not prevail against it (Matthew 16:18). Do those who say the Church got lost really believe that Christ failed as its leader? No, but they have also not considered the full implications of their position.

The fact is the Church is the place established by Christ where we may each become what we were created to be in the process of maturing to perfection. The Church carries us beyond our petty, selfish, and worldly concerns (in a way we cannot do by ourselves) stretching our vision to the eternal and heavenly as we ascend together in the image and likeness of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

*Portions of this article are based on the Orthodox Study Bible New Testament and Psalms, pp. iv, v, x, xi, and 445.



St. Paul's News

Congratulation

Congratulations to the Norse Family on the christening of Julia Rose and Margaret Penelope.

Congratulations to the newly elected Parish Council members: Michael Roach, George Vaveris, Alex Koukoulas, Andy Crawford and Julie Chokos Peters. Thank you for your service to our parish.

Thank you to the retiring Parish Council members: Peter Mastopoulos, Peggy Pittas and George Polites.

Thank You

The family of Photios Stavridis wishes to extend their heartfelt appreciation to everyone who honored and paid their respects to their father.

Philoptochos News

Ornament Exchange

Thank you to everyone who participated in our annual ornament exchange. We had a blast!

Vasilopita Bread on Sale Now

Vasilopita Bread is on sale now for \$12. It is available for purchase after church on Sundays.

Vasilopita Luncheon

January 12 is the Vasilopita Luncheon. Tickets are on sale now for \$10. Kids eat free! Lunch will be Grecian chicken, green beans, salad, rice and a roll. Proceeds of the auction will benefit St. Basil's Academy. If you would like to prepare Vasilopita bread or desserts for the auction, please contact Stamata Karfakis.

Food and Wine

The Food and Wine is quickly approaching. We have created a sign up sheet for various roles to make our event a success. If you would like to get involved, please see a Philoptochos Board member or contact either Jamie Newman or Lynn Koukoulas. This year's charities are Camp Aloha, Employability, and SAFE Shelter.

Communication

If you are not a member already, please join our Facebook group. Just search for St. Barbara's Philoptochos Society Savannah, GA in the Facebook search bar!

To stay up-to-date on the latest announcements, ensure you are receiving email from stbarbaraphilosav@gmail.com

Sunday School

Happy New Year! Hope you all had a blessed Christmas. The students gave a wonderful Christmas program performance on December 15 and had a special visitor afterwards. See our pictures in this issue, and on Facebook.

A big thank you to all who participated in the Candy Cane Christmas Tree. We were able to help four families make their Christmas a little brighter.

Classes will resume from the Christmas break on January 19, 2020.

Hope/Joy

Thank you!

To all who donated to the can food drive. The two large boxes were filled to the brim!

Our Super Hero Party hosted by Spider-Man and Wonder Woman and our Christmas retreat were both big successes. The children had a great time.

Bookstore

New At the Bookstore: the much requested Orthodox Calendar 2020- Daily Lives, Miracles and Wisdom of the Saints and Fasting Calendar is now available to purchase. It is in a wonderful accessory and is spiral bounded for easy usage.

Come check out the bookstore after church on Sunday and see what all we have available for you to enrich your spiritual life.

Trisagion Films is an effort lead by Rev. Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou out of Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Marietta, Georgia. They seek to increase the awareness and understanding of Orthodox Christianity by using well-made and brief videos which are accessible online.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guTOkWopR1s&feature=youtu.be>

When you have a chance, please give them a look.
+Fr. John





Hope/Joy Superhero Party





Norse Christening

Sunday School Christmas Program





Philoptochos Ornament Exchange



Vasiloptia

LUNCHEON

JANUARY 12, 2020

AFTER SERVICE

MEAL:

Grecian chicken, green beans, rice,
roll, salad and dessert.

\$10.00

pasta available upon request for child

tickets on sale now





Thank you

to the following who donated poinsettias:

George and Peggy Vaveris: in memory of Helen Vaveris, Konstantine S. Vaveris and Matthew Calles and in health of Helen Calles.

Pete Simon: in memory of Aspasia, Charles and Stella and in health of Pete.

Dr. Charles and Fanoula Sevastos: in memory of John and Rae, Jimmy and Litsa.

Gabrielle Franklin: in memory of Carl E. Franklin and the AbiLama Family.

Jamie Newman: in memory of James and Mary Yimoyines, Thomas Falvey Jr. and Peter Hine MD and in health of William Newman and Thomas Falvey Sr.

Irene Karakolidis: in memory of Emmanuel and Mary and in health of Lydia Cross and Family, and Danai Mays and Family.

Demetra Pashales: in memory of Helen Pashales.

Effie Antonopoulos: in memory of George P. Antonopoulos.

Bill Rovolis: in memory of Barbara, Teddy, Ruby, Tash and Rose Rovolis, and Charlie Masterpoulos and Family and in health of Rovolis Family and St. Paul's Parish.

Bill and Cynthia Mamais: in memory of Helen Pashales and in health of the Mamais Family.

Nick and Gini Nichols: in memory of Our Fathers, the Nichols, Stellianos and the Meneghelli's and in health of Our Mothers, Anna Gounaris, Rita Teffery and Jamie Newman.

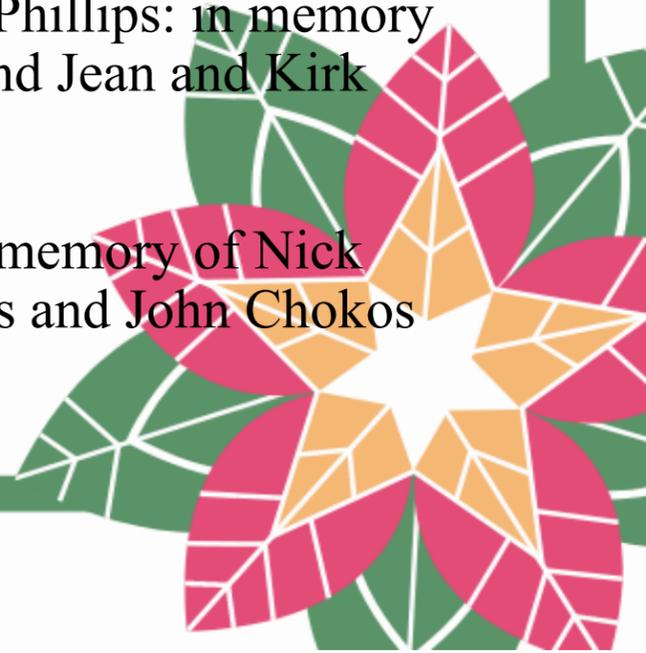
Tia Halatas: in memory of George and Sylvia Halatas, Katherine Foster, Angie, Louis, Georgia, and Ted Vlahos, Helen Pashales Maria, Deno and Atha Palamiotis and Paul Stoupenos.

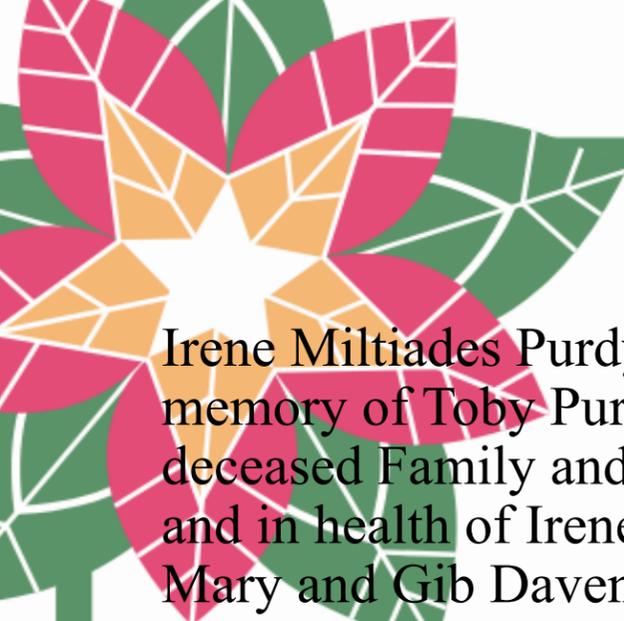
Marika "Rikki" Siavelis in memory of Thomas and Sophie Maragos and Peter and Helen Siavelis

Connie and James Preston: in memory of their parents.

Alan and Leslye Phillips: in memory of Evelyn Alex and Jean and Kirk Phillips.

Stella Hefner: in memory of Nick and Paula Letchas and John Chokos





Peggy Pittas: in memory of Panayi-

Thank you

Irene Miltiades Purdy: in memory of Toby Purdy and all deceased Family and friends and in health of Irene Purdy, Mary and Gib Davenport, Sophie Davenport, Huntly Davenport and all family and friends.

to the following who donated poinsettias:

otis Pittas.

Tia Lamas Ramsey: in memory of her husband, Edwin J. Ramsey Sr., and her parents, Louis and Stella Lamas.

Leah Stoupenos: in memory of Paul Stoupenos.

The Karatassos Family: in memory of Panos and Theona and in health of all our brothers & sisters in Christ.

Irene Andris: in memory of Anthony and Mary Andris.

Stella Hefner: in memory of Nick and Paula Letchas and John Chokos

Alexander Koukoulas: in memory of Anthony and Christina Koukoulas.

Nick Mastopoulos: in memory of Evangeline C. Mastopoulos and in honor of the Mastopoulos Family.



WANT TO CELEBRATE A SPECIAL OCCASION WITH THE PARISH?

Host a Coffee Hour!

YOU CAN SHARE THE JOY OF A

- BIRTHDAY
- NAME DAY
- CHRISTENING
- CHRISTMATION
- ANNIVERSARY
- SPECIAL HONOR
- AND MORE!

OR JUST BECAUSE!

Contact the Church Office to schedule your coffee hour at (912) 236-8256 or stpaulsgreekorthodox@comcast.net





Volunteers

for the month of

JANUARY

January 5

Ushers: *Lear Miltiades, **Constantinos Papaconstantinou, Pete Simon, Tom Sideris, Jimmy Anestos, Julie Peter, and Pete Liakakis

Acolytes: Luke Lambros, Landon Lambros, Isaac Morris, and Cameron Vatistas.

Bookstore: Crystal Farmakis

January 12

Ushers: *Leslye Phillips, **Michael Roach, Alex Koukoulas, Jerry Welsh Sr., Connie Preston, Gabrielle Franklin, Joseph Haddad, and Pete Liakakis

Acolytes: Aleksandar Domazet, Stefan Domazet, Niko Nichols, Dalton, and Andrew Elfrink.

Bookstore: Deena Stevens

January 19

Ushers: *George Polites, **Andy Crawford, Tony Morris, George Donkar, George Vaveris, John Polites, Billy Norse, and Pete Liakakis

Acolytes: Luke Lambros, Landon Lambros, Isaac Morris, and Cameron Vatistas.

Bookstore: Marie Danos

January 26

Ushers: **Lear Miltiades, Constantinos Papaconstantinou, , Pete Simon, Peggy Pittas, Jimmy Anestos, Tom Sideris, and Pete Liakakis

Acolytes: Aleksandar Domazet, Stefan Domazet, Niko Nichols, Dalton, and Andrew Elfrink.

Bookstore: Mary Rose Davis

***Denotes PC Member opening; ** denotes PC Member closing**

If you are interested in volunteering for St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church, please contact either Fr. John Wallace, a parish council member or the church office.



Volunteers

for the month of

FEBRUARY

February 2

Ushers: *Gabrielle Franklin, **Connie Preston, Michael Roach , Jerry Welsh Sr., Leslye Phillips, Alexander Koukoulas, Joseph Hadded and Pete Liakakis

Acolytes: Luke Lambros, Landon Lambros, Isaac Morris, and Cameron Vatistas.

Bookstore: Anna Gounaris

February 9

Ushers: *George Polites, **Tony Morris, George Donkar, George Vaveris, John Polites, Andy Crawford, Billy Norse and Pete Liakakis

Acolytes: Aleksandar Domazet, Stefan Domazet, Niko Nichols, Dalton, and Andrew Elfrink.

Bookstore: Alexis Donkar

February 16

Ushers: **Constantinos Papaconstantinou, Lear Miltiades, Pete Simon, Tom Sideris, Julie Peters, Jimmy Anestos, and Pete Liakakis

Acolytes: Luke Lambros, Landon Lambros, Isaac Morris, and Cameron Vatistas.

Bookstore: Crystal Farmakis

February 23

Ushers: *Gabrielle Franklin, **Michael Roach, Connie Preston, Jerry Welsh Sr., Leslye Phillips, Alexander Koukoulas, and Pete Liakakis

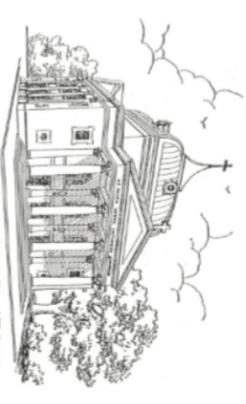
Acolytes: Aleksandar Domazet, Stefan Domazet, Niko Nichols, Dalton, and Andrew Elfrink.

Bookstore: Mary Rose Davis

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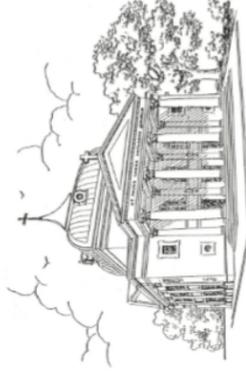
January 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day St. Basil the Great Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	2	3	4
5 Sunday before Epiphany Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am Blessing of the Waters 11:30	6 The Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	7 St John the Baptist Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	8	9	10	11 Brunswick Service 10 am Brunswick House Blessings
12 Sunday after Theophany Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am Vasilopita Luncheon Philoptochos Tray for Meals on Wheels	13	14 Parish Council Meeting 6 pm	15	16	17 St. Anthony the Great Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	18
19 12th Sunday of Luke Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am General Assembly	20	21	22 District Council Meeting Jacksonville, Fla. 6 pm	23	24	25 Quarterback Club Dinner 5:45 pm
26 15th Sunday of Luke Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	27	28	29	30 Three Hierarchs Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	31	

Please rip this calendar out of the newsletter to save these important dates. Shaded areas denote fasting.

February 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Great Vespers 6 pm
2 The Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am <i>Philoptochos Tray</i>	3	4	5	6	7	8 Brunswick Service 10 am
9 Sunday of Publican and Pharisee Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am Triodion Begins	10 St. Haralambos Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	11	12	13	14	15
				Fr at the Diakonia Center ↔		
16 Sunday of the Prodigal Son Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	17	18 Parish Council Meeting 6 pm	19	20	21	22 First Saturday of Souls Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am Savannah International Food and Wine 3-6:00
23 Judgment Sunday (Meatfare) Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am	24	25	26 Dairy Allowed	27	28	29 Second Saturday of Souls Orthros 9 am Divine Liturgy 10 am

Please rip this calendar out of the newsletter to save these important dates. Shaded areas denote fasting.



Quarterback Club Dinner January 25, 2020

We need your HELP!

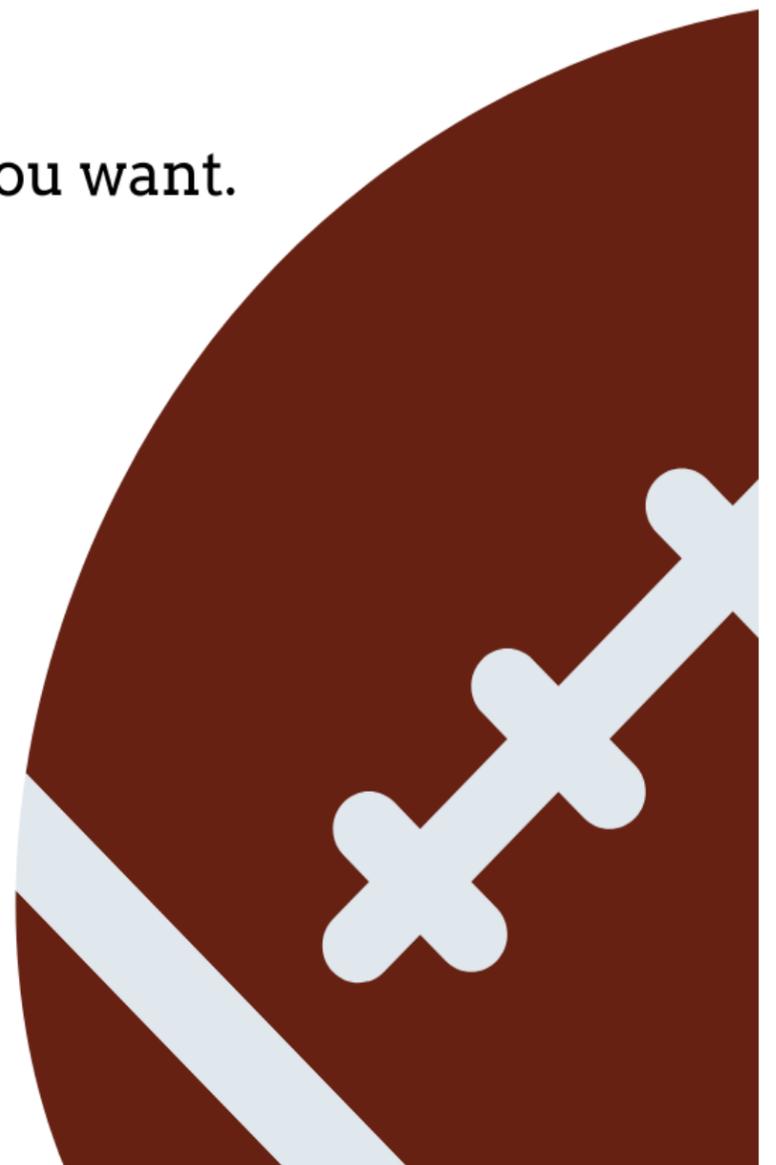
Help is needed in all areas:

- Kitchen
- Plating
- Serving
- Set Up

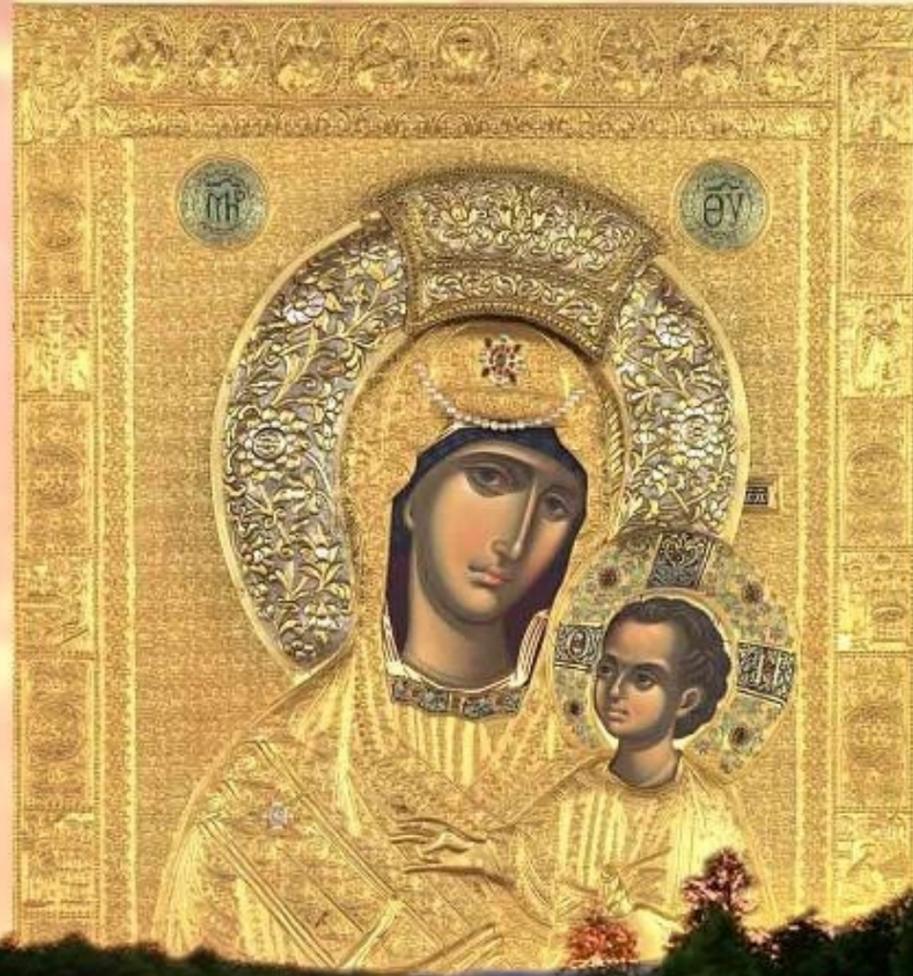
Sign up early for the position you want.

Sign up after church on
Sunday.

For more information
contact Bonnie Danos
or the church office.



THE
DIAKONIA
RETREAT CENTER



The miraculous Panagia Vimatarissa icon has been brought to our Holy Metropolis from Mount Athos by Fr. Ephraim, the Abbot of the Vatopedi Monastery. It is a replica of the original and it will permanently reside in our beautiful Panagia Chapel. I pray that you visit our beautiful Diakonia Retreat Center to venerate this miraculous icon.

+ ALEXIOS – *Metropolitan of Atlanta*

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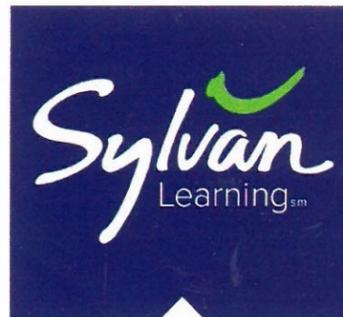


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Attorney at Law

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Fax (912) 235-5464



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Executive Director

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HAPPY NAME DAY TO

JANUARY

EMMELEIA | TELEMAHOS | VASILIKI | VASILIS | SERAPHIM | SILVESTROS | SYLVESTER
| GENOVEFA | SYGLITIKI | THEONI | THEOPEMPTOS | FAIDON | FANI | FOTIKA | JORDAN |
OURANIA | PERISTERA | PHOTINI | PHOTIS | THEOFANIS | THEOPOULA | CEDD | GIANNA
| GIANNIS | JEANNETTE | JOHN | PRODRAMOS | AGATHON | DOMINIKI | KELSIOS
| PARTHENA | VASILISSA | EFSTRATIOS | THEODOSIOS | MERTIOS | TATIANI | ERMILOS
| NINA | ANTHONY | THEODOSIOS | ATHANASIOS | CYRILLOS | THEODOULA | EFRASIA
| MAKARIOS | EFTHIMIOS | FABIANOS | THYRSI | AGNES | EVGENIOS | MAXIMOS
| NEOPHYTOS | PATROKLOS | ANASTASIOS | TIMOTHY | AGATHANGELOS | DIONISIS | FILON
| XENI | ZOSIMAS | GREGORY | MARGARET | XENOFON | HARIS | PALLADIOS | VARSAMIA
| AVRA | CHRYSI | MAVROS | TRION IERARHON | EVDOXIA | KYROS

FEBRUARY

BRIDGET | FILIKITA | TRYFON | IPAPANTI | ASIMAKIS | ASIMINA | SIMEON | STAMATIA |
STAMATIS | IASIMOS | ISIDOROS | AGATHI | PHOTIS | PARTHENIS | ZAHARIAS | MARKELOS
| PAGRATIOS | HARALAMBIA | HARALAMBOS | HARIKLIA | HARILAOS | AVGI | THEODORA |
VLASSIS | MELETIOS | PLOTINOS | PRISCILLA | VALENTINI | EFSEVIOS | PAMFILLIE
| PAMFILLOS | SELEFKOS | CHLOE | THEODOROS | AGAPITOS | LEON | FILOTHEI
| ANTHOUSA | THALASSIOS | POLYCHRONIS | POLYKARPOS | RIGINOS | TARASIOS | TARSIS
| ANATOLI | PHOTINI | PORFIRIOS | SEBASTIANOS | ASKLIPIOS | NISIOS | KYRA | MARIANNA
| CASIANOS