



St. Philothea Greek Orthodox Church



www.stphilothea.org

3761 Mars Hill Road, Watkinsville, GA 30677
Church Office: 770-725-5035
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Reverend Anthony Salzman
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September 13, 2020 ~ Sunday before Holy Cross

Sunday Services: Orthros at 8:45 am Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

Epistle Reading: Galatians 6:11-18 **Gospel Reading:** John 3:13-17

Saints Commemorated Today: Forefeast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross; The Consecration of the Church of the Holy Resurrection (Holy Sepulcher); Cornelius the Centurion & Martyr; Aristides the Philosopher; Hierotheos the Righteous of Iveron Monastery, Mount Athos

Word about Communion: Holy Communion is offered in the Orthodox Church only to those individuals baptized and chrismated in the Orthodox Faith. One must also be in good standing with the Church spiritually and properly prepared. If you have any further questions about this, please speak with Fr. Anthony. Women should remove all lipstick when approaching for Holy Communion. Please let the children and elderly approach first, when possible. Ruth read ACTS.

OUR MISSION

The mission of St. Philothea Greek Orthodox Church is to be the living witness of Jesus Christ-keeping and proclaiming the Orthodox Christian Faith and sanctifying the faithful through God's grace by celebrating the Divine Liturgy and Sacraments.

OUR VISION

We will strive to fulfill the commission of Jesus Christ and grow in faith and love through worship, witness, fellowship and outreach.

DIVINE LITURGY is now open for in person attendance on Sun. mornings and most Wed. evenings. Prior sign up is required. Sign up to attend services scheduled in September [HERE](#).

TRISAGION PRAYERS for the Victims of 911 following today's service.

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES - please remember to sign up if you plan to attend.

Mon., Sep 14	9:00am	Elevation of the Holy Cross with Procession
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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Wednesday, September 16th at 7:00 pm. Steve Duke will be presenting the saint.

May God watch over us and protect us.

St. Philothea has reopened again after the installation of our new HVAC system. We will try to celebrate the Divine Liturgy every Wednesday and Sunday to give more people an opportunity to attend. We will need 3 volunteers each Liturgy to take temperatures, light candles, usher and help set up and clean up. *Everyone must follow the protocols and guidelines for attending Liturgy, including wearing masks, washing hands, social distancing and having your temperatures taken, as well as other guidelines put forth by the CDC and the Archdiocese.* To attend the liturgy in person please sign up online. New sign-ups will be required each month. The Septeber sign up sheet is available online [HERE](#). Also all attendees should familiarize themselves with the special requirements for safe worship in the Church [HERE](#). **All services are also live-streamed.**

For Live-Streaming Services please refer to our [web page](#) for instructions to attend via Facebook or YouTube. “Like” us on [Facebook](#) or “Subscribe” on [YouTube](#) to get notifications of all live streaming services. Also, for more information about the pandemic and Parish life go to our [COVID web page](#).

Stewardship Please continue your Stewardship, as you are able and impacted by the Covid-19 crisis, either on-line or by check. Checks can be mailed directly to Kate McClain 1001 Kings Court, Watkinsville, GA 30677 **NOTE: This is the correct address for the McClain’s. The address in the directory is in error.** Also, if you know of anyone in need of assistance contact Fr. Anthony.

Please join this effort Pray every evening at 8:00 pm the prayer for the Corona Virus attached to this email.
https://mcusercontent.com/d843d668dde012c7ea79d97f4/files/43d9edb5-3c3d-45d6-967a-c5d88deb3fca/Prayer_of_Protection_from_the_Coronavirus.pdf

Philoptochos will have their general meeting via Zoom at 4:00 pm today. Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/95804277615> Meeting ID: 958 0427 7615

Financial Status

Income sources:

STEWARDSHIP, COLLECTIONS, HALL RENTALS, & FUNDRAISERS

Jan Income	\$18,883	Jan Expense	\$14,179
Feb Income	\$11,972	Feb Expense	\$13,645
Mar Income	\$10,580	Mar Expense	\$14,372
Apr Income	\$11,537	Apr Expense	\$13,580
May Income	\$7,419	May Expense	\$15,651
Jun Income	\$7,129	Jun Expense	\$10,380
Jul Income	\$11,051	Jul Expense	\$14,437
Aug Income	\$16,280	Aug Expense	\$15,528
Sep Income	\$2,108	Sep Expense	\$12,147.25
<i>(to date)</i>		<i>(to date)</i>	

Capital Campaign Results

Mortgage Balance: **\$519,698**

Pledged - **\$119,380**

Collected - **\$81,893**

*****Thanks to all who help with these efforts!**

Recurring Ministry Meetings – go to stphilothea.org/calendar for details

A.C.T.S.	1 st Tues, every other month	9:00 am - 1:00 pm → October 6
Grief Support	ON HOLD	
Mother's Day Out	ON HOLD	
OCF	ON HOLD	
Parish Council	via Zoom Conference call if needed	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm → September 16
Spaghetti Dinner	ON HOLD	
Divine Liturgy	Now Every Wed. (Live Stream & on site with Covid restrictions)	5:45 pm - 7:00 pm

NEXT BIGGER VISION MEAL Our next offering of service is scheduled for September 28. Providing a meal for the homeless is a monthly event on the 4th Monday of the month, and we will need a protein, a starch, a vegetable, bread and dessert. Please see Kate or Fr. Anthony if you can help provide any of these items. Drop it off at the church at 4:30 pm the Monday of and Fr. Anthony will deliver it. At this time we have a volunteer for the 28th for a vegetable but we still need help with a protein, starch, bread and dessert so if you could, please sign up online [HERE](#).

HYMNS & READINGS ~ September 13, 2020
Sunday before Holy Cross

Resurrectional Apolytikion Mode: 5

To the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of a Virgin for our salvation, let us the faithful give praise and worship. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh to endure death and raise the dead by His Glorious resurrection.

Festal Apolytikion: Birth of the Theotokos

Your birth, O Theotokos, has filled the world with joy, for there rose from you the Sun of Justice, Christ our God. He destroyed the ancient curse and replaced it with a blessing, thus confounding death by giving us eternal life.

Apolytikion for St. Philothea:

The famed city of Athens does honor Philothea, the righteous martyr whose relics it now reveres with joy, for while living in sobriety and holiness, she has exchanged all earthly things for the everlasting life through great contest as a martyr. And she entreateth the Savior to grant His mercy unto us.

Kontakion: The Birth of the Theotokos

Your holy birth delivered Joachim and Anna from the reproach of childlessness and liberated Adam and Eve from death's corruption, O Pure One. Thus freed from the stain of sin, we your people honor your birth, crying out to you: A woman thought barren brings forth the Theotokos who nourishes Christ our Life.

Megalynarion: The Birth of the Theotokos

How wondrous that a mother can remain a virgin; what a marvel that a virgin can bring forth a son! Yet in you, Theotokos, motherhood and virginity are reconciled. And so, with all the nations of earth, we unceasingly magnify you.

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 2. Psalm 27.9,1
O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.
Verse: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new

creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

The Gospel According to John 3:13-17



The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

The Annual St. Philothea Golf Classic will be our only fundraiser this fall so we want to give it our best effort. Please print out our [brochure](#) and pass it along to your friends. Also, below please find suggested text below that you can use to ask your favorite businesses by email or letter for support in providing door prizes. You may personalize as needed for your specific situation. Thank you for your help in making this tournament a huge success.

It's that time of year again and the St. Philothea Golf Classic is just around the corner. We will tee off on Monday, October 12 and conclude with a door prize drawing. Your generous donation in the past helped to create an exciting experience for our golfers.

Companies who provide door prize donations will be recognized during the tournament. In the past you have given original artwork and 4 spaghetti dinner gift certificates. Can we once again count on your participation?

I also invite you to sponsor a team from your business to enter the Golf Classic, or a Hole Sign (details in the golf brochure), All entry fees support Bread for Life and St. Philothea. It is always a fun day and your

participation helps raise money for a very worthy cause. For more information call Amy at 706-201-4640.

I look forward to hearing from you and appreciate your support.

FINANCIAL UPDATE You should have received a letter explaining our finances through COVID, the HVAC project and where we stand going into the fall. It will also contain a statement on your pledge and current contributions. We thank Kate for her diligent service and hard work on our finances, during this difficult period. And we thank everyone for keeping up on their stewardship, it has been a big help.

OCF DINNERS Next Meeting of OCF, is Tuesday Sept. 15 at 6:30 pm at St. Philothea social hall, bring your friends. **If you would like to host** an OCF dinner this Semester we will be meeting outdoors or in the Social Hall the first and third Tuesday's of the month. You can either cook and deliver a meal or give \$85 for takeout. We have a good group returning this year and adding new faces, and we thank you for your support. Sign-up online [HERE](#).

ANGEL TREE Organizing Committee meeting coming in September. This ministry celebrates the children of incarcerated parents, helping them to feel loved and connected to them. See Kate McClain if you would like to get involved. We will be doing a COVID Social distancing event in decorated cars. Should be fun.

ACTS FOOD BANK: St. Philothea's scheduled to volunteer for the Fall is Tuesday, Oct. 6th & Dec. 1st at 9:00 am-1:00 pm. See Fr. Anthony or Roy Stamey if you would like to help out, a little or a lot. Any and all help is always appreciated!

NURSES CLINIC TOILETRY COLLECTION The Nurse's Clinic provides low-cost medical care for under-insured or uninsured patients with chronic illnesses. Philoptochos is collecting items for the Nurse's Clinic in Athens. Items can be given to Karen Kimbaris or left in Fr. Anthony's office. Please contact Karen if you have any questions about this donation at kakimbaris@yahoo.com. Items needed include:

Shampoo/conditioner	Soap or Body Wash
Toothbrush and Tootpaste	Chapstick or Vaseline
Deodorant	Shaving cream and Razor
Body Lotion	Wash cloths
Socks	Comb

FACEBOOK MARKETPLACE - online garage sale. Clean out your home and help raise funds for the Parish! If you have an item of value (~\$50 or greater) that you would like to contribute so that it can be sold to raise funds for the Church please contact Kosta Vavlas (DimitriosVavlas@gmail.com, 727-424-2194) or to arrange for pick up. Clean, saleable items in good condition only, please.