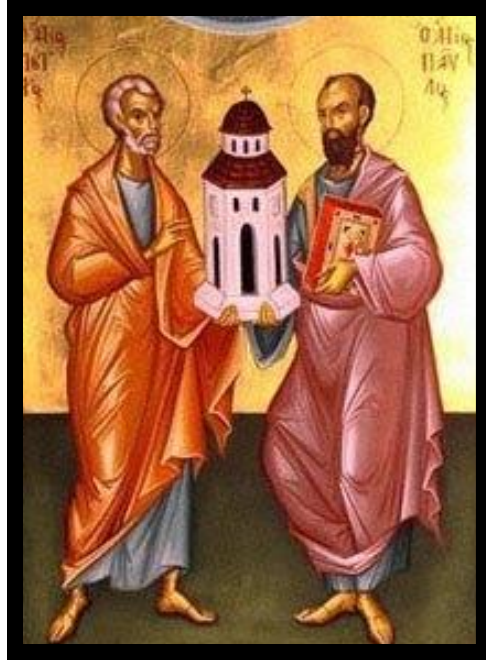


# **HOLY APOSTLES PETER & PAUL JUNE 29TH, 2014**



## **STS. RAPHAEL, NICHOLAS AND IRENE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**Rev. Fr. Barnabas Powell, Proistamenos**  
**Jimmy Smith, Psaltis**  
**3074 Bethelview Road † Cumming GA 30040**  
**(770) 781-5250      cell (770) 861-3544      [www.stsrni.org](http://www.stsrni.org)**

**We are an intentional Orthodox Christian Community for North Georgia!**

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# WORSHIP

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## *Second Eothinon/Tone First*

*We are so very glad you have joined us today, and we pray you will be inspired and encouraged by your time with us.*

*The Orthodox worship service is an ancient and timeless expression of how people have loved, served and worshipped God for many centuries, but it may be a bit of a different experience for you. Please feel free to use a service book or not and simply allow the words of the service to wash over you.*

*The central act of our worship culminates in people receiving communion. This is a very special time for us all and we have some specific beliefs about our communion together. This is why we never impose this service on those who are not prepared or are not baptized Orthodox. This service may raise questions in your mind. Please feel free to ask Fr. Barnabas or Fr. Paul anything you wish after the service.*

*At the end of the service EVERYONE is invited to come forward and receive a portion of the "blessed bread" from Fr. Barnabas. No one should leave church "hungry!"*

*Know you are welcome and we are glad you are here.  
May God bless you and your family.*

### *Apolytikion in honor of Sts. Raphael, Nicholas & Irene*

*Having contended on Lesbos for the sake of Christ God, you have sanctified the island since the discovery of your sacred relics, O blessed ones; wherefore we honor you, O Godbearing Raphael, together with Nicholas and virgin Irene, as our divine protectors and intercessors with the Lord.*

### Service Schedule for the Week

Wednesday, July 2nd 6:30 p.m. Vespers followed by Orthodoxy 101

Saturday, July 5th 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Parish Council On Duty Today - Bill Manos and Harald Hagen

Ushering Ministry - PC/Parishioners

Welcoming Ministry - Sharon Tyre

Fellowship Ministry - Evon Patrick

### ACOLYTES

Jacob Atkinson, Mike & Peter Jordanopolos, Spiro Kefalas, Thomas Miller, Mike Trainor, Alex & Niko Tzevelekos and Christos Zourzoukis

### SENIOR ACOLYTES

Mike Manos, Dean Pryles

### 2014 Parish Council-I

**John Patrick, President; Harald Hagen, Vice President; Kosta Bozzuto, Secretary; Chris Foxhall, Treasurer; David Chapman, Marie Chapman, Bill Manos, Johnny Melts, Greg Pappas, Plutarch Vamvakias**

Please pray for those faithful who are currently in need of our most fervent intercessions:  
**Andrew, Angie, Bill, Bill, Brent, Carrie, Demetra, Diane, Dina, Donna, Ela, Elaine, Elizabeth, Christina, George, Gus, Harriet, Heidi, Igli, James, Jamie, Jerry, Joe, Maria, Michael, Nicky, Oni, Patsy, Paul, Peter, Presvytera Connie, Taki, Tara, Violeta, John & Sheila Consos, Katherine & Sam Yalanzon**

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# TODAY WE REMEMBER

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## Holy Apostles Peter & Paul

**Reading:** The divinely-blessed Peter was from Bethsaida of Galilee. He was the son of Jonas and the brother of Andrew the First-called. He was a fisherman by trade, unlearned and poor, and was called Simon; later he was renamed Peter by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, Who looked at him and said, "Thou art Simon the son of Jonas; thou shalt be called Cephas (which is by interpretation, Peter)" (John 1:42). On being raised by the Lord to the dignity of an Apostle and becoming inseparable from Him as His zealous disciple, he followed Him from the beginning of His preaching of salvation up until the very Passion, when, in the court of Caiaphas the high priest, he denied Him thrice because of his fear of the Jews and of the danger at hand. But again, after many bitter tears, he received complete forgiveness of his transgression. After the Resurrection of Christ and the descent of the Holy Spirit, he preached in Judea, Antioch, and certain parts of Asia, and finally came to Rome, where he was crucified upside down by Nero, and thus he ascended to the eternal habitations about the year 66 or 68, leaving two Catholic (General) Epistles to the Church of Christ.

Paul, the chosen vessel of Christ, the glory of the Church, the Apostle of the Nations and teacher of the whole world, was a Jew by race, of the tribe of Benjamin, having Tarsus as his homeland. He was a Roman citizen, fluent in the Greek language, an expert in knowledge of the Law, a Pharisee, born of a Pharisee, and a disciple of Gamaliel, a Pharisee and notable teacher of the Law in Jerusalem. For this cause, from the beginning, Paul was a most fervent zealot for the traditions of the Jews and a great persecutor of the Church of Christ; at that time, his name was Saul (Acts 22:3-4). In his great passion of rage and fury against the disciples of the Lord, he went to Damascus bearing letters of introduction from the high priest. His intention was to bring the disciples of Christ back to Jerusalem in bonds. As he was approaching Damascus, about midday there suddenly shone upon him a light from Heaven. Falling on the earth, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" And he asked, "Who art Thou, Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus Whom thou persecutest; it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." And that heavenly voice and brilliance made him tremble, and he was blinded for a time. He was led by the hand into the city, and on account of a divine revelation to the Apostle Ananias (see Oct. 1), he was baptized by him, and both his bodily and spiritual eyes were opened to the knowledge of the Sun of Righteousness. And straightway - O wondrous transformation! - beyond all expectation, he spoke with boldness in the synagogues, proclaiming that "Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 9:1-21). As for his zeal in preaching the Gospel after these things had come to pass, as for his unabating labors and afflictions of diverse kinds, the wounds, the prisons, the bonds, the beatings, the stonings, the shipwrecks, the journeys, the perils on land, on sea, in cities, in wildernesses, the continual vigils, the daily fasting, the hunger, the thirst, the nakedness, and all those other things that he endured for the Name of Christ, and which he underwent before nations and kings and the Israelites, and above all, his care for all the churches, his fiery longing for the salvation of all, whereby he became all things to all men, that he might save them all if possible, and because of which, with his heart aflame, he continuously traveled throughout all parts, visiting them all, and like a bird of heaven flying from Asia and Europe, the West and East, neither staying nor abiding in any one place - all these things are related incident by incident in the Book of the Acts, and as he himself tells them in his Epistles. His Epistles, being fourteen in number, are explained in 250 homilies by the divine Chrysostom and make manifest the loftiness of his thoughts, the abundance of the revelations made to him, the wisdom given to him from God, wherewith he brings together in a wondrous manner the Old with the New Testaments, and expounds the mysteries thereof which had been concealed under types; he confirms the doctrines of the Faith, expounds the ethical teaching of the Gospel, and demonstrates with exactness the duties incumbent upon every rank, age, and order of man. In all these things his teaching proved to be a spiritual trumpet, and his speech was seen to be more radiant than the sun, and by these means he clearly sounded forth the word of truth and illumined the ends of the world. Having completed the work of his ministry, he likewise ended his life in martyrdom when he was beheaded in Rome during the reign of Nero, at the same time, some say, when Peter was crucified.

**Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone:** First in prominence among the Apostles, and teachers to the Universe, intercede to the Master of all for peace in the world and for our souls great mercy.

**Kontakion in the Second Tone:** O Lord, receive unto the enjoyment of Your good things and Your rest, the steadfast preachers of Godly words, the pinnacle of Your Disciples. Receive their pain and death above every sacrifice, for You alone know the hearts of men.

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# EPISTLE READING

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## The Reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 11:21-33; 12:1-9



Prokeimenon. Mode 4.

Psalm 18.4.1

Their voice has gone out into all the earth.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God.

**BRETHREN**, whatever anyone dares to boast of -- I am speaking as a fool -- I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one -- I am talking like a madman -- with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. Five times I have received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned. Three times I have been shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brethren; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure upon me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows -- and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

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# GOSPEL READING

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The Reading is from  
Matthew 16:13-19



At that time, Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

ΑΩ

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐλθὼν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς τὰ μέρη Καισαρείας τῆς Φιλιππου ἠρώτα τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ λέγων· τίνα με λέγουσιν οἱ ἄνθρωποι εἶναι τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου; οἱ δὲ εἶπον· οἱ μὲν Ἰωάννην τὸν βαπτιστὴν, ἄλλοι δὲ Ἡλίαν, ἕτεροι δὲ Ἰερεμίαν ἢ ἓνα τῶν προφητῶν. λέγει αὐτοῖς· ὑμεῖς δὲ τίνα με λέγετε εἶναι; ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ Σίμων Πέτρος εἶπε· σὺ εἶ ὁ Χριστὸς ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ζῶντος. καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτῷ· μακάριος εἶ, Σίμων Βαριωνᾶ, ὅτι σὰρξ καὶ αἷμα οὐκ ἀπεκάλυψέ σοι, ἀλλ' ὁ πατὴρ μου ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς. καὶ ἐγὼ δέ σοι λέγω ὅτι σὺ εἶ Πέτρος, καὶ ἐπὶ ταύτῃ τῇ πέτρᾳ οἰκοδομήσω μου τὴν ἐκκλησίαν, καὶ πύλαι ᾄδου οὐ κατισχύσουσιν αὐτῆς. καὶ δώσω σοι τὰς κλεῖς τῆς βασιλείας τῶν οὐρανῶν, καὶ ὃ ἐὰν δήσης ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ἔσται δεδεμένον ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς, καὶ ὃ ἐὰν λύσης ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ἔσται λελυμένον ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς. τότε διεστείλατο τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ ἵνα μηδενὶ εἰπῶσιν ὅτι αὐτὸς ἐστὶν Ἰησοῦς ὁ Χριστός.

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# LITURGICAL SCHEDULE & UPCOMING EVENTS

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Father Barnabas is available to hear confession every Wednesday either before or after Vespers and by appointment. Please call or email the church office to request a time to meet with Father and avail yourself to this healing divine mystery of the Church.

Father Paul is available on Sunday during Orthros to hear confession, but no later than 9:20 a.m. Please phone the church office to make an appointment.

Please call the Church office for more information **(770) 781-5250**.

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**TODAY, June 29th**

8:45 a.m. Orthros

9:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy

David & Michelle Boyd will be received as Catechumens today following the homily.

A General Assembly Meeting will be held immediately following the Divine Liturgy **TODAY**. Please stay to help make progress in growing our Parish possible.

**“Friends of Cyprus Night”** at Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church—3431 Trickum Road, Marietta 30066 - 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Parish Life Center. Pot Luck Dinner—Please bring a Cypriot dish to share. Guest Presenter—Polyxeni Economidou Potter, Honorary Consul of Cyprus. **RSVP to Maria Alberts, mariaalberts@comcast.net or 404-966-6694.**

**Wednesday, July 2nd**

**6:30 p.m. Vespers followed by  
Orthodoxy 101**

**Friday, July 4th**

**OFFICE CLOSED for Independence Day**

**Saturday, July 5th**

**5 p.m. Great Vespers**

**Sunday, July 6th-Thursday, July 10th**

**42nd Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress in Philadelphia, PA**

**SAVE THE DATE - Sunday, August 10th - HOPE/JOY Back-to-School  
Swim Party - Watch for more information.**



**To date the 89 families below have returned  
Stewardship Commitment Cards for 2014.**

James & Angeline Andropoulos  
George & Maria Andros  
Sarante & Julie Athenson  
Stephen & Deane Barnard  
Matthew & Brittany Beckett  
Anthony & Mary Birozes  
Renee Birozes  
Jordan & Lisa Boston  
David & Michelle Boyd  
Kosta & Carolyn Bozzuto  
Lenny Brown  
David & Marie Chapman  
Russell & Chyrisse Chason  
Grace Chihlas  
Julie Chokos  
Giles & Emily Christie  
Eddie & Connie Clark  
Connie Condos  
John & Sheila Consos  
Keith & Mary Druffner  
Gregory & Mariya Dunkel  
Quay & Trissie Farr  
Chris & Elizabeth Foxhall  
Robert & Jennifer Guano  
Harald & Stamatia Hagen  
Allison Hammond  
Christine Hatcher  
Michael & Ann Costakis Hayes  
Harriet Howell  
Mark & Jennie Johnson  
Eleni Jordan  
Panagiotis & Melanie Jordanopoulos  
Vasilis & Mary Kaloudis  
Jim Kanellos  
Aphrodite Levendakis-Kazazakis  
Tasso & Laura Kefalas  
Paul Kremer  
Melanie Loumakis  
David & Lynne Lucher  
Archie & Florence Lytle  
Tina Maheras  
Wade & Andrea Mancil  
Angelica Manolakis  
Kiki Manolakis  
William & Margaret Manos  
Bill & Audrey Marianes  
Riley & Ann Marvos  
George Matthews  
Al & Helen McCart  
Johnny Melts  
Bill & Mary Milam  
Matthew & Athena Miller  
Nikolaos Moissiadias  
Patricia Morris  
Nicolas & Teddie Panos  
Constantinos & Evelyn Pantazopoulos  
Lazaros & Christina Papadopoulos  
Gregory Pappas  
Gus Pappas  
Tom & Lillian Pappas  
John & Evon Patrick  
Michele Perry  
Mihai & Heidi Popa  
Fr. Barnabas & Presvytera Connie Powell  
Pam Powers  
Vic & Suzi Pryles  
Marina Raymond  
Donna Sagnelli  
Mary Samaltanos  
Dina Sarandis  
Taka & Kathy Shoji  
Jimmy Smith  
Estelle Sofikitis  
George & Anna Sofikitis  
James Stockdill  
Koko & Carol Tadors  
Steven & Thalia Thompson  
Ed & Anne Trainor  
Nick & Eva Thrasivoulou  
Brian & Jennifer Tubbs  
Greg Tzevelekos/Evie Atkinson  
Rusty & Christine Waldron  
Diane Walters  
Steven & Smara Wolff  
Plutarch & Tina Vamvakias  
Len Vanerstrom  
Jacob & Katherine Wilson  
Sam & Katherine Yalanzon  
George & Thalia Zazanis