



## Worship Services



Orthros 9:00 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

**Priest:** Fr. Tom Pistolis

**Choir Director:** Fanya Paouris

**Organist:** Mary Koutroulias

**Chanters:**

Sotiris Basilakos, Tony Thermos,  
Forrest Palmer, David Bowden,  
John Blackstone, Tim Demas

### WEEKDAY SERVICES

Thursday, Jan. 18 - 9:30 a.m. Athanasius

Tuesday, Jan. 30 - 9:30 am. Three Hierarchs

Friday, Feb. 2 - 9:30am Pres. of Lord in Temple

### Sunday, January 21

**Altar Boys:** Team Saint Nicholas  
Alex Taylor, leader, Steven  
Maurides, co-leader, Robert  
Taylor, Yianni Bakaes

**Nursery:** Gia Tomaras

**Narthex:** Charles Joiner, Jimmy  
Georgiades, John Sfiris, Tom  
Mantekas, Bill Stathakis

**Greeter:** Greg Tarasidis

**Coffee servers:** Mary Zaharis &  
Niki Koutsoukis

**Memorial:** The 2 year memorial  
for Jimmy Chatos will be hosted  
by his family on January 21st.

### Sunday, January 28

**Altar Boys:** Team Saint Nektarios  
Chris Georgiades, leader, Shelby  
Bowden, co-leader, Jimmy Palmer,  
Nicholas Taylor

**Nursery:** Michael and Mimi  
Melehes

**Narthex:** Harry Zolides, Gus  
Stathos, Stathe Koutroulias, Dan  
Johnson, John Kiriakides

**Greeter:** Debbie or Mike  
Kiriakides

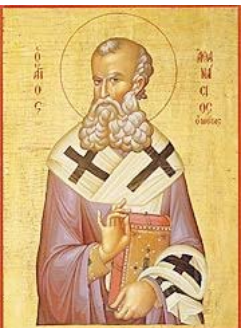
**Coffee Servers:** Stephanie  
Sullivan and Janice Boyd-  
Bowman.

## PREPARING FOR GREAT LENT

Why did Jesus come? To save us from death and show us the way back to paradise and eternal life. How did he save us? Through His Incarnation as fully human and fully God. It was his humanness that allowed Him to sanctify our corrupted human bodies so they could be transfigured for the resurrection. His body was sacrificed on the Cross, He suffered a most horrible death, was buried, but then He descended into Hell to liberate all who had died before, returned in a transfigured state to further teach His disciples so they could establish His Church, and then He ascended into Heaven and sent the Holy Spirit to empower the Apostles. With the guidance and power of the Holy Trinity, they went about the task of establishing the Church here on earth.

Christ established the Church so that we could all have a place to help us purify our bodies and souls so we could learn to live according to His commandments and then join Him in eternal life in heaven. He knew we were all sinners, so He gave us the sacraments beginning with Baptism and Chrismation, which begins our life in Christ. He showed us a pattern of life of repentance which includes Holy Confession and Holy Communion where we can regularly be cleansed of our sinfulness and be nurtured with His Blood and Body as Holy food for our nourishment for our soul. He also established Holy Unction, Marriage, and Ordination. The Church has also established a liturgical cycle to help us lead the kind of life that will help us return to paradise and to live eternally with Christ in heaven.

This month we celebrate the life of Athanasius the Great on January 18th. He was the Patriarch of Alexandria, one of the



great centers of early Christianity. He was one who was key in the First Ecumenical Council which gave us the Creed we recite to this day. He defended the two natures of Christ, that as fully human and fully God.

For Him, If Christ was not both fully human and fully God, then Christ could not save us humans. He had to have a fully human body to sanctify it as was the teaching of the Apostles.

At the time of Athanasius, the Church faced

many heresies as well as the flourishing of Monasticism. The period of martyrdom had ended. At this time thousands flocked to the desert to purify themselves so they could live in union with God. Athanasius knew that there was only one universal Church and that the monastics and the other believers were all part of the same Church, but had different paths to prepare themselves for their entry into heaven. He emphasized that the monastics show us the highest moral path to God, but they are specially chosen for this path. It is a path of virginity, which they freely choose along with a permanent withdrawal from the normal society. This is not a path for everyone as it is beyond our normal nature and the requirement of Christ. Those who are married have the same aim and goal as the monastics, and must in a similar way purify their being so that their souls will be in control of the body so they can model the life of Christ and that of the angels. The Church provides for them as well in the liturgical cycle of the Church..

For those who were married he emphasized the need to follow the liturgical cycle of the Church. The monks show us the virtue of withdrawal for our spiritual growth. The Church provides a time for withdrawal temporarily from the normal life to work on the purification of our body and soul much like the monks do in a continual way. The Great Fast leading up to Pascha was one such period. By following the traditions of Christ's Church we will be guided along the path to our salvation.

If we think about our future, our own death and ascension into the eternal life, we know life will be more like the angels. This is the life that monks try to emulate as this is the state we will return to paradise. In heaven, there we will not have bodily passions or worldly cares. So, to prepare ourselves to live this future perfected life, we need to work now on checking the control that our body seems to have over our soul. which is the primary cause of our sinfulness. Athanasius taught his followers that they must periodically retreat from the normal worldly life. Christ showed this with His periodic withdrawal, and His fasting and prayer. Mostly, we are driven by our bodily desires and for comforts of this world all of which perish at our death. We truly should have more interest in what will provide for us an eternal life with Christ in heaven.

Athanasius teaches that this is the purpose

of the Great Fast of Lent. Through fasting, we withdraw from our normal activities. We quiet ourselves and restrict the foods we eat so we can develop control over our body's demands. It is like going to a spiritual athletic club or a resort spa where we go to get in shape and lose weight. The difference is that the Great Fast period is for our spiritual development instead of our physical well being. In addition to controlling and limiting our food during the Great Fast, we should reduce our social activities so we can quiet ourselves and devote more time for prayer and become more reflective of the world we are preparing to enter in heaven. It is also a time when we extend our heart to our neighbors who are in need and open our purses and volunteer our time to help those in need to live fully God's commandment to love our neighbor. It is a time of forgiveness and reconciliation as we try and reconcile our differences. It is a period where we aim to fully practice the commandments of our Lord, to love God with all our hearts, and to love our neighbor as ourselves, including loving our enemies.

The period of Lent begins with the preparatory four Sundays of which the first occurs on January 28th. Here is the schedule:

**Jan. 28 Publican and the Pharasee** and the week that follows is fast free.

**Feb. 4: Prodigal Son** - normal fast week follows.

**Feb. 11: Meatfare or Judgment Sunday** - A week with no meat follows.

**Feb. 18: Forgiveness Sunday** - the Lenten fast follows.

**Feb. 19: Great Lent begins** - Clean Monday.

It is a good time to discuss the period of Lent with your family and Parish friends to see how you can make this upcoming Lenten season one of withdrawal and a time to work on your soul and body for its purification and your salvation for a union with God. We Orthodox call this theosis. While we are saved by the grace of God we are required to exercise our own wills to align our soul's will with God's will and to live His commandments. Since we have the tendency for sin, and because of our culture, we are continually stimulated by our bodily and earthly desires, this period is an important one for those of us who have chosen the path of marriage.

# NEWS MEMORIALS

Sunday, January 21, The 2 year memorial for Jimmy Chatos. Coffee will be hosted by his family on January 21st.

## ORTHODOXY CLASS

**Living the Orthodox Life: An Introduction to the Orthodox Faith** will again be offered beginning February 1st. The class will meet at 6:00 pm every Thursday. Classes will be held in the Library. Call the Office to register 233-8531.

## BIBLE STUDY

Come join us at **10:00am on Wednesdays** for in-depth study of our Holy Scripture.

## CHOIR

Choir practice Wednesday....Time 7:00 pm...New members are gladly welcomed.

## MAKE PLANS FOR HOLY WEEK!

Holy Week is the first week of April. Pascha is April 8. Make your plans now so you can attend all the important services during Holy Week!

## CONFESSION

You should participate in this sacrament a couple times each year for your spiritual growth along the path of Theosis or Salvation. To arrange for Confession please call the church office and make an appointment with Father Tom through Allene, 233-8531. For guidelines and information on Confession go to our web site and go to tab on sacraments or use the direct link below. (<http://www.stgeorgegreenville.org/Sacraments/Confession.html>) There you will find many questions for self-examination.

## TSOUREKI (EASTER BREAD)

Philoptochos is taking orders for Ester Tsourekis (Bread). Please call Haido Pourlos at 246-7104 to order now.

# EVENTS

## MARDI GRAS

The Daughters of Evrytania and the Greek School PTO are going to celebrate Mardi Gras with a dance on Sunday night Feb.18th.

## HELLENIC DANCE FESTIVAL

Beginning on Feb. 3, the Hellenic Dance Festival will be held in Clearwater, Florida.

## AHEPA MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

February 9 - 11, 2007 in Spartanburg, SC Luncheon on Saturday followed by a Greek Night dance at the Auditorium.

# INFORMATION

## DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MYSPACE?

Myspace is a social networking website offering an interactive, user-submitted network of friends, personal profiles, blogs, groups, photos, music, and videos.

Currently it's the world's fourth most popular English-language website, the sixth most popular website in any language and the third most popular website in the United States, though it has topped the chart on various weeks (note it is possible that other websites have a greater number of unique visitors).

It has become an increasingly influential part of contemporary popular culture.

For more information about MySpace, visit <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MySpace> or <http://www.myspace.com/>

## Reality of Youth Culture

The virtual community of MySpace is a microcosm of youth culture. Teens in this virtual community freely express themselves in many different ways. Unfortunately, a lot of them choose not to express themselves as Christians. It doesn't take long for one to find a MySpace page with references to drugs, alcohol, sexuality, or violence. In this way, MySpace represents the reality of youth culture. Our youth are pressured from media and advertisers to grow up quickly, experiencing aspects of life that many young people are not physically or emotionally prepared to experience.

## Lost in the World

The idea of a loving Christian community assisting parents with the job of raising children is lost in our society. Many young people and adults do not have a firm grasp that the Church is the Body of Christ, a living community where members pray, worship, and commune together.

## Bottom Line

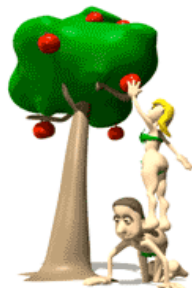
Online communities like MySpace illustrate how easy it is for teens to get lost in contemporary society and emphasizes the necessity for each parish to have a thriving youth program with dynamic leadership.

As a parent, check it out. Ask your kids about it and see what they think. Have them show you how they use it.

Above from the Archdiocese Youth eLetter [YOUTH@LISTSERV.GOARCH.ORG](mailto:YOUTH@LISTSERV.GOARCH.ORG)

Note: Some of our youth use FaceBook, <http://www.facebook.com>. Explore how these networks can help build stronger Church youth links.

## TOP TEN REASONS EVE WAS CREATED



**10.** God was worried that Adam would frequently become lost in the garden because he would not ask for directions.

**9.** God knew that one day Adam would require someone to locate and hand him the remote.

**8.** God knew Adam would never go out and buy himself a new fig leaf when his wore out and would therefore need Eve to buy one for him.

**7.** God knew Adam would never be able to make a doctor's, dentist, or haircut appointment for himself.

**6.** God knew Adam would never remember which night to put the garbage on the curb.

**5.** God knew if the world was to be populated, men would never be able to handle the pain and discomfort of childbearing.

**4.** As the Keeper of the Garden, Adam would never remember where he left his tools.

**3.** Apparently, Adam needed someone to blame his troubles on when God caught him hiding in the garden.

**2.** As the Bible says, It is not good for man to be alone!

And finally, the Number 1 reason why God created Eve . . .

**1.** When God finished the creation of Adam, He stepped back, scratched his head, and said, "I can do better than that."

## WINTER YOUTH RALLY IN ATLANTA



# SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL NEWS - THE SECOND PAGE

January/February						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>14</b> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy 1 year memorial Peter Kourlas 3 yr memorial Thomas Katsaros	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> House Blessings 4:10p Greek School	<b>17 +</b> House Blessings 10:00a Bible Study 12:00 Agape Luncheon 4:10p Greek School 7:00p Daughters of Evrytania	<b>18</b> House Blessings 9:30 am Liturgy Athanasius 4:10p Greek School 7:00pm Daughters of Penelope	<b>19 +</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy 2 yr memorial for Jimmy Chatos	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 4:10p Greek School	<b>24 +</b> 10:00a Bible Study 4:10p Greek School	<b>25</b> 4:10p Greek School	<b>26 +</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Triodion Begins 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee:	<b>29</b> FAST FREE	<b>30</b> FAST FREE 9:30am Divine Liturgy - Three Hierarchs 4:10p Greek School	<b>31</b> FAST FREE 10:00a Bible Study 4:10p Greek School	<b>1</b> FAST FREE 4:10p Greek School 6:00pm Living the Orthodox Life: An Introductory class on Orthodoxy	<b>2</b> FAST FREE 9:30am Divine Liturgy - Presentation of our Lord	<b>3</b> FAST FREE HDF - Clearwater, FL
<b>4</b> Sunday of Prodigal Son 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 4:10p Greek School	<b>7 +</b> 10:00a Bible Study 4:10p Greek School	<b>8</b> 4:10p Greek School 6:00pm Living the Orthodox Life: An Introductory class on Orthodoxy	<b>9</b> 🍷	<b>10</b> 10:00am Saturday of Souls
<b>11</b> Godparent's Day Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday) 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy	<b>12</b> 🍷 6:00p Parish Council	<b>13</b> 🍷 4:10p Greek School 7:00p AHEPA	<b>14</b> 🍷 10:00a Bible Study 4:10p Greek School 12:00 Agape Luncheon	<b>15</b> 🍷 4:10p Greek School 7:00p Daughters of Penelope 6:00pm Living the Orthodox Life: An Introductory class on Orthodoxy	<b>16</b> 🍷	<b>17</b> 🍷 10:00am Saturday of Souls
<b>18</b> Forgiveness Sunday 9:00a Orthros 10:00a Divine Liturgy Mardi Gras Dance	<b>19 +</b> Lent Begins	<b>20 +</b> 4:10p Greek School	<b>21 +</b> 4:10p Greek School	<b>22 +</b> 4:10p Greek School 6:00pm Living the Orthodox Life: An Introductory class on Orthodoxy	<b>23 +</b>	<b>24</b> 🍷 10:00am Saturday of Souls

Fasting guidelines from the Archdiocese calendar:  fish allowed  Wine and oil allowed  Strict Fast  
 Dairy, eggs and fish allowed

## ΚΟΙΝΟΤΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ

### ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ, 21 ΙΑΝΟΥΑΡΙΟΥ

Ορθρος 9:00πμ  
Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00πμ

### ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ, 28 ΙΑΝΟΥΑΡΙΟΥ

Ορθρος 9:00πμ  
Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00πμ

### ΚΑΘΗΜΕΡΙΝΕΣ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΕΣ

Πέμπτη, 18 Ιανουαρίου - 9:30πμ - Αγίου Αθανασίου

Τρίτη, 30 Ιανουαρίου - 9:30πμ - Τριών Ιεραρχών

Παρασκευή, 2 Φεβρουαρίου - 9:30πμ  
Υπαπαντή του Χριστού

### ΤΣΟΥΡΕΚΙΑ

Η Φίλοππαχος παίρνει παραγγελίες για τσουρέκια για το Πάσχα. Τηλεφωνήστε την Χαϊδά Πουρλου - 246-7104 να παραγγείλετε.

### ΜΝΗΜΟΣΥΝΟ

Την Κυριακή, 21 Ιανουαρίου θα τελεσθεί μνημοσύνη 2 ετών προς μνήμη του Δημητρίου Τσιατού. Ο καφές θα δώδη από την οικογένεια.

### ΜΑΘΗΜΑΤΑ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΙΑΣ

Την Πέμπτη, 1 Φεβρουαρίου θα αρχίσουν μαθήματα για οσους από εσάς θέλετε να μαθεύετε για την Ορθοδοξία μας. Η τάξη θα είναι κάθε Πέμπτη στις 6:00μμ στην βιβλιοθήκη.

### ΑΠΟΚΡΙΕΣ

Οι Θυγατέρες Ευρυτανίας και το Ελληνικό Σχολείο προσκαλούν την κοινότητα στο ετήσιο Αποκριτικό χορό τους την Κυριακή, 18 Φεβρουαρίου.

### ΕΞΟΜΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ

Πρέπει να πηγαίνουμε για εξομολόγηση τουλάχιστον 2 φορές τον χρόνο. Αυτό το μυστήριο είναι αναγκαίο για την Σωτηρία μας. Τηλεφωνήστε στο γραφείο να κλείσετε ραντεβού με τον Πατέρα Αθανασίο για εξομολόγηση.

### Letters to the Pastor

Dear Pastor, My mother is very religious. She goes to play bingo at church every week even if she has a cold. Yours truly, Annette. Age 9, Albany

Dear Pastor, I think a lot more people would come to your church if you moved it to Disneyland. Loreen. Age 9. Tacoma

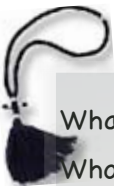




# Living the Orthodox Christian Life

An Introduction to Orthodoxy

*Begins February 1st.*



What is the Purpose of our life?  
 Who is God?  
 How are we saved?  
 How does God guide us?  
 What is a life of Repentance?  
 How Do I Pray?  
 What happens when we die?  
 How do Saints help us?  
 Why do we fast?  
 How do the Sacraments help us?

A twelve week class will begin on Thursday, February 1st from 6:00 - 7:30 pm.

This class covers the basic catechism of the Orthodox faith. It is for those who are seeking to deepen their spiritual life and want to learn how to live the Orthodox Christian life. You May already be Orthodox wanting to know more about your faith or curious about Orthodoxy wanting to learn about what the ancient Church teaches us about the Christian way of life.

All are welcome. No Charge. Call 233-8531

[www.stgeorgegreenville.org](http://www.stgeorgegreenville.org)



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