

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA APRIL 20TH, 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**

We are an intentional Orthodox Christian Community for North Georgia!

WORSHIP

Second Eothinon

To Our Visitors and Guests

Thank you for being here this morning. The ancient worship of the Greek Orthodox Church is both mysterious and beautiful and it is meant to draw all of us closer to communion with Christ. That's the reason why Communion (the Eucharist) is the center of our Orthodox Divine Liturgy. We Orthodox believe that the Eucharist is the very Body and Blood of Christ and we confess this every time the Liturgy is celebrated. This is one of the many reasons why the Orthodox Church practices "close" communion. Only those who have been baptized Orthodox Christians and who have also prepared themselves to receive the Bread and Wine are permitted to approach the Chalice for the sacrament. Please feel free to ask Fr. Barnabas about this after the service and he will try to answer your questions. Regardless, no one leaves Church hungry, so EVERYONE is invited to receive the blessed bread at the end of the service. Again, we are honored that you are here with us today!

Apolytikion in honor of Sts. Raphael, Nicholas & Irene

Having contended on Lesvos 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.

Schedule of Upcoming Services

Today, 11 a.m. Vespers of the Feast of Love (Agape)
Followed by the Baptism of Anastasia & Alexandra "Fotini" Lytle
Easter Egg Hunt for the children
Parish Family Potluck Lunch

Bright Tuesday, April 22 - Orthros 8:00 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

Great Vespers will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Followed by a Lamb Dinner Celebration

All Parish Council Members on Duty

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

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

TODAY WE REMEMBER

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

Reading: Mary Magdalene, and the other women who were present at the burial of our Saviour on Friday evening, returned from Golgotha to the city and prepared fragrant spices and myrrh, so that they might anoint the body of Jesus. On the morrow, because of the law which forbids work on the day of the Sabbath, they rested for the whole day. But at early dawn on the Sunday that followed, almost thirty-six hours since the death of the Life-giving Redeemer, they came to the sepulchre with the spices to anoint His body. While they were considering the difficulty of rolling away the stone from the door of the sepulchre, there was a fearful earthquake; and an Angel, whose countenance shone like lightning and whose garment was white as snow, rolled away the stone and sat upon it. The guards that were there became as dead from fear and took to flight. The women, however, went into the sepulchre, but did not find the Lord's body. Instead, they saw two other Angels in the form of youths clothed in white, who told them that the Saviour was risen, and they sent forth the women, who ran to proclaim to the disciples these gladsome tidings. Then Peter and John arrived, having learned from Mary Magdalene what had come to pass, and when they entered the tomb, they found only the winding sheets. Therefore, they returned again to the city with joy, as heralds now of the supernatural Resurrection of Christ, Who in truth was seen alive by the disciples on this day on five occasions.

Our Lord, then, was crucified, died, and was buried on Friday, before the setting of the sun, which was the first of His "three days" in the grave; observing the mystical Sabbath, that "seventh day" in which it is said that the Lord "rested from all His works" (Gen. 2:2-3), He passed all of Saturday in the grave; and He arose "while it was yet dark, very early in the morning" on Sunday, the third day, which, according to the Hebrew reckoning, began after sunset on Saturday.

As we celebrate today this joyous Resurrection, we greet and embrace one another in Christ, thereby demonstrating our Saviour's victory over death and corruption, and the destruction of our ancient enmity with God, and His reconciliation toward us, and our inheritance of life everlasting. The feast itself is called Pascha, which is derived from the Hebrew word which means "passover"; because Christ, Who suffered and arose, has made us to pass over from the curse of Adam and slavery to the devil and death unto our primal freedom and blessedness. In addition, this day of this particular week, which is the first of all the rest, is dedicated to the honour of the Lord; in honour and remembrance of the Resurrection, the Apostles transferred to this day the rest from labour that was formerly assigned to the Sabbath of the ancient Law.

All foods allowed during Renewal Week.

Apolytikion in the Plagal of the First Tone: Christ is risen from the dead, by death hath He trampled down death, and on those in the graves hath He bestowed life.

Kontakion in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone: Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

We Also Remember

Theodore the Trichinas

Zacchaeus the Apostle of Caesaria

Gregory & Anastasios, Patriarchs of Antioch

EPISTLE READING

The Reading is from Acts of the Apostles 1:1-8



IN THE FIRST BOOK, O Theophilos, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

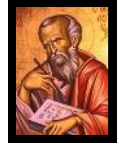
So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel?" He said to them, "it is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

Α Ω

Τὸν μὲν πρῶτον λόγον ἐποίησάμην περὶ πάντων, ὦ Θεόφιλε, ὃν ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησοῦς ποιεῖν τε καὶ διδάσκειν ἄχρι ἧς ἡμέρας ἐντειλάμενος τοῖς ἀποστόλοις διὰ πνεύματος ἁγίου οὗς ἐξελέξατο ἀνελήμφθη· οἷς καὶ παρέστησεν ἑαυτὸν ζῶντα μετὰ τὸ παθεῖν αὐτὸν ἐν πολλοῖς τεκμηρίοις, δι' ἡμερῶν τεσσαράκοντα ὀπτανόμενος αὐτοῖς καὶ λέγων τὰ περὶ τῆς βασιλείας τοῦ θεοῦ. Καὶ συναλιζόμενος παρήγγειλεν αὐτοῖς ἀπὸ Ἱεροσολύμων μὴ χωρίζεσθαι, ἀλλὰ περιμένειν τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν τοῦ πατρὸς ἣν ἠκούσατέ μου· ὅτι Ἰωάννης μὲν ἐβάπτισεν ὕδατι, ὑμεῖς δὲ ἐν πνεύματι βαπτισθήσεσθε ἁγίῳ οὐ μετὰ πολλὰς ταύτας ἡμέρας. Οἱ μὲν οὖν συνελθόντες ἠρώτων αὐτὸν λέγοντες, Κύριε, εἰ ἐν τῷ χρόνῳ τούτῳ ἀποκαθιστάνεις τὴν βασιλείαν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ; εἶπεν δὲ πρὸς αὐτούς, Οὐχ ὑμῶν ἐστιν γινῶναι χρόνους ἢ καιροὺς οὗς ὁ πατὴρ ἔθετο ἐν τῇ ἰδίᾳ ἐξουσίᾳ· ἀλλὰ λήμψεσθε δύναμιν ἐπελθόντος τοῦ ἁγίου πνεύματος ἐφ' ὑμᾶς, καὶ ἐσεσθέ μου μάρτυρες ἐν τε Ἱερουσαλὴμ καὶ ἐν πάσῃ τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ καὶ Σαμαρείᾳ καὶ ἕως ἐσχάτου τῆς γῆς.

GOSPEL READING

The Reading is from John 1:1-17



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Α Ω

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος. Οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν. Πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἓν, ὃ γέγονεν ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν, καὶ ἡ ζωὴ ἦν τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀνθρώπων καὶ τὸ φῶς ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ φαίνει, καὶ ἡ σκοτία αὐτὸ οὐ κατέλαβεν.

Ἐγένετο ἄνθρωπος ἀπεσταλμένος παρὰ Θεοῦ, ὄνομα αὐτῷ Ἰωάννης· οὗτος ἦλθεν εἰς μαρτυρίαν, ἵνα μαρτυρήσῃ περὶ τοῦ φωτός, ἵνα πάντες πιστεύσωσιν δι' αὐτοῦ. Οὐκ ἦν ἐκεῖνος τὸ φῶς, ἀλλ' ἵνα μαρτυρήσῃ περὶ τοῦ φωτός.

Ἦν τὸ φῶς τὸ ἀληθινόν, ὃ φωτίζει πάντα ἄνθρωπον, ἐρχόμενον εἰς τὸν κόσμον. Ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἦν, καὶ ὁ κόσμος δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ ὁ κόσμος αὐτὸν οὐκ ἔγνω. Εἰς τὰ ἴδια ἦλθεν, καὶ οἱ ἴδιοι αὐτὸν οὐ παρέλαβον. Ὅσοι δὲ ἔλαβον αὐτόν, ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ἐξουσίαν τέκνα Θεοῦ γενέσθαι, τοῖς πιστεύουσιν εἰς τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ, οἳα οὐκ ἐξ αἱμάτων οὐδὲ ἐκ θελήματος σαρκὸς οὐδὲ ἐκ θελήματος ἀνδρὸς ἀλλ' ἐκ Θεοῦ ἐγεννήθησαν.

Καὶ ὁ λόγος σὰρξ ἐγένετο καὶ ἐσκήνωσεν ἐν ἡμῖν, καὶ ἐθεασάμεθα τὴν δόξαν αὐτοῦ, δόξαν ὡς μονογενοῦς παρὰ πατρός, πλήρης χάριτος καὶ ἀληθείας. Ἰωάννης μαρτυρεῖ περὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ κέκραγεν λέγων, Οὗτος ἦν ὃν εἶπον, Ὁ ὀπίσω μου ἐρχόμενος ἔμπροσθέν μου γέγονεν, ὅτι πρῶτός μου ἦν. Ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ πληρώματος αὐτοῦ ἡμεῖς πάντες ἐλάβομεν, καὶ χάριν ἀντὶ χάριτος· ὅτι ὁ νόμος διὰ Μωϋσέως ἐδόθη, ἡ χάρις καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια διὰ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἐγένετο.

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

Christ is risen

Ἦχος λ̣ ἰ Πα

(7)

Christ is risen from the dead
by death tramping down upon death
and to those in the tombs He has
granted life

Christ is Risen Paschal Troparion (plagal first mode)

Christ is risen from the dead by
death tramping down upon death
and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

**CHRIS-TOS A-NE-S-TI EK NE-KRON THA-NA-TO THA-
NA-TON PA-TI-SAS, KE TIS EN TIS MNI-MA-SI, ZO-IN
CHA-RI-SA-ME-NOS.**

Χριστος Ανεστη εκ νεκρων,
Qanatw Qanaton pathsaV,
kai toiV en toiV mnhmasi, zwhn carisamenoV.

Christos Anesti ek naykrone
Thanato Thanaton pateesas
Kay teas en teas mnemasee, zo een kah ree sa menos

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 22nd, Bright Tuesday
Sts. Raphael, Nicholas & Irene Feast Day

8 a.m. Orthros

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

5 p.m. Great Vespers

Lamb Dinner Celebration

You are invited to attend a special Orthros & Divine Liturgy beginning at 8 a.m. and Great Vespers at 5 p.m. for our Name Day on Bright Tuesday, April 22nd.

Following the service, we will continue the celebration with a wonderful evening meal and fellowship. We hope all our Sts. RNI family will plan to be there.

Dinner tickets will be available in the Narthex immediately following the Divine Liturgy and will be sold on the day of the event with a suggested donation of \$12 for ages 10 to adults and \$6 for children ages 4-9 and ages 3 & under are free.

To help us plan for the event, please let a Parish Council member know how many adults and children will be in your group.

We look forward to seeing you there!

John Patrick
Parish Council President



Mark Your Calendar!
Metropolis of Atlanta
Annual Pascha Picnic

Saturday April 26th, 2014

At Diakonia Retreat Center, Salem SC

Agape Vesper Service at 11 a.m. Followed by Panegyri

His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios invites you all for a Day or Weekend of Family Worship, Food, Fun and Fellowship!

For more information, contact
Diakonia Center at 843.944.6788 or e-mail us diakoniacenter@yahoo.com
or Father Vasile Bitere 706.888.8382 frvasile@bellsouth.net
www.diakoniaretreatcenter.org

~ ~ ~

**To date the 79 families below have returned
Stewardship Commitment Cards for 2014.
Total Pledged: \$118,662.00 - Average Pledge: \$1,483.28
2014 Budget: \$277,586 - Shortage: \$158,924**

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
Grace Chihlas
Julie Chokos
Giles & Emily Christie
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
Michael & Ann Hayes
Harriet Howell
Mark & Jennie Johnson
Eleni Jordan
Panagiotis & Melanie Jordanopoulos
Vasilis & Mary Kaloudis
Aphrodite Levendakis-Kazazakis
Melanie Loumakis
David & Lynne Lucher
Archie & Florence Lytle
Tina Maheras
Wade & Andrea Mancil
William & Margaret Manos
Bill & Audrey Marianes
Riley & Ann Marvos
George Matthews
Al & Helen McCart
Johnny Melts
Bill & Mary Milam
Matthew & Athena Miller
Nikolaos Moissiadis

Patricia Morris
Nicolas & Teddie Panos
Constantinos & Evelyn Pantazopoulos
Lazaros & Christina Papadopoulos
Gregory Pappas
Gus 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
Koko & Carol Tadros
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