



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΤΑΝΤΑΣ

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

April 3, 2020



St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210

Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

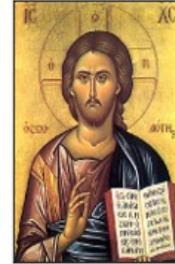
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Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, Pastor

Stephen Sarantis, President, Parish Council

Jackie Sarantis, Office Administrator



Pastoral Message from Fr. George for April 3, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Christ is in our midst – He was, He is, and He always shall be!

As we continue staying safely in our homes except for essential needs, I commend you for your efforts to ensure the safety of our community at large. I am thankful that our physical separation was lessened this past Sunday when we began live video streaming of our church services. We had viewers join us for the Divine Liturgy from Cody, Wyoming, Summerville, South Carolina, Cincinnati, Ohio, Crete, Greece, Woolwich, New Jersey, Douglasville, Georgia, and Atlanta! Thank you, Costas, Tammy, and Manuel, for your great

help! We will continue to live video stream all services... [click here to view future services.](#)



Beginning April 1st, clergy throughout the United States added two additional petitions to our church services to unify and pray for God's mercy:

“For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger and distress, and from the peril of the coronavirus against us, let us pray to the Lord.”

“For our brethren, those who lead the fight against the coronavirus, the doctors, the medical workers and the scientists, let us pray to the Lord.”

This week, I wish to conclude my pastoral message with the following inspiration given to Atlanta Metropolis Clergy from our Spiritual Leader and Shepherd, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios:

My brothers in Christ,

*“O save your people, and bless your heritage;
be their shepherd, and carry them forever.”*

(Psalm 28:9)

I greet you with love in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! As our parishes and homes continue the process of social distancing, I have kept you all in my thoughts and prayers.

Below are several resources – prayers, hymns and informational videos –which I hope can provide your faithful with a sense of strength and security during these uncertain times.

1. [This helpful video on the science behind the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
2. [This beautiful hymn by Archimandrite Spyridon Skordilis](#)
3. [This Lenten prayer during the time of COVID-19.](#)
4. [A Prayer in the time of Coronavirus by Metropolitan +JOEL of Edessa](#)

Please keep me in your prayers, just as I pray for the safety and health of your families and your congregation. I remain,
Paternaly yours with love in the Lord,

+ A L E X I O S

Metropolitan of Atlanta

Great news!! Live streaming is HERE!

Please click the link below or copy & paste into your web browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaPfodpLb1UQCQJly7KGRDw>

Stewardship

We have found ourselves in a very trying time of our lives. An unprecedented time, for sure. I do hope everyone in our parish family is well and safe from Covid-19.

As we are enduring this isolation, I do want to remind everyone that our stewardship to St. Christopher's remains very important. [Donate your gifts online at our parish website by clicking here](#) or mail your stewardship and building fund donations to the church office St. Christopher Church, [313 Dividend Drive Suite 210, Peachtree City, GA 30269](#).

Thank you for your faithfulness and generous support of our parish.

We have a wonderful Body of Christ that has blessed me beyond measure and continues to do so.

Stay well and safe, please

Love in Christ,
Lydia McGee



Sheltering In Place + Prayer Shawls = Boredom Relief

During these uncertain times due to ever changing recommendations for Sheltering In Place, self-quarantining, and social distancing, many of us are finding ourselves with unexpected time on our hands. Creating a Prayer Shawl or Prayer Lap Blanket will not only give your hands something to do and prayers for your mind to focus on, it will help fight boredom! During normal times, it is easy to feel guilty to “just sit and crochet or knit”. While this should NEVER be the case, I personally know that its hard to justify weaving rather than cooking dinner or doing the laundry.

However, the creation of a Prayer Shawl or Prayer Lap Blanket is a soothing balm to the psyche of both the preparer and the recipient. Another way to help right now is to consider making fabric face masks for Health Care Workers or First Responders in your area. I have guidelines for face masks

being requested by Tanner Hospital in Carrollton. I would suggest you check with your local hospital to see what kind, if any, hand-made fabric masks they would like.

We will be providing Prayer Shawls to an Orthodox Christian Ministry Center (OCMC) Mission team and Cancer Treatment Center of America (CTCA) at our Prayer Shawl Blessings following Pascha and the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos (in August). For information about joining this ministry, receiving a Prayer Guide, or to get yarn, please contact me at (678) 877-9115 or sbkleto@gmail.com.

Sending prayers for good health to all,
Susan Kleto, Prayer Shawl Ministry Leader

CPR CLASS UPDATE

This is an update for those who had expressed an interest in learning CPR and anyone else who might be interested. I had received 11 responses to my original question to the parish. If there are more interested parishioners at this time, please let me know. The more the merrier will be wonderful.

I have contacted ERTSS in Fayetteville for the training. This is an American Heart Association provider. The AHA is the standard bearer for CPR. This company also teaches a First Aid class.

In light of the pandemic at the present time, I realize we can do nothing right now.

I just want all to know that I am working on this for the future, hopefully, not distant future! I will send an update later, when we are “free” again.

Please be thinking about perhaps having the First Aid class along with the Heartsaver class, on the same day. It would entail a longer session 9-2 , perhaps, but I think it would be a good class for all of us. No pressure on this, just something to think about.

I pray that all of our parishioners are well and safe, and that you remain so, throughout this dreadful pandemic. Lord have mercy on us all.

Love to all,
Lydia McGee
