



From Father Anthony

Stewardship: A Measure of Spiritual Understanding

Christ said that if you are responsible in the little things God can entrust you with greater things. That is the gist of the story with the 10, 5 and 1 talents. In this case the little thing was money, and the big thing is spiritual knowledge. How can God trust us with spiritual wisdom and insights if we do not even understand how to manage the resources that He has given us i.e. time, talent, and treasures? Those who are generous never seem to have a shortage. Perhaps they have discovered this universal truth and learned by practice to act upon the generosity impulse. Not that God is asking us to be destitute, but He is hoping we recognize the fact that whatever we have He has provided to us and He wants us to manage it on His behalf. Oh sure we go to the University and work hard to get a degree. And we eat right and exercise so that we are healthy and can live long lives. Then we work hard at our jobs and try to maintain good attitudes. That is what we do, so what does He do for us? Well He provided us the body and the brain for starters. Then He opened doors and gave us opportunities and kept us alive until now. He gives us the earth as resources, and relative stability to carry out our duties, I would say He has given us quite a number of things to help us be successful. What does He expect from us in return? To acknowledge Him, by taking our responsibility seriously and to cooperate with Him in getting a greater work done. It is not enough just to care for our own needs and our own bodies, it is assumed that we will do that, and it is vital that we do. But He has given us abundance not to spend lavishly on our selves beyond our necessities, but to care for those who haven't been as fortunate as us. He also expects us to use our resources to keep our churches strong and healthy so that other people might learn about Him and His plan for our salvation. He wants us to learn to give *sacrificially*, understanding the urgency of the time and the goal of our lives. In this way we show that we truly understand why we are here and what He desires for us. We have been given an awesome responsibility and opportunity. If we understand that and act then we will be pleasing to God and He will in turn entrust to us 'greater' things, spiritual understanding and insight, because He knows we will use it properly. Think of St. Paul whose sole purpose in life was the preaching of the gospel. He was taken up to the 7th Heaven, 'whether in the body or out of the body, he did not know.' It says that God was able to show Paul great things because God knew that Paul could handle these things, because Paul had already shown himself to be faithful in little things, i.e. the material world. Of material things, God has no shortage, as the Psalmist says, "He owns the cattle on a thousand hills." What He desires is sons and daughters who listen to Him and obey Him and are co-workers in the process of redeeming this world that is a distortion of what He created and intended. This is the key to a dynamic spiritual life, to be friends with God and manage the resources that He has entrusted to us. At St, Philothea we have set a goal of giving 10% of our treasures, using our talents for the building up of the Church, and being an active member to meet the needs of our community, both within the Church walls and those in the greater community. If we wait until we 'have enough' we will never set out on the road of generosity to God. It is the desire and the impulse to give that shows we understand stewardship. To the degree that we accomplish this task, is the measure of our spiritual health. Reflect on your commitment to Christ and see if there isn't something else He would have you do. It is the measure of our spiritual understanding to be a faithful steward of God's gifts.

In Christ,

Fr. Anthony Salzman

Parish Happenings



Adult Catechetical Group

Meets every Sunday during Coffee Hour to discuss matters of our faith. Current topics include the writings of the Fathers of the Church on the Creation Narrative in the book of Genesis. All are welcome!

Parents Night Out

The OCF has generously offered to give the parents a Parents Night Out by letting them drop their little ones off at the Church while they go out for an evening together. Please drop the kids off around 6:30 on Friday, November 2 and pick them up at 9:30.

Sunday School Fall Festival Nov 4

at Herman C. Michael following the Divine Liturgy on Nov. 4th. We will eat lunch at church and proceed to the park for a recreational program and treats. Children may wear their non-scary costume or play clothes and bring balls, Frisbees, etc.

General Assembly Nov. 11

Our fall General Assembly will be held Sunday Nov. 11th following the Divine Liturgy. We will nominate three new Parish Council members, review the proposed budget for the coming year, and bring you up to date on Marswood Hall.

GOYA: GA Aquarium Nov 18

NOTE NEW DATE! Group will leave immediately after church, stop for a quick lunch, visit the Aquarium and go for dinner afterwards. Anyone interested must register and pay by Nov. 4. Contact Robi Ragan at robi.ragan@gmail.com or 706-255-2903. Ticket price is \$26 (over 12 yrs). Plan to bring a change of clothes to church and spending money for both meals.

Don't forget!
Daylight savings time starts
November 4th!

OCAF Holiday Market

Philoptochos will again have a booth at this Watkinsville event Dec 1 -2 and all proceeds will benefit our many charitable projects. There are 3 ways to help:

1. Make a donation towards costs.
2. Come Tuesday **Nov. 27** at 6:30 pm to help prepackage the pastries.
3. Sign up to work a 2 hour shift at our booth on Dec 1 or 2. See Tara Mahoney to sign up.

***Philoptochos Membership Drive** will begin in January. Please think about becoming a member (both women & men can join) and help make a difference for those in need.

Teaching Liturgy Dec. 9th.

Our next teaching liturgy will be Dec. 9th. It is a chance to bring friends and acquaintances to witness the ancient worship of the Early Church, and gain a deeper understanding of the centrality of the Divine Liturgy in our lives.

The Bookstore: The Bookstore is open every Sunday after the Divine Liturgy and has a wonderful collection of resources to enrich our spiritual lives.

Building Maintenance: Last person to leave the building please check the bathrooms to make sure the toilets are not running, as well as turn the heat down to 62, and the air conditioner up to 80. Also make sure all the lights are off.

St. Philothea is high tech!

On-line parish website & calendar

<http://www.stphilothea.ga.goarch.org/>

*Marswood Hall Calendar

<http://calendar.goarch.org/cgi-bin/calweb/calweb.exe?level=marswoodhall>

Parish News: Parish information is shared through the parish listserv. All you need is an e-mail address! If interested, please e-mail Rose Lieftring at rose.lieftring@gmail.com

Gainesville State College Study Abroad Program

GREECE 



Discover Greece, Discover Thyself

Gainesville State College-Oconee Campus
is offering a
Study Abroad Program to Greece
May 15 - 27, 2008
(Includes 4 pre-trip Sunday afternoon seminars
planned for late March, two in April, and one in early May)

This is open to both students and community members.
Community members would register as a Continuing Education student.

This is a custom tour designed in conjunction with EF Tours and will be lead by:
Dr. Nina Lamson, Dr. Pamela Sezgin, Mr. Alex Johns, and Father Anthony Salzman

It is hoped that parishioners from St. Philothea and other churches in the area
will be interested in participating.

For more information please visit this website:
<https://www.gsc.edu/Admin/studyabroad/GreeceSum08/>
or talk to anyone of the group leaders listed above. Space is limited, so register early!



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Stewardship Description: Provide simple refreshments, including drinks and snacks; set up and clean up—includes making coffee, checking supplies, wiping, tables and vacuuming as necessary. Please call Georgia Parthemos to confirm and for special requests. You may be asked to provide Prosoforon, coffee or creamer when necessary. Lenten dates are marked in grey. **Georgia Parthemos: 706-548-3876**

DATE	HOST
4-Nov	Covered Dish Herrington
11-Nov	Horescu
18-Nov	Advent Fast Begins Iakovou
25-Nov	Johns
2-Dec	Covered Dish Knisely
9-Dec	Kefalas & Grissom
16-Dec	Sun Sch Nativity Program Kimbaris
23-Dec	Lambros
30-Dec	Lamson

DATE	HOST
6-Jan	Epiphany/C. Dish Vasilopeta Mahoney
13-Jan	Lavelle
20-Jan	Rose
27-Jan	Lyubimov
3-Feb	Covered Dish Manzione
10-Feb	Miletkov & Seiss
17-Feb	Nameday Weekend O'Malley
24-Feb	Pagonis
2-Mar	Covered Dish Papadopoulos
9-Mar	E. Pappas

DATE	HOST
16-Mar	Great Lent Begins Pottier
23-Mar	Raev
30-Mar	Ragan
6-Apr	Covered Dish Salzman
13-Apr	Shih
20-Apr	Tesfai/Tseggai
27-Apr	****GREAT & HOLY PASCHA**** Volk
4-May	Vlahos
11-May	Wright
18-May	Sunday School Awards
25-May	
1-Jun	Covered Dish

NURSERY

Nursery Duties: Be available from 10:30 until the end of Sunday School to monitor Nursery Room and to assist in preschool class if necessary. Bring children in for Holy Communion and back for class. Keep room neat and tidy and check room again after coffee hour. You will be reminded of your sign up dates. *THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING!*

DATE	NURSERY DUTY
4-Nov	Angie Shih
11-Nov	Lia Grissom
18-Nov	Tara Mahoney
25-Nov	Angie Shih

DATE	NURSERY DUTY
2-Dec	Inna
9-Dec	
16-Dec	****Sunday School Nativity Program****
23-Dec	Tara Mahoney

THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH THESE BLESSED MINISTRIES

ST. PHILOTHEA DIRECTORY

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Philoptochos Board:

President: Ann Volk

Vice President: Frieda Dekazos

Secretary: Rose Lieftring

Treasurer: Presbytera, Christine Salzman

Advisor: Karen Kimberis

Marketing and Maintenance Chair:

Rick Volk

Hospitality Chair:

Georgia Parthemos

Parish Council:

President: Rick Volk

Vice President: Stacey Cramer

Treasurer: Andrew Shih

Secretary: Ann Volk

Frieda Dekazos, Nina Herrington,
Kurt Knisely, Elton Manzione Dr. Alexander
Raev,

Bulletin:

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*Announcements for the bulletin can be emailed to Greekgirl1087@aol.com

Epistle and Gospel Readings *November*

11/4/2007	Gospel: Luke 16:19-31	Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:4-10
11/11/2007	Gospel: Luke 10:25-37	Epistle: St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 4:6-15
11/18/2007	Gospel: Luke 12:16-21	Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 4:1-7
11/25/2007	Gospel: Luke 18:18-27	Epistle: St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5

FOOD FROM THE FATHERS AND MOTHERS:

GOD IS GOODNESS, HE IS LIKE INEXHAUSTIBLE
CHRISM; THE SPIRITUAL WORLD
IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS GOODNESS, LIKE AN
OCEAN OF FRAGRANT CHRISM,
THE MATERIAL WORLD ALSO. HOW CAN WE NOT HOPE
TO OBTAIN ALL GOOD THINGS
FROM SUCH GOODNESS? THE LORD IN HIS
GOODNESS HAS DIFFUSED HIMSELF INTO
ALL CREATURES, LIKE CHRISM, WITHOUT HAVING IN
ANY WISE EXHAUSTED
HIMSELF.

ST. JOHN OF KRONSTADT, *MY LIFE IN CHRIST*

KIDS CORNER!

Birth of Christ

DOWN

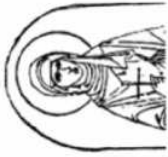
- 1 Who were tending their flocks by night
- 2 Who announced the birth of Christ to the shepherds
- 3 The wise men bowed down to Jesus to _____ him
- 4 Jesus was born in this town
- 6 "The _____ of peace" - one of the titles of Jesus
- 8 mother of Jesus
- 9 Jesus was born in a _____
- 10 The shepherds were in the _____ when they saw an angel

ACROSS

- 1 The wise men followed a _____ that led them to Jesus
- 5 human father of Jesus
- 7 There was no _____ at the inn for Jesus
- 9 one of the gifts of the three wise men
- 11 Jesus could not stay at the _____ because it was full
- 12 and on earth _____, goodwill toward men (Luke 2:14)

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More puzzles at: <http://biblewordgames.com>



St. Philothea Greek Orthodox Church Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta

November 2007						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
28 9:00a <u>Orthros and Divine Liturgy</u> 12:00p <u>OXI Day</u>	29 7:00p <u>OCF Dinner and Discussion, Church</u>	30 7:00p <u>OCF Dinner and Discussion, Church</u>	31 6:00p <u>Catechumen Class</u>	1 <u>SS Cosmas and Damianos</u>	2 2:00p <u>Bread of Life, church</u>	3
4 <u>Daylight Savings Time ends, change your clocks back 1 hour</u> 9:00a <u>Orthros and Divine Liturgy</u> 1:00p <u>SS Fall Festival</u> <u>Herman C. Michael</u>	5 11:00a <u>OCF lunch at Bull Dawg Cafe</u>	6 11:00a <u>OCF lunch at Bull Dawg Cafe</u>	7 12:00p <u>Athens Tech</u> 6:00p <u>Catechumen Class</u> 6:00p <u>Sun Sch Mtg</u> 7:00p <u>Vespers</u>	8 12:00p <u>Athens Tech</u>	9 <u>St. Nektarios</u>	10 <u>College Conference Planning Meeting</u> <u>Weekend, UGA</u> 12:00p <u>Sauceda Birthday party</u> 6:00p <u>Archangel Michael Vespers and Banquet</u>
11 <u>College Conference Planning Meeting Weekend, UGA</u> 9:00a <u>Orthros and Divine Liturgy</u> 12:00p <u>General Assembly, Nominations, Budget, Marswood Hall</u>	12 7:00p <u>OCF Dinner and Discussion 7:00 On campus</u>	13 7:00p <u>OCF Dinner and Discussion 7:00 On campus</u>	14 <u>Phillip the Apostle, St. Gregory Palamas</u> 6:00p <u>Catechumen Class</u> 7:00p <u>Vespers</u>	15 12:00p <u>Fast for the Nativity begins</u>	16 <u>Matthew the Apostle</u>	17
18 9:00a <u>Orthros and Divine Liturgy</u>	19 11:00p - Nov 21, 7: 1:00a <u>OCF lunch at Bull Dawg Cafe</u>	20 11:00p - Nov 21, 7: 1:00a <u>OCF lunch at Bull Dawg Cafe</u>	21 11:00p - Nov 21, 7: 1:00a <u>OCF lunch at Bull Dawg Cafe</u> <u>Entrance of the Theotokos</u> 6:00p <u>Catechumen Class</u> 7:00p <u>Parish Council</u> 7:00p <u>Vespers</u>	22 <u>Thanksgiving</u>	23	24
25 <u>St. Katherine the Great Martyr</u> 9:00a <u>Orthros and Divine Liturgy</u>	26 7:00p <u>OCF Dinner and Baklava cutting</u>	27 7:00p <u>OCF Dinner and Baklava cutting</u>	28 6:00p <u>Catechumen Class</u> 7:00p <u>Vespers</u>	29	30	1 12:00p <u>Patel-baby shower</u>



**St. Philothea Greek Orthodox
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