



From Father Anthony

Christ is Risen!

This is the phrase that puts life into perspective. It is the center of the Universe; it is the meaning that makes life's irritations not only bearable but ultimately useful for our salvation, i.e. transformative. There are a million and one philosophies vying for our attention and/or our allegiance, and it is really hard to sort out what is worth investing our life in. We do have only one life after all. There are some attractive ones out there, so maybe it is time to unmask these illusions and see them for what they are.

Eat Drink and be Merry that is an old one that takes on new disguises in every generation but when you strip it down to its essential it looks the same. This could be materialism, affluenza, entertainment to death, me, me, me, in the end it leaves a sickly, lonely isolated feeling in the stomach, but never quite strong enough to give us the will to reject it on our own. Very dangerous this virus is.

Another is **Pull yourself up by your boot straps**: this philosophy may admit there is a God but in the end it is up to you to make your own way. It is the philosophy of the rugged minded individual, (mostly Male but not always) that honors God as the Supreme Being and makes Him so supreme that He could not be bothered with mundane details like my life. Therefore, it is up to me to manage my life and not bother with input from God who is too big and too busy and too far away to really care anyway. Subtle Theistic philosophy on the outside, but self willed and self directed on the inside. Dangerous! It is about control not submission.

A third philosophy that captures more people than is healthy is "**cynicism**". This is the favorite of the pessimist who sees agenda everywhere he/she looks. It does not allow for love from a pure heart and therefore cannot experience love. Suspicious of everyone's motives they are too smart for their own good. If they are a spiritual person, it can result in spiritual capitalism, 'I have done something 'good' for you, now what are you going to do for me', rather than a dynamic, intimate, vulnerable open and honest relationship. It is an especially deceptive philosophy because on the surface there seems to be based in truth, but if followed to its end, it dehumanizes rather than gives life.

Naive would be the opposite philosophy, perhaps not as dangerous, but still short of the mark of perfect. This philosophy sees the good in everything, trusts everything, but ignores the reality of evil. Discernment, vigilance, and wisdom are what is needed to make this philosophy complete.

Next month we will have our final bulletin for the year and I will include the second part of this article.

Truly He is Risen!

Fr. Anthony

Parish Happenings

The 6th Annual IOCC 5K Run/Walk is coming up. Please consider registering for this annual fundraiser for IOCC. Go to the link below to print a registration form and mail in with your donation.

https://www.iocc.org/giving/atlanta_5-6-06.pdf

Clergy Laity Congress is this summer. For more information please visit www.clergylaity.org

Catechumen Class

Catechumen classes are available for those who would like to learn more about Orthodoxy. Classes are held most every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. See the calendar.

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 conditioning up to 80. Also make sure all the lights are off.

St. Philothea is high tech!

See the on-line parish calendar for all the latest information. You can find it through the St. Philothea homepage:

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

*Marswood Hall Calendar

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

Parish News

Much parish information is shared through the parish listserv. All you need is an e-mail address! If interested, please e-mail Peter Gess: pgess@mindspring.com

General Assembly

Sunday May 21st following the Divine Liturgy
We will discuss our current state of affairs, Marswood Hall, and the future.

The Bookstore:

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

St. Philothea Directory:

Father Anthony Salzman, Presbyter
Phone: 770-725-5033

Father Anthony E-mail:

frantonios@imageandlikeness.com

Presbytera E-mail:

prchristine@imageandlikeness.com

Parish Council:

President: Stacey Cramer
Treasurer: Andrew Shih

Sunday school:

Dana Johns

Music Director:

Angie Iakovou

Philoptochos Board:

President: Karen Kimbaris
Vice President: Ann Volk
Treasurer: Presbytera Christine
Secretary: Nina Lamson
Corresponding Secretary: Frieda Dekazos
Outreach: Dana Johns
Advisor: Georgia Parthemos

Marketing and Maintenance Chair:

Rick Volk

Hospitality Chair:

Georgia Parthemos

Communications Chair:

Tammy Andros

Liaisons to the Caterer:

Dean and Karen Kimbaris

Treasurer's Report for March: Beginning Checking Account balance was \$12,465 and the ending balance was \$13,870. Income for the month was \$17,151, and Expenses were \$15,746. Thanks to the letter writing campaign and the generous donations we have received, we did not have to tap into our reserves.

Andrew Shih has taken over as the Parish Council Treasurer. For those who used to send their pledges to Bill Mahoney, please send them now to: **Andrew Shih, 153 Silverbell Trace, Athens, GA 30606.**

Sunday Epistle & Gospel Readings

May 7	Gospel: Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8	Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7
May 14	Gospel: John 5:1-15	Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 9:32-42
May 21	Gospel: John 4:5-42	Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 11:19-30
May 28	Gospel: John 9:1-38	Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34



Our Beautiful Holy Week:



* Father leading us through a wonderful Holy Week!



* Beautiful maiden's



* Even our youngest members love celebrating Easter!



* Outside during Good Friday service



* Anticipating His Resurrection during Good Friday service



St. Philothea Greek Orthodox Church Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta

May 2006						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
30 9:00a Orthros and Divine Liturgy	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:00a Orthros and Divine Liturgy	8	9	10 6:00p Catachumen Class 7:00p Vespers	11	12	13 12:00p Dacula High School Reunion
14 9:00a Orthros and Divine Liturgy	15	16	17 6:00p Catachumen Class 7:00p Parish Council	18	19 12:00p Wrenn Rehearsal Dinner	20 Dn. Nickolai Miletkov, ordination to the Pristhood, 2:00 pm New York Steph. Oratorical Festival, Boca Raton
21 9:00a Orthros and Divine Liturgy 12:00p General Assembly	22	23	24 6:00p Catachumen Class 7:00p Vespers	25	26	27
28 8:30p Orthros and Divine Liturgy 8:30 a.m. summer schedule begins	29	30	31 12:00p fast free day, meat and dairy allowed	1	2	3 Mindy Buhler Ceremony & WR @2.30



**St. Philothea Greek Orthodox Church
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta**

3761 Mars Hill Road

Watkinsville, Georgia 30677

For more information: 770/725-5035



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