



# GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE ANNUNCIATION

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Rev. Father Paul A. Kaplanis, Dean  
Rev. Father Christos P. Mars, Presbyter  
Stephen Georgeson, Parish Council President (404) 872-0451  
stephengeorgeson@bellsouth.net



METROPOLIS  
OF ATLANTA

Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 - Κυριακή, 25η Δεκεμβρίου 2011  
THE NATIVITY OF OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST  
Η ΓΕΝΝΗΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ



*We are Blessed to Have our Spiritual Father,  
Metropolitan Alexios Serving the Divine Liturgy today!*



## St. Ephraim the Syrian, Hymns on the Nativity

He became a servant on earth; He was Lord on high.

Inheritor of the height and depth, Who became a stranger.

But the One Who was judged wrongly will judge in truth,  
and He in Whose face they spat, breathed the spirit into the face.

He Who held a weak reed was the scepter for the world that grows old and leans on Him.

He Who stood [and] served His servants, sitting, will be worshipped.

He Whom the Scribes scorned - the Seraphim sang "holy" before Him.

## A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM OUR PRIESTS AND PARISH COUNCIL

As we come to the close of another year, Fr. Paul, Fr. Christos, Stephen Georgeson and all the members of the Parish Council would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to all those parishioners who offered their gifts and talents throughout this past year for the well-being, progress and spiritual growth of our Cathedral Parish Family. St. Paul reminds us in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians chapter 12, verses 4 - 7, that we are blessed with many and sundry gifts, he says, "Now, there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in every one...for the common good." It is God the Father, through His Son Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Spirit that we are united to each other. With Oneness in God, we offer all of our special blessings to His Holy Church and in particular to our Cathedral Parish Family for the common good. We have many exciting challenges in this next year and with great enthusiasm, love and dedication we ask the Lord to extend His Guiding Hand upon us so that we may glorify His All Holy Name. Looking forward to 2012 we pray for the continued health, spiritual growth and progress wishing everyone a Holy and Joyous Christmas and Blessed New Year!

ΚΑΛΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ ΚΑΙ ΕΥΤΥΧΙΣΜΕΝΟΣ Ο ΚΑΙΝΟΥΡΓΟΣ  
ΧΡΟΝΟΣ ΣΕ ΟΛΑ ΤΑ ΜΕΛΗ ΤΟΥ ΚΑΘΕΔΡΙΚΟΥ ΝΑΟΥ!

## NO FASTING THIS WEEK!

Those who strive are thereafter rewarded, therefore fasting is not required beginning December 25<sup>th</sup> through January 4<sup>th</sup>, even on Wednesday and Friday. A reminder that Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany Eve) is a Strict Fast Day to prepare for the Feast of Epiphany, the next day.

# THE NATIVITY OF OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST Η ΓΕΝΝΗΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ

**Today's Epistle Reading: Galatians 4:4-7**  
**Today's Epistle Readers: Charles Nastopoulos**

**R**ETHEREN, when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir of God through Christ.

**Today's Gospel Reading - Matthew 2:1-20**

**N**OW WHEN JESUS WAS BORN IN BETHLEHEM OF JUDEA IN THE DAYS OF HEROD THE KING, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judaea; for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

## Απολυτικιον ' Απολυτίκια

### Απολυτικιον Τῆς Ἑορτῆς Ἦχος δ'

Ἡ γέννησίς σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ, τὸ φῶς τῆς γνώσεως· ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἄστροις λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο· σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Ἰ Γέννησις σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεός ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ, τὸ φῶς τῆς γνώσεως; ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἄστροις λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. Κύριε δόξα σοι.

### Κοντάκιον Τῆς Ἑορτῆς Ἦχος γ'

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν ὑπερούσιον τίκτει, καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ Σπήλαιον, τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει. Ἄγγελοι μετὰ Ποιμένων δοξολογοῦσι. Μάγοι δὲ μετὰ ἀστέρος ὁδοιποροῦσι· δι' ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννήθη, Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων Θεός.

Ἰ Parthénos símeron to lperóusion tíkti, ke I gi to Spíleon, to aprosító prosági. Angeli, metá Piménon doxologóusi, Mágide, metá astéros odiporóusi; di imás gar egenníthi pedíon néon, o pro éonon Theós.

### Apolytikion of the Feast Mode 4.

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.



### Kontakion of the Feast Mode 3.

On this day the Virgin gives birth unto the Super-essential. To the Unapproachable, earth is providing the grotto. Angels sing and with the shepherds offer up glory. Following a star the Magi are still proceeding. He was born for our salvation,\* a newborn Child,\* *the pre-eternal God*.

# ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS:

## Wednesday "Nite" Life

A "Community Night" that is engaging, educational and inspirational to all ages.

Resumes Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>

Brochures available in the Narthex

**P**AREA will resume January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Location to be announced. Have a blessed Christmas and best wishes in the coming New Year 2012. Ladies in our community of all ages are invited to this monthly fellowship to meet newcomers, see old friends. No membership dues. For additional info, directions or carpool, please call Poppy Skoufis 770-491-0592 or Stella Vaughn 404-285-3817.

## **GOYA WINTER YOUTH RALLY**

Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> - Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup>

**Tuesday** -Official Registration 1:00-6:00pm (Marriott Lobby)  
Agiasmo & Opening Ceremony 6:30 pm (Kartos Ballroom)

We are blessed to have 74 of our Goyans participating this year!

## HELLENIC DANCE FESTIVAL 2012

Will be held in Atlanta, January 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. We need volunteers from around our Metropolis to help us welcome everyone throughout the weekend at our registration table, evening events, dance competitions, choral competition, and more. If you would like to support the youth of our Metropolis, please

contact Susan Marinos [susmarinos@aol.com](mailto:susmarinos@aol.com),  
Georgia McClure [georgiamcclure@mindspring.com](mailto:georgiamcclure@mindspring.com)  
or Kiki Papadimitriou 404-803-6050.



## GIFTS OF LOVE APPEAL

Just a reminder that Philoptochos is now in the process of collecting donations to our annual Gifts of Love fund. We ask for your generous donations so we will always be able to minister to those who face uncertain and troubling situations both now and in the future. Your gift is truly a blessing, and we thank you for your continued support and generosity.

*Please make checks payable to Philoptochos and mail to the Cathedral or just drop by our table outside of the Narthex to make your donation.*

## DIAKONIA MAGAZINE

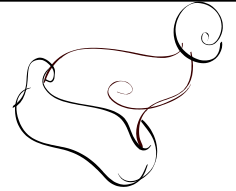
The new issue of the Metropolis Diakonia Magazine is now available! Enlightening and informative articles. Pick one up in the Narthex or Cathedral Bookstore for a nominal donation of \$3.

## THE HELLENIC WOMENS CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Annual Vasilopita Celebration on Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> in Carlos Hall. Short meeting at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!



# ΚΑΛΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ!! Merry Christmas!!



*Outreach Liturgy for those  
with Special Needs  
Annunciation Cathedral  
2500 Clairmont Rd NE, Atlanta, GA  
Saturday, January 21, 2012*

*Liturgy starts at 10 am (no Orthros)  
Confession available from 9:30 am  
Holy Unction following the service  
Reception to follow*

*call Fr. Christos Mars for more information 404 633-5870*



WHERE

HELLENIC COMMUNITY CENTER

2500 Clairmont Rd. NE Atlanta, GA 30329

# NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>

**DOORS OPEN AT 9:30 P.M.**

CONTINUOUS MUSIC AND DANCING PROVIDED BY  
ALPHA OMEGA, DJ JIMMY  
AND FRIENDS

**Party Favors and Cash Bar  
Continental Breakfast after Midnight**

**Donation: \$40 per person  
\$15.00 (Children 10 & Under)**



**For more information contact Irene Fotos at  
678-867-0799 or irenegreekmom@aol.com**

# CATHEDRAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 25<sup>TH</sup> - JAN. 1<sup>ST</sup>

Sunday, December 25 <sup>th</sup> <i>Holy Nativity</i>	Orthros in Cathedral 2 <sup>nd</sup> Divine Liturgy of St. Basil in Cathedral	8:00 am 9:30 am
Monday, December 26 <sup>th</sup>	No Greek School Classes	
Tuesday, December 27 <sup>th</sup> <i>St. Stephen</i>	Orthros in Metropolis Chapel Divine Liturgy in Metropolis Chapel	8:00 am 9:00 am
<b>WINTER YOUTH RALLY - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup></b>		
Wednesday, December 28 <sup>th</sup>	Orthros in Cathedral Divine Liturgy in Cathedral	7:00 am 8:00 am
Friday, December 30 <sup>th</sup>	No Greek School Classes	
Saturday, December 31 <sup>st</sup>	New Year's Eve Celebration in the Kartos Ballroom	9:30 pm
Sunday, January 1 <sup>st</sup> <i>Circumcision of our Lord</i>	Orthros in Cathedral Divine Liturgy in Cathedral	8:00 am 9:30 am

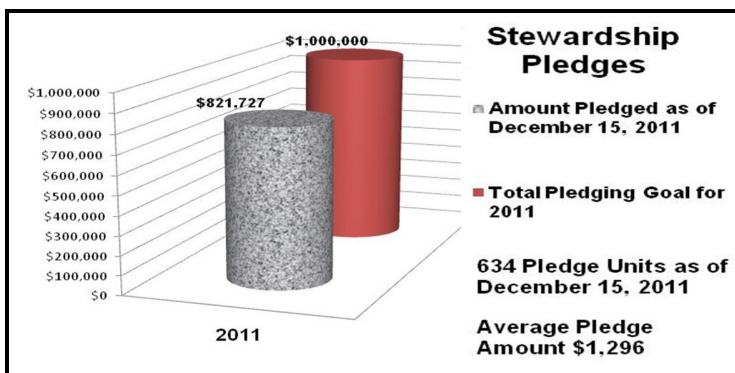
The Metropolis and Cathedral offices will be closed on Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas Holiday

Fr. Christos will be away from the Annunciation Cathedral from Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> accompanying 74 of our youth at the Metropolis of Atlanta Winter Youth Rally. We pray that they have a successful rally!

## Cathedral Organization Contacts

Altar Boys: Fr. Christos Mars 404-633-7358 &  
George Coumanis 770-722-6660  
Annunciation Day School: Michelle Wright 404-633-7358  
Bookstore & Gift Shop: Steve Johnson 404-769-4001 &  
Shelly Spahr 770-864-1124  
Catechetical School: Susan Marinos 404-633-7358  
Cathedral Administrator: Ginnie Roglin 404-633-7358  
Cathedral Dancers: Vassio Giannakopoulos 404-433-6483  
Cathedral Orchestra: Nick Demos 770-493-9529  
Cathedral Library: Jennifer Michaels 770-723-0353  
Choir Director: Christina Polizos 404-320-6506  
Coffee Hour: Connie Pappas 404-255-6946  
Endowment Foundation: Ron Canakaris 404-836-7113  
Golden Group: Mary Ann Chanos 770-565-3981  
GOYA: Steve Alexander III 770-934-4580  
Greek School: Susan Marinos 404-633-7358

Greek Orthodox Old Fellows: Mike Balsamides 404-321-4492  
Head Chanter: Nick Economos 770-394-5475  
History/Archives: Dr. Angelo Kliosis 404-320-1409  
Hellenic Tower: Joyce Wilson 770-992-4393  
HOPE: Lauren Syribeys 404-348-4919  
JOY: Connie Weimar 404-377-1411  
Mail Crew: Nick Coumanis 770-978-8581  
Men's Choir: Leon Melissas 404-272-9527  
Newcomers' Committee: Anna Kostopoulos 770-492-0877  
Outreach Ministries: Al Galloway 770-934-4620  
Parea: Stella Vaughn: 404-285-3817  
Philoptochos: Joanna Snider 404-378-2826  
Prosforo Coord.: Kathy Galloway 770-934-4620  
Stewardship: Costa Panos 404-874-1329  
Young Adult League: Doria Gjerde info@atlantayal.org  
Youth Choir - Danielle Zervakos 770-442-1808



### "Road Full of Promise" Debt Reduction Campaign

At this time, we have received 160 Pledges totaling \$1,840,109.80. We have received \$1,459,798.14 this year and our debt has been reduced to approximately \$2.2 Million. We are very grateful and humbled by the response of our parish families and organizations that have made a commitment at this time. The benefit of your sacrificial gift will provide a greater spiritual and physical environment as we continue to glorify God in His house. Pledge forms are available in Narthex or Cathedral Office.