

KEYNOTES



May, 2007

ARE YOU READY FOR OUR 2007 FEDERATION CONFERENCE IN SAVANNAH?

First step — the music

Music may be ordered from Chris Zervos at his home address: 2159 Evergreen Road, Toledo, OH 43606. His home phone is 419-534-2937. The best way to contact him is to E-mail him at: chriszervos@aol.com. The cost of each book is \$20.00 plus postage, which usually runs \$4.05. Orders of 12 or more books usually have a shipping charge of \$1.60 for each book.

To facilitate learning the music, Chris also has part amplified CD's available for sale at \$12.00 each or \$40.00 for the set of SATB. The library will not be purchasing any of the books to have available for federation sales, so please order directly from Chris Zervos.

Now, Book that Hotel!

Saint Paul Church in Savannah GA will be hosting the 31st Annual Conference on July 26 – 29, 2007 on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary. Jim Pethis and his committee are making plans and all parishes will be receiving conference information soon. This will be Savannah's second time hosting the conference, having previously been held there in 1995.

St. Paul's is delighted to host this exciting event and the committee has completed preparations to accept all choirs and friends in our federation. We encourage you to visit our website: <http://www.stpaul.ga.goarch.org/choirlanding.html> or <http://www.sfgocm.org> to download lodging instructions and directions to the newly constructed Hilton Garden Inn - Midtown Savannah and to download all forms for registration, guest meal form and commemorative Ad form for placement in the Conference album. Deadline for registration is July 2, 2007 so avoid the late charge and submit your sign up today. *Make sure you tell them that you are with the Southern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians Conference.*



President's Letter

Christos Anesti to my fellow Federation members,

As we enter the fourth quarter of our Ecclesiastical Year I am reminded that this is one of my favorite times of the year - our annual Choir Conference Season. A time when we rehearse, prepare and attend our annual choir conference.

I attended my first choir conference over 20 years ago in West Palm Beach FL where we sang the Liturgy of Peace directed by the composer Chris Kypros. It made such an impression on me that I've

been hooked on attending the annual conference ever since. I enjoy the convention atmosphere where we are: exposed to choral techniques presented by top notch directors / composers, challenged to sing new Liturgical Arrangements, given the opportunity to meet and develop friendships with clergy / musicians from across our metropolis and occasionally the country. The fact that the conference is hosted by different parishes within the metropolis affords us the opportunity to travel with our families and see how other communities compare to ours.

In preparation for the choir conference our parish has been conditioned to go through the same routine every year: we take our annual choir picture on Palm Sunday, solicit an ad from our parish council and phylotochos all to be included in the conference commemorative album. Then we take a count of those choir members planning to attend and ask the parish council to prepare a check (a church budget line item) to cover our conference registration fees. All attendees are reminded to call and make their own hotel reservations prior to the deadline date. Last but not least, if needed, we order the music and rehearse weekly until the date of the conference.

This year's Choir Conference as you know will be hosted by St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church in the historical southern city of Savannah, GA on July 26-29 on the occasion of their 100th anniversary. We will be singing Chris Zervos' arrangement of the Divine Liturgy. Guest Director will be Chris Kypros of Norfolk VA and our guest organist will be the composer Chris J. Zervos of Toledo OH. Youth director and CMI workshops have not yet been determined. The choir conference packet is included as part of this issue of Keynotes.

Faithfully,

John



Can't We All Just Get Along?— The Fight for Supremacy between the Chanter and the Choir

By Rev. Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis, Protopresbyter

As a teenager playing sports, we often heard the overused slogan, "There is no 'I' in 'team.'" The word "Liturgy" is a combination of the words "leitos" meaning "people" and "ergon" meaning "work." Thus the Liturgy (and by extension, the other

services of the church), are works of the people, who work together in the same sense that a team works together. On any sports team, there is always the overarching goal of winning. On the team that truly plays as a team, there is no ego involved as to who contributes what. When the teams wins, when the team plays well, everyone is happy.

A “team” of people, if you will, helps to offer the services of the church. This team includes the priest, as the chief celebrant, the chanters, the choir, the altar boys, those who offer the prosphora, those who clean the church, and those who worship in the pews. The goal of this team is to lead one another through worship to an experience of God. So when worship is done in such a way that people’s hearts are moved closer to God, then the worship experience is a success, and those who are involved in the worship all benefit and all rejoice, whether they are the priest who offered the service and gave the sermon, the usher who welcomed people at the door, the chanter who read the Epistle or the choir who sang the responses.

It is ironic, and kind of sad, actually, that a certain tension exists between choirs and chanters. Having both sung in a choir and served as a chanter, I know the arguments each makes. The choir relishes in the beautiful renditions of music with fancy four part harmonies, with disdain for the chanter who sings alone. The chanter relishes in his command of a greater amount of music, and that he can chant in a more traditional way. The choir lays claim to the Liturgy, the main service, dismissing the chanter as doing only the “minor services.” While the chanter looks at the choir as being only good at one thing, the Liturgy, while the chanter knows all the services.

I’ve heard of churches where the chanter flies through the Orthros hoping to “beat the choir to the Doxology.” I’ve heard of choirs who insist on singing hymns incorrectly, rather than allowing the chanter to sing them correctly, because “many voices are better,” even if the words or the tune is wrong. I’ve experienced the horror story of the chanter who sings “Christos Anesti” in a way that no one can possibly sing with him, and I heard choirs sing hymns which I know well but in a rendition I did not recognize.

Is there a happy medium? Aren’t we all on the same team? Have we lost sight of what our purpose is in singing in church? Can’t we all just get along?

I write neither to boast of my liturgical knowledge nor to brag about the choirs and chanters I have enjoyed working with in my current parish of St. John the Baptist in Tampa, Florida, or my previous parish of Holy Trinity in Asheville, North Carolina. But I write to share some things that I have put into practice, which have resulted in harmonious relations and respect between priest, chanter and choir. The “Typikon” (book of the order of services) says that when two or more priests co-celebrate, that the Trisagion hymn is chanted five times (rather than the usual three) and numbers three and five are chanted by the clergy. It also says that when there is a con-celebration on the Liturgy, that “Agapisose Kyrie” is chanted in lieu of “Patera, Ion.” So my choir will sing the Trisagion hymn the appropriate amount of times and the “Agapisose Kyrie” when more than one priest is at the altar. It is also never correct to sing “Agios o Theos” less than three times before going to “Doxa Patri,” and so my choir has had to add in one more verse to its renditions that only have it twice, like the Kypros version. My choirs have been very respectful of the chanters, and anytime the choir does not know something, they gladly, rather than begrudgingly, give it to the chanter so that the appropriate thing can be done. I caution that we

do not worship the Typikon, but part of what makes Orthodoxy, well, Orthodox, is that there is uniformity in worship universally. So it is not up to one choir or one priest or one parish in the 21st century to make innovations to meet the ability or interest of the choir or the priest.

During Holy Week recently, I was fortunate enough to have the choir chant at several services. It is very important in my parish in Tampa that a good amount of English is done because the congregation is most younger people who do not speak Greek. Consequently, I requested the choir to sing some of the Lamentations in English, and they gladly responded to that request. “To Nymphona Sou” on Holy Tuesday was sung the first and the third time by the choir, and the second time by me in English. When the choir learns that hymn in English, they can do it all three times. As for “Idou o Nymphios”, the version our choir had said in the last line, “thia tis Theotokou soston imas,” which is only appropriate for the third time this is chanted at each Bridegroom Service. Consequently, I chanted it the first time, the chanter did it the second time, and the choir the third time.

I am also very blessed in my parish that the chanters are agreeable and helpful to the choir, for instance, intoning the verses during the “Alleluias” during Holy Week, with the choir singing the “Alleluias.” Our chanter never jumps in to steal the Doxology or anything else from the choir, and the choir director and chanter work together well so that the correct hymns are sung correctly by the choir, if the choir has rehearsed the hymn appropriately, and by the chanter if it hasn’t. As for “Theos Kyrios” that is sung on Good Friday evening, there are verses sung in between this hymn. “Theos Kyrios” is never sung without them, even though they don’t appear in the Holy Week books we are familiar with or in musical renditions of these hymns. They were done in Tampa, by me, and the choir was respectful of the need to sing, but to sing correctly.

All that being said, as I reflect on the recent Holy Week we just completed, I would have to say that my favorite hymns were “Christos Anesti” on Easter Sunday, and the simple three-fold “Kyrie Eleison” sung throughout the week at various services, because these two things were sung not by the choir or the chanter, but by the entire congregation. Some clamor for abolition of the choir in favor of congregational singing. I am not in favor of that. What I am in favor of are choirs and chanters who chant so that the faithful congregants can chant along with them, who are leaders of singing, rather than musicians who function as show-men. What I am in favor of are choirs and chanters who remain faithful to the Typikon because there is a 2,000 year tradition practiced universally that stands behind our faith. As one Metropolitan of our Archdiocese once said to me, “You will be a priest for a finite period of time on this earth. You receive traditions from those who came before you. When your earthly priesthood ends, you must turn over these traditions to those who come after you, the same way you received them, without your own stamp or editing on them. That is not your right.” I couldn’t agree more. Finally, what I am in favor of is chanters and choir who work together in a spirit of cooperation, rather than competition, because “a house divided against itself cannot stand” and because we are all members of the same team.

I was asked to write this article as a way of bringing something of value to chanters in the “Keynotes” publication. I can only hope that chanters will intermix with those who read and support this publication. Because in the church, there is a need for both choirs and chanters in our church. There is a vital

need to encourage choirs, chanters and musicians to learn the services in our church besides the Liturgy—the Orthros, the Vespers, the services of Holy Week, the Paraklesis, etc. Because chanting is a dying art, and as our chanters age and die off, this art and this tradition will die with them. I dare not say it's time for some of our choir folk to descend from the choir loft to the chanters' stand. Rather, it is a time to see both choir loft and chanters' stand as extensions of one another and to make sure that both are filled with competent, faithful people who bring a spirit of joy to the Holy work they offer in God's Holy temple.

Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis is the Proistamenos of St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church of Tampa, FL. He also serves as the director of St. Stephen's Summer Camp for the Metropolis of Atlanta. Fr. Stavros has spoken at SCOCM events on various occasions. He served as Deacon to Metropolitan Methodios for one year prior to his ordination to the priesthood, served as a Chanter and choir member for two years prior to that, and has played the piano and organ since the age of four.

Notable links

Click below for a wonderful Pascha blog from Tina Wilson, Tom Hanks' wife.:

http://newsweek.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/guestvoices/2007/04/why_easter_is_greek_to_me_xris.html?hpid=opinionsbox1

Stan Takis from another Metropolis has recently scanned and posted The Anastasimatarion by Nicholas Roubanis to his website for your access online: <http://www.newbyz.org/orthros.html>

Please Respond To This Year's Church Music Survey!

Church musicians and clergy in all Metropolises are invited to respond to the 2007 Church Music Survey. This year's focus is parish church music practices. A paper copy of the survey was originally included with your parish's invoice for the Liturgical Guidebook. If you did not respond to that survey, please feel free to go online and respond to the survey at this URL:

<http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/cpps/survey/music07/music07.htm>

The survey will close on JUNE 1st. Responses will be tallied and presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, to be held in Boston on July 5-8th.

Wedding Music

On behalf of St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Monastery that the National Forum has put together a 40-page booklet in English that has all the hymns for the wedding service. They have included it in our online "Divine Music Project."

You can download it for free at <http://www.stanthonysmonastery.org/music/Wedding.htm> or <http://www.stanthonysmonastery.org/music/WeddingB.htm>

Parish Notes (from those who did not respond — please be sure to contact leonk@bellsouth.net for the next edition of Keynotes and Notable Notes, our new monthly newsletter, for upcoming events and news from your parish— remembering that the cutoff dates are always the 15th of the month before publication))



From our Hosts for the 2006 Conference at Holy Trinity in Orlando, Florida

The Orlando community would like to extend a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all those who attended the SFGOCM Conference in June. Everyone's participation helped to make it a success and we hope you enjoyed your stay with us.

Production of the CD from the conference liturgy is complete and distribution is now in process. I believe that by the time this issue of Keynotes is published everyone should have received their copy. If you ordered and paid for a CD and have not received it, please contact Jim Kouchalakos at (407) 855-3022 or jkouch@bellsouth.com. I will get your copy to you.

Jim Kouchalakos



From the choir of Annunciation Cathedral, Atlanta, GA

Christos Anesti from the Atlanta Annunciation Cathedral Choir! Hope you are all well. We have had quite a busy year (September-April). In October, we performed during our Greek Festival on Friday and Saturday evenings. Our performances took place in the cathedral and were well attended by the festival visitors. We sang a collection of Divine Liturgy hymns as well as hymns that are sung for Pascha, Christmas, Sunday of Orthodoxy and the Lenten season. Dr. Andrew Ekonomou gave a brief explanation of each hymn and educated the audience with many interesting facts about our Orthodox faith.



In November we once again sang the Hierarchal Divine Liturgy for "Archangel Michael Sunday" with His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios serving as the celebrant. He was accompanied by His Grace Bishop John of Amorion, Father George Alexson, the Dean of our cathedral, Father Paul Keriotis, cathedral presbyter, Father Ken Anthony, who also assists with services at the cathedral and five visiting priests. We sang the Divine Liturgy arranged by Nicholas Maragos.

In December we presented a joint concert with our cathedral orchestra under the direction of Peter Zervakos, who is also the cathedral choir organist. The orchestra opened the concert with several holiday favorites, and then the choir sang a variety of Christmas pieces including works by Handel, a collection of spirituals and traditional carols. The concert concluded with the choir accompanied by the orchestra singing

"O Holy Night" with soloist Sally Zervakos, followed by a sing-a-long with the entire audience joining in.

On Christmas Eve evening we celebrated the Christmas Hierarchal Divine Liturgy with His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios. The Choir typically sings on Christmas Eve evening and our wonderful chanters, led by Protosaltis, Nicodemos Economos, chant on Christmas morning.

The New Year brought us quickly to the Lenten Season. With Pascha so early this year, we found ourselves rehearsing music for the Lenten Season and Holy Week earlier than ever. The Choir sang for the Heretismoi services and for Holy Friday and Pascha Midnight Anastasi Services. Leon Melissas our assistant choir director, directed the Holy Week Services beginning with Palm Sunday.

Our Youth Choir has also sung the Liturgy a couple of times this year. They also sang a Heretismoi Service, performed at the annual Christmas Pageant and sang for the Vasilopita Luncheon. They are under the very wonderful direction of Celeste Alexander and Kay Nastopoulos.

Enjoy this beautiful Spring and we look forward to seeing you in Savannah!

From the choir of St. Demetrios Church, Daytona Beach FL

All those who attended the Choir Conference from our church enjoyed it thoroughly, and are already anticipating the next one. We had a record 6 members participate.

Our choir has been practicing a liturgy by Nancy Takis, hoping to debut it in November. It is a complete liturgy, in Greek and English, and we added some of our favorite versions of hymns as well. This liturgy is available on the internet, as well as many other hymns in both languages. We are also planning to make available a more inclusive copy for use by parishioners, with other hymns for special occasions, and services such as memorial, artoklasia, blessing of waters, etc. Our bulletins will list the pages of those hymns to be sung to encourage our parishioners to “sing along”.

Our priest found a great source for Byzantine music which might be of great use for all of us at <http://www.newbyz.org/>.

Don't forget our St. Demetrios Greek Festival, held November 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2006! Come on down for Sun, Surf and Souvlaki at Daytona!

Nancy Laskos



St. George, New Port Richey, Florida

A Re-Birth for our Choir

Several years ago, our parish lost its choir. The choir director/organist moved and the parish could not find a replacement. Needless to say, as a new member to St. George and former choir director, I was very disappointed. As you all know, chanters have their place in the liturgy, but so do choirs. The congregation really missed having a choir. Last summer, though, God answered prayers and many changes occurred at St. George that affected the choir. First, the parish received a new spiritual leader, Fr. Michael Petrides, who came from a parish that has a beautiful choir. Second, many parishioners signed up to be in the choir, and third, Fr. Michael helped find a few donors to purchase an organ for us. So, everyone's prayers were answered, and the choir began rehearsing.



Unfortunately, those who

volunteered to play the organ were also involved in other church ministries, so the choir was not able to sing for more than a couple of weeks. Since the choir members consisted mostly of young-at-heart retirees, many went North for the holidays. As a result, the parish had to go through Christmas and Easter services without a choir.

Shortly before Holy Week, God answered our prayers again with the arrival of Inga Zakradze, a very-talented classical pianist. Since Inga is only 15, we are looking forward to developing a wonderful choir over the next few years with the help of her accompaniment. The choir has begun practicing again and welcomes new members. Anyone who is thinking of moving to this area should definitely consider West Pasco. If newcomers are able to carry a tune to the choir loft, they will be very welcome to join the choir. For more information about the choir or the vibrant parish life at St. George, please contact the church office (727-868-5911) or e-mail Tina Wilson, Choir Director, Twilson@pejotwilson.com

If any musicians are going to be in West Central Florida in June, they may be interested in attending some events at the AHEPA District Convention and in seeing the legendary Carole Cook, known for her roles on Broadway, television, and the movies. Also, one of our Greek-American opera stars, Stella Zambalis will be at the convention. I've attached the schedule of events, which encapsulates everything, as well as individual flyers that you may want to e-mail to your circle of friends. We are trying to raise money for Bone Marrow and Cooley's Anemia Foundations. See the flyers at the end for more information.

“...Praise him with the sound of the trumpet; praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance; praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals; praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord.” -- Psalm 150



From the Choir Loft at Holy Trinity Raleigh, NC:

Christos Anesti!

The new year brought us a very new choir member! Demitra Georgia Nicholas, born to Elia and Maria Nicholas on January 4, 2007, arrived as a 6lb 15oz look-alike of her father! Mother and baby and big sister Eleni are all doing very well. We also are looking forward to the arrival of yet another baby in our choir, a son to be born in June to Anastacia and Loren Kohl. Kali Epitehia to Anastacia. We anxiously await the birth of their first child.



We sadly wish to say goodbye to a devoted choir member, Angela Depoy, who has accepted a job with an accounting firm in Washington, DC. We will miss her beautiful alto and soprano voice (she sang whatever was needed!) and also her talents in assisting Elia on the organ and co-directing.



On a interesting note, we had a choir member who was on the boat in Santorini that sank. Mary Kyritsis is fine, and is ready to come to the states to be reunited with those on dry land!

Holy Week and Pascha have since come and gone, and we now turn our attention to summer travels, including this year's conference. We hope to send at least two or three to Savannah this year.

Until then, keep hitting the high and low notes, and keep those baby lullabies humming in your hearts for Holy Trinity Choir members!

Elia Nicholas



From the Choir Loft St. Sofia, Miami, Florida:

Our Christmas and Easter seasons were enhanced by a few of our alumni reappearing to join us. Tony Rodolakis, a Miami native into whose ears I belted the Divine Liturgy for a couple of years, returned from California to sing with us, enhancing the men's section significantly. Tony doesn't sing in Los Angeles ("they're a bunch of pros out there in Hollywood..."), but his spirituality and musicianship are always a blessing and very uplifting.



We were blessed with a few new members this year. A tenor came to us recently from Nicaragua, where his Greek/French mother, our Renée, spent much time teaching him to read music and as much Greek as she could muster — proof that our Greek spirit cannot be washed away. Another is an alto which will bolster the solidity of the ladies. Another, Evangelia, is a young alto, an educator who hails from New Jersey and Christina, a soprano from Greece.

Together, we had 20 singers for Pascha, which is a lot for our little band of angels. We usually send a fairly large portion of the choir to the conference, and this year will be no exception, so if you see some strangers, they're ours!

Our Elaine Poulos-Lailas organizes the Agape Service readings every year between choir practice, Philoptohos and preparing a wonderful after-liturgy Easter breaking of the fast.

Leon Karahalis



From the Choir Loft Holy Trinity, Charlotte, NC:

So far, 2007 has brought us four new choir family members...either by choice or by birth! Joanna Housiadas has joined our choir in the alto section while Jimmy Kleto and Jim Parthenakis (all the way from Ohio) have joined the bass section. On March 17, our director, Philip Thevaos and his wife Celia, had their first child and now our youngest choir member, Mary Emma-- (Maria Artemisia in Greek). Welcome to the family!



Mary Emma Thevaos — (Maria Artemisia) — Born at 2:16 am — Saturday-March 17, 2007 — 5 pounds even — 17.5 inches

Our Christmas Program in December was yet again a success. We focused on singing carols from around the world while our Sunday School portrayed the Nativity scene and narrated the Christmas story. As we sang our carols from various

countries, (England, France, the Caribbean, Ukraine, North American Indian, and Greece), the children paraded in with costumes and props native to that particular region. We also sang for the Christmas Eve service and the Vasilopita luncheon.

It's hard to believe Lent has come and gone. We sang Friday nights for the Cheritismi services and throughout all the Holy Week services except for Wednesday evening. It was a wonderful and inspiring time and we are blessed to be a part of the services during Pascha.

As always, we are looking forward to our annual conference in July. We can't wait to see all of our friends in beautiful and historic Savannah. It's always fun to learn new and exciting music and we have already begun learning the Zervos Liturgy in preparation for the conference.

Hope to see you all soon! Christos Anesti !!!

Katherine Kleto



From the Choir Loft St. Catherine, West Palm Beach, Florida:



Choir Director T.A. Aliapoulous, affectionately known to us all as "Doc" is recovering from hip replacement surgery performed April 9th. He's at home and, with continued rehab therapy and the able assistance and care of his loving wife Donna, is gradually returning to his normal routine.

"Doc" lost 35 pounds before he had surgery - that's how much pain he was in for the past several months. He reports that he's feeling stronger every day and that's it's so wonderful to be able to get around without hurting all the time. Projected time of complete recovery is four to six weeks, so that means we could very well see him at the choir conference in Savannah!

During Doc's absence, Rene Wertz, our talented organist, has widened her duties and served as our director. With her able leadership, we have continued to sing every Sunday and throughout the recent Easter season. Thank you Rene for your patience with us and for your continued devotion to St. Catherine's Choir.

Several of us are looking forward to attending the Southeastern Choir Federation Conference scheduled this year in Savannah and have begun to practice Chris Zervos' liturgy. The comments among our members are very positive - we are all very impressed with this work and are enjoying our rehearsal sessions. Can't wait to meet this talented composer.

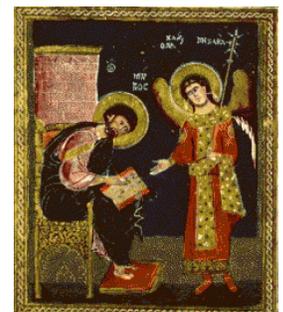
See you all in Savannah!

Maria Sempepos



From the Choir of the Only Greek Orthodox St. Mark's church in the Western Hemisphere

St. Mark Choir is happy to announce great news from Boca Raton!!! Our choir director, Alisa Nicoara just had a baby boy in April. She is now home with him and we



have a new choir director, Nick Kaleel.

For the most part, our choir continues to do Kevin Lawrence's liturgy. We sing a capella and encourage congregational singing. Occasionally, we add some spice and do Chris Kypros' Agios hymn. When we do this, the congregation just listens but enjoys it immensely, bringing back wonderful memories of our 1999 conference at St. Mark's.

Kathy Chapekis



***Greetings from Tarpon Springs,
Florida, the Epiphany City!***

Christos Anesti!

We are looking forward to going back to Savannah for the coming conference. Our memories of the last conference there are still vivid in our thoughts with the wonderful reception and program that the Savannah group had for us. It was a very enjoyable weekend and we know that the hospitality this time will be just as memorable.



Epiphany this year was a great experience for us again. Archbishop Demetrios was the chief celebrant along with Metropolitan Alexios and several area priests. We again had many choir members from the Tampa Bay area and other parts of Florida as well as a bus load from the



Chicago area. It was necessary to split the choir into two parts again with Nick Paloumpis directing a group from the Chicago Federation and some of our choir members and our choir director, Joanna Hill, directing the rest of the choir. All in all, it turned out to be a very fine and uplifting liturgy.

After the march to Spring Bayou and many prayers, the Archbishop threw the cross into the bayou and 50+ young men dove in. The cross was immediately found and brought to the surface by

Michael Xipolitas of Tarpon Springs, who was blessed by the Archbishop. The weather was glorious and the young divers carried Michael on their shoulders as they made their way back to St. Nicholas for the blessing. They, then, proceeded to carry him around town, singing as they went.

Each year, one of our younger female choir members is selected to be the dove carrier for Epiphany. This young lady is chosen for her participation in the choir and for her devotion to her church and family. This year the young lady chosen was the granddaughter of one of our long-time choir members, Kally Karakos. Her name is Kalliope Cortessis and she performed her duties admirably.

Our choir was saddened by the death of Bill Dongas, the beloved husband of one of our devout choir members, Sophia Dongas. He had been ill for some time, but his passing was felt by all. May his memory be eternal.

On a personal note, I am FINALLY a yiayia. We welcomed into our family and into our hearts our beautiful granddaughter, Alexis Marie, on February 21, 2007. Our son, Dion, and his lovely wife, Amy, are ecstatic with their little girl, and Yiayia Billie, Pappou Kal and Uncle Harry are over the top. Needless to say, we think she is the most beautiful little baby in all the world (all you yiayias and pappous know what I mean), and we look forward to spoiling her.

Now that Easter season is over, we are winding down our activities for the summer. We usually go on a hiatus during the summer months, but last year anyone who wanted to come and sing could do so. That will probably be the case this summer as well.

We hope all our Federation members and their families had a very enjoyable, fulfilling Easter. And that the blessings of the Resurrection are with you all throughout the year.

See you in Savannah!

Billie Spirides

FEDERATION CHOIR TRIP TO GREECE

As you may remember, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios has recently been encouraging the federation to organize a choir tour to Greece. We have accepted this challenge and have now begun making plans for this trip. We have confirmed with His Eminence a departure date of Thursday, June 5th, 2008, and a return on Monday, June 16th.

Traveling with His Eminence, we will be singing the divine liturgy at the church of St. Andrew in Patras, and also presenting a concert there. In addition we will visit Kalavryta, Zachynthos, Olympia, Delphos, and Meteora, presenting concerts of sacred and folk music. We will also sing the divine liturgy at a church in Athens.

While the cost of the trip cannot be confirmed at this date, based on this year's costs, plane fare will be approximately \$1000 to \$1200 per person, and the cost of lodging, food and local transportation is estimated to be approximately \$1000 per person. The federation will make every effort to keep travel costs low; for example, we are exploring the possibility of staying in homes while in Patras.

The core of the choir will be members of the Dormition choir from Greensboro, NC and the Orthodox Youth Choir of Tampa Bay, groups which were awarded gold medals in the Metropolis 2006 and 2007 Hellenic Dance Festival choir competitions. The group will be directed jointly by Kevin Lawrence and Joanne Kambouris. We are sure to have room for additional singers from around the Metropolis, especially tenors and basses. Since it is important to have some idea of how many are interested in taking part in this adventure, we ask you to fill out the brief survey and return it by the end this month.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Toula Chininis
336-288-7968
2LA@bellsouth.net

CHOIR TRIP SURVEY

Name _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

Federation Choir Conference (years participated) _____

Voice Part _____

Any musical training in voice _____

Any musical training in an instrument _____

Member of church choir (years) _____

Please submit survey only if you are truly committed towards this trip. Selection may be based on auditions and choir director's recommendations.

SOUTHEASTERN FEDERATION
OF GREEK ORTHODOX CHOIRS AND MUSICIANS



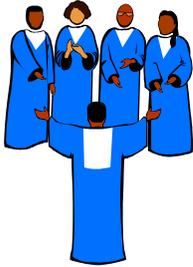
31st ANNUAL
CHOIR CONFERENCE



July 26th - July 29th, 2007

Hosted by

St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
Savannah, Georgia



“I will sing with the Spirit and I will sing
with my mind also.”

1Cor:14:15b



Featuring the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostomos

Arranged by Chris J. Zervos

Conducted by Christopher Kypros

Visit www.sfgocm.org

To receive information and to print registration forms

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Conference Deadline Dates

Prior to Attending Conference -----	Federation Dues
May 25th 2007 -----	Athenagoras Nominations
June 15th 2007 -----	Scholarship 100 Applications
July 2nd 2007 -----	Ads for Program Book
July 2nd 2007 -----	Hotel Registrations
July 2nd 2007 -----	Conference Registration
July 26th 2007 -----	Guest Meal Tickets

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dates

Thursday July 26, 2007 through Sunday July 29, 2007

Host

St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
14 West Anderson Street. Savannah GA 31401

- Phone Number 912-236-8256
- Email stpaulsgreekorthodox@comcast.net
- Website stpaul.ga.goarch.org

Music for the Sunday Service

The Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostomos: A Bilingual Choral Setting
Arrangement based on Traditional Melodies and Original Scores for Accompanied
Mixed Voices arranged by Mr. Chris Zervos.

The cost of a single copy of music \$20.00 per book plus \$4.05 shipping and handling. The mailing cost is reduced to \$15 per copy for orders of 8 or more books. There are also part-amplified recordings available for all voices. Cost of each CD is \$12.00 or \$ 40.00 for each set of four.

To order music, contact Chris Zervos: chriszervos@aol.com or via mail:

Chris Zervos
2159 Evergreen Road
Toledo, Ohio 43606
Voice: 419-534-2937

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR MUSIC AND CHOIR ROBE!

Directors:

Adult
Teen/Youth

Christopher Kypros- pherky@cox.net
(To be determined)

2007 Conference Registration Information

Hotel Information:

Hilton Garden Inn - Savannah Midtown ,Savannah, GA 31405
912-354-4716

Room Rate: \$119 + tax(single or double occupancy)(continental breakfast for two included)

Deadline: You must register by this date (07/02/2007) to receive the conference rate. Be sure to identify yourself as a member of the (Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians)

Check – in –Time: 2: 00 p.m.

Check-out - Time: 12:00 p.m.

Reservations must be made by individuals calling 1-912-354-4716.

Please use Group Code ID -300241 when making reservations. Cut off date for making reservations is (07/02/2007) Reservations received after the deadline will be accepted on a rate and room available basis only If an individual needs to cancel their reservation they need to cancel 24 hours prior to arrival time to avoid Cancellation or No Show charges.

Upon arrival and after check-in and room assignment, proceed to the Hospitality Suite assigned to the Conference . Inquire at desk for Hospitality Room #. Hospitality Suite will be available from 4:00pm to 10:00 pm.

Directions from Savannah Int'l Airport Green tag #1 on map (next page)

Directions to Hotel Yellow tag #2 on map (next page)

Directions to Church & Center (Red tag #3 on map (next page)

.0 mi (green tag)

Depart Savannah Int'l Airport on local road(s) (South) for 0.1mi

Turn right (West) onto Airways Ave. for 1.0 mi

Take ramp (Left) onto I-95 (SR-405) for 4.5mi

At exit 99A take ramp (Right) onto I-16 (SR404) for 6.7mi

At exit 164A take ramp (Right) onto I-516 (US-17) for 3.9mi

Road name changes to DeRenne Ave. for .5mi

Keep STRAIGHT onto SR-21(East DeRenne Ave) fot 0.2mi

Turn Right (South) onto SR-204 (Abercorn Street) for 0.4mi

17.3mi Hilton Garden Inn is on Right (Yellow tag #2 on map (next page)

Directions to Church and Center

Exit Hotel parking lot turn RIGHT onto Abercorn Street and return

North for 2.4mi then turn LEFT (West) onto SR204 (E37th St) for .01mi

Turn RIGHT (North) onto Bull Street for.04mi

20.2mi Arrive 14 West Anderson St. St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church on corner of Bull and Anderson St. (Red tag on map (next page)

Conference Fees (Registration)

The 2007 Conference Registration Fee covers all Choir breaks, scheduled lunches, dinners, Saturday Night Grand Banquet /Dance, Sunday Farewell Luncheon and includes a CD recording of Liturgy.

Note: Meal tickets are available for all Guests (including Children) not participating in the Conference. See attached form for meal order information.

Adults \$140 postmarked by July 2, 2007
\$165 after July 2, 2007 (late fee)

Teens \$25 postmarked by July 2, 2007
\$50 after July 2, 2007 (late fee)

Youth \$25 postmarked by July 2, 2007
\$50 after July 2, 2007 (late fee)

Note:

Each registration form must be accompanied by a check, or the registration will not be considered valid. Please make checks payable to SFGOCM Conference 2007 with appropriate adult /youth/teen registration forms, guest meal forms, etc. to:

Jamie Newman
C/O St Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
14 West Anderson St.
Savannah GA 31406
Phone: 912-236-8256

Email: stpaulsgreekorthodox@comcast.net

Refund Policy

The host city depends on the amount of pre-registered attendees in order to plan appropriately for expenses for the conference (i.e. meals entertainment, hotel, etc.) Because of this no refunds will be made until after the completion of the scheduled conference and only in the event of a major illness or death of the registrant or an immediate family member.

Conference Registration Times

You may register in person at St. Paul's Hellenic Center
14 West Anderson Street. Savannah GA

Thursday July 26, 2007

Church Music Institute Registration
Official Conference check-in

11:00 am -12:00 pm
5:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Friday July 27, 2007 Late registration

8:00 am - 9:00 am

31st ANNUAL CHOIR CONFERENCE 2007, SAVANNAH GEORGIA
Adult Registration Form

Important Notice: *Each registration form must be accompanied by a check or the registration will not be considered valid. Please make checks payable to SFGOCM Conference 2007 and send your payment together with the appropriate adult/youth Registration form, guest meal forms, etc to the address listed below.*

Jamie Newman
C/o St Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
14 West Anderson Street
Savannah Georgia 31401
912-236-8256 email stpaulsgreekorthodox@comcast.net

Registration Form

Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____ First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ e-mail address _____

Parish Name _____ Parish City _____

Voice Placement (circle one)

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
Are you attending the CMI on Thursday		Yes	No
Are you a choir delegate for your parish`		Yes	No
Do you have a Youth Choir in your city		Yes	No
Do you have a Teen Choir in your city		Yes	No
Do you have guest or family attending (If so, please attach Guest meal order form)		Yes	No
Will you need wheel chair assistance? (If so please notify by July 2 nd 2007)		Yes	No

Registration Fees

Adults \$140 postmarked by July 2, 2007
\$165 after July 2, 2007 (late fee)
Teens \$25 postmarked by July 2, 2007
\$50 after July 2, 2007 (late fee)
Youth \$25 postmarked by July 2, 2007
\$50 after July 2, 2007 (late fee)

31st ANNUAL CHOIR CONFERENCE 2007. SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Youth / Teen Registration Form

The youth Choir is open to children grades Kindergarten through 6th grade (Of current 2007-2008 school year) Your child must have turned five years old on or before September 1st 2007 in order to participate in this event. The teen Choir is open to children grades 7th through 12th (of the 2007-08) School year) If there are not enough teens registered fir the Teens Choir , those registered may choose to singing with either the Youth Choir or the Adult Choir.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Email Address _____

Parent's Names _____ Cell Phone _____

Parish Name _____ Parish City _____

Age _____ Grade in School _____

Do you sing in your church Youth Choir?	Yes	No
Do you sing in your church teens choir?	Yes	No
Do you have a parent attending the adult Conference	Yes	No
Is your parent(s) interested in chaperoning the offsite activities ?	Yes	No
Do you have any food allergies?	Yes	No

Registration fees

The youth /teens fees are as follows: (payment must accompany registration form and guest meal form if where needed.

Youth	\$25 postmarked by July 2, 2007
	\$50 after July 2, 2007(late fee)
Teen	\$25 postmarked by July 2, 2007
	\$50 after July 2,. 2007 (late fee)

Make check payment payable to SFGOCM Conference 2007 and mail to:

Jamie Newman
C/O St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
14 West Anderson Street Savannah GA 31401
912-236-8256 e mail stpaulsgreekorthodox@comcast.net

31st Annual Choir Conference 2007
St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
Savannah, GA

Youth / Teen Release Form

I hereby give permission for my child _____ to participate in the Southeastern Federation of the Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians (SFGOCM) Conference to be held at St Paul's Greek Orthodox Church in Savannah Georgia on July 26, 2007 through July 29, 2007, and hereby release SFGOCM and St Paul's Greek Orthodox Church and it's agents from any liability for any accident or injury that may occur during the course of said event, including travel to and from activities that are held at locations other than the property of the St Paul's Greek Orthodox Church in Savannah, Georgia. I hereby authorize any medical treatment for my child in the case of accident or illness. Further, my child understands that he/she must abide by all rules of the event. I also accept full responsibility for any charges for damage caused by my child.

Date _____ Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Insurance Company _____ Phone Number _____

Insurance Policy Number _____

Home Church _____

City _____ State _____

Child's date of Birth _____

Please return this completed form with your Youth /Teen Registration Form.

This Form must be received before your child may participate in any activities

Adult Choir Schedule

(subject to change)

Thursday, July 26th 2007

Church Music Institute Workshop (Optional)

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

CMI Registration

Hellenic Center

12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

CMI Workshop with breaks``

Church

5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Conference check –in

Hilton Garden Inn

5:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Hospitality Suite Open

Hilton Garden Inn

6:30 pm

Dinner for CMI participants

TBD

Friday, July 27th 2007

Choir Conference Begins

7:30 am- 8:30am

General Business Meeting

Hellenic Center Mtg Rm

8:00 am - 9:00 am

Conference check-in

Hellenic Center

*9:00 am –10:00 am

Orthros of St. Panteleimon

Church

*9:00 am—10:00 am

Rehearsal

Hellenic Center

10:00 am - 11:45pm

Liturgy for Panteleimon

Church

11:45 pm—12:00pm

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Church

12:00 pm 1:00pm

Lunch

Hellenic Center

1:00 pm— 3:00 pm

Rehearsal

Church

3:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Break

Hellenic Center

3:15 pm - 5:30 pm

Rehearsal

Church

6:00 pm- to

Free Time

Saturday July 28th 2007

Conference Continues

8:30 am - 10.30 am.

Rehearsal

Church

10:30 am– 10:45am

Break

Hellenic Center

10:45 am - 12:00 pm

Rehearsal

Hellenic Center

12:00pm -1:00 pm

Lunch

Hellenic Center

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

Rehearsal

Hellenic center

3:00 pm- 3:15 pm,

Break

Hellenic Center

3:15 pm - 5:00 pm.

Rehearsal

Church

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Great Vespers

Church

6:45 pm- 11-00 pm

Grand Banquet/Dance

Hellenic Center

Sunday, July 29, 2007

Divine Liturgy

*9:00 am – 9:50 am

Warm up and line –up

Hellenic Center

*9:00 am – 10:30 am

Orthros

Church

*9:50 am – 10:00 noon

Proceed to Sanctuary

Church

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Doxology and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

Church

12:00 pm

Farewell Luncheon

Hellenic Center

* concurrent activities

Youth/Teen Choir Schedule

(subject to change)

Thursday, July 26th 2007

5:00 pm -- 9:00 pm	Conference Check-in	Hilton Garden Inn
5: 00 pm –11:00 pm	Hospitality Suite Open	Hilton Garden Inn

Friday, July 27th 2007

Choir Conference Begins

8:30am – 9:30 am	Conference check-in	Hellenic Center
*9:00 am - 10:00 am	Orthros for Panteleimon	Church
*9:30 am –10:30 am	Rehearsal	Hellenic Center
*10:00am –11:45 pm	Liturgy for Panteleimon	Church
*10:30 am – 11:45am	Break	Hellenic Center
*10:45 am – 11:45 am	Rehearsal	Hellenic Center
11:45 am -- 12:00pm	Welcome and Opening Prayer	Church
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch	Hellenic Center
1:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Rehearsal	Hellenic Center
2:15 pm - 2:30 pm	Break	Hellenic center
2:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Off Site Activity	City Tours
6:00 pm – to	Free Time	

Saturday July 28th 2007

Conference Continues

8:30 am - 10:45 am.	Rehearsal	Hellenic Center
10:30 am – 10:45pm	Break	Hellenic Center
10:45 am - 12:00pm	Rehearsal with Adults	Church
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch	Hellenic Center
1:00 pm - 5:30 pm	City Tour	Savannah
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Great Vespers	Church
6:45 pm - 11:00 pm	Grand Banquet/Dance	Hellenic Center

Sunday, July 29, 2007

Divine Liturgy

*9:00 am – 9:50 am.	Warm up and line –up	Hellenic Center
*9:00 am – 10:00 am.	Orthros	Church
*9:50 am - 10:00 am	Proceed to Sanctuary	Church
10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Doxology and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy	Church
12:00 pm	Farewell Luncheon	Hell3nic Center

* concurrent activities

Federation Information

2006-2007 Federation

President – John P. Mitchell - johnpm2@hotmail.com
Vice President – Margaret M. Sarafoglu - sarafoglut@bellsouth.net
Secretary – Kathy Chapekis - memoriesbykathy@aol.com
Treasurer – Nick Mermigas - nmermigas@bbandt.com
Immediate Past President - Mary G. Zervos - mgzervos@aol.com
Librarian and Kevin Lawrence Liturgy Book – Toulia Chininis – 2la@bellsouth.net
Athenagoras Award – JoAnna Hill - greekgirl@knology.net
Music Selection and Scholarship 100 – Philip Thevaos – yellowjacketgt@aol.com
Youth Initiative Chairperson – Open
Keynotes/Notable Notes Editor – Leon Karahalis - leonk@bellsouth.net

Dues

According to the By-Laws of the Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians, you, as an individual, or your choir must be in good standing with the Federation in order to participate in our annual conference. Annual Choir dues is \$100. Individual dues are \$10. Please join now! Make your check payable to SFGOCM and send to:

Margaret M. Sarafoglu
SFGOCM Membership Chairman
6201 SW 118th Street
Miami, FL 33156
305.661.7548
sarafoglut@bellsouth.net

Delegates

Two delegates from each member choir will have voting privileges at our annual meeting. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting on Friday morning at 7:30 a.m. and is encouraged to do so.

Would your parish like to host an upcoming conference?

If so, please submit a letter from your parish asking to be considered as a possible host for a future conference. The request needs to be signed by your Pastor, Parish Council President and Choir Director. It is imperative to have their support for a successful conference. Please contact:

Mr. John P. Mitchell
SFGOCM President
13914 Pepperrel Drive
Tampa, FL 33624
813.962.0551
johnpm2@hotmail.com

Commemorative Album 2007

Space is available for your ad in the Commemorative Program Book. Attached is a contract Form. *Please consider being a part of this beautiful keepsake Album.*

Choir Picture

Please forward a glossy color and roster of your choir along with a \$25 processing fee to be included in the commemorative album the deadline to be included in the album is July 2, 2007.

We prefer camera-ready artwork. If possible, send your photo by e-mail in a JPEG file. If you cannot email your choir photo, type your roster on a separate sheet of paper and attach it along with your choir picture (no staples please) to this form along with your payment to the address below. Make checks payable to SFGOCM Commemorative Album and mail to:

C/o Jamie Newman
St. Paul's Greek Orthodox
14 West Anderson Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Patriarch Athenagoras I Award

The Patriarch Athenagoras I Award was initiated by the national Form of Greek Orthodox Musicians and established in 1996 as a means of giving recognition to meritorious individuals whose contributions to the Music Ministry of the Church in the Metropolis of Atlanta and are worthy of distinction. Dead line date for Nomination form and guidelines are available on the Website: www.sfgocm.org or in the spring issue of the Federation newsletter KEYNOTES, or from:

Dr. Z. Joanna Hill
Chair person Athenagoras I Award
1020 Wideview Avenue Tarpon Springs , FL 34689
727-934-0140
e-mail: greekgirl@knology.net
Scholarship

Established in 1986 the Father George and Presbvetera and Michael Zanakos Music Scholarship has made it possible for aspiring students to further their Education in the field of music. For specific information, please visit Federation website: www.sfgocm.org or in the spring issue of the Federation newsletter, Keynotes , or from:

G. Philips Thevaos Chairman Scholarship 100
1827 Therrel Farms Road
Waxhaw, NC 28173
704-843-3266 e-mail: yellowjacketgt@aol.com

31st Annual Conference
Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Choirs and Musicians
July 26th - July 29th, 2007
St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
Savannah Georgia, 31401

Commemorative Album Advertising Contract

Date: _____ Name of Business Patron _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

The undersigned agrees to pay the sum of \$ _____ for a _____ page ad size
Or a "Friend" listing (see below) in the 2007SFGOCM Commemorative Album and is
subject to the terms of this contract.

Signature _____ Printed Name _____

Rate Schedule

Back Cover	\$400
Inside front Cover	\$325
Inside back Cover	\$300
Full Page	\$200
Half Page	\$125
Quarter Page	\$75
Friends (Name listing)	\$15

- 1) If placing a business ad, or personal patron ad, please enclose black and white camera ready artwork (or a business card) do not staple. (We prefer camera ready artwork)
Please send by e-mail in word file, JPEG or PDF file to: choirads@bighousegraphix.com
- 2) If camera-ready artwork cannot be furnished, the ad will be set in type specified by the Album Committee. Please type your information or message on a separate sheet of paper
And attach it to this form along with your payment.
- 3) If you are a "friends" supporter, please print your name below as you wish to appear on the "Friends" page

Friends Ad _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE YOUR CHECK WITH THIS CONTRACT.
Make checks payable to SFGOCM Conference 2007, and mail to:
SFGOCM Commemorative Album
Jamie Newman
C/o St Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
14 West Anderson St.
Savannah GA 31401

DEADLINE FOR ALL ADVERTISEMENTS IS JULY 2, 2007

Choir Conference 2007

“For Memento’s Sake Take Home a Souvenir from Savannah Ga.

Order Form

Visit our bookstore and see what we have for you.

2007 Choir Conference Commemorative Album -----\$25*

Recording of The Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostomos CD ----\$12*

CD of entire Choir Conference Slide Show-----\$12*

Savannah T Shirt ----- \$10

***Prices shown include S/H**

Fill out order form below and present form with total payment to Book Store attendants in lobby.

Full Name-----

Street Address-----

City----- State----- Zip Code

Name of Parish-----

**Please Support us (Host Parish)
Host Parish will receive all profits from these sales
Thank you**

31 Annual Choir Conferences 2007

Savannah Georgia

Guest Meal Order Form

If you would like to order meal tickets for a guest who is not participating in the Choir Conference, please fill out this order form and return it with your registration form and corresponding payment. *We must receive reservations in advance of the conference*

Name of Conference _____

Participant _____

Parish Name _____ Parish City _____

Name of Guest(s) _____

Daily Menu

Day	Meal	Cost per meal	# of Tickets	Total
Friday	Lunch- Shrimp Creole	\$8.50	X	=
Saturday	light lunch- Buffet	\$6.00	X	=
Saturday Evening Grand Banquet and Dance				
	Dinner- Prime Rib	\$25.00	X	=
				Saturday Evening
Children under 12 years old				
	Dinner- Spaghetti /Meat Balls	\$ 8.50	X	=
Sunday Noon				
	Farewell Luncheon --- Baked Chicken (Greek Style)	\$12.00	X	=

Make checks payable to SFGOCM Conference 2007 and mail completed form and full payment to:

Jamie Newman
 C/O
St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
 14 West Anderson Street
 Savannah, GA 31401
 Email: stpaulsgreekorthodox@comcast.net

**Choir Conference 2007
Savannah, GA**

City Tour Form

Choir rehearsal schedule for July 27th and July 28th allows free time for Adult, Youth/Teen choir members to take a break from their busy schedule. Guests visiting our conference may also enjoy their free time by signing up for Tours or to make their own plans. This free time period can be spent visiting our beautiful city by any of the selections stated below.

Please note however that parent permission and /or parent control is required for youth and teen groups for any of the selections.

The Hilton Garden Inn offers free daily complimentary shuttle to the Historic District to and from downtown. Tourist will be free to walk Bay St. and River St. to dine, shop at stores and visit the flea market.

**Drop off and pick up location:
Hilton Garden Inn 321 W. Bay Street.
(check on return time)**

Gray Line Tours offer group trolley tours (approx. 2 hours) from hotel to down town and return to hotel. Your Host Parish offers a discount rate of \$15 per person for choir conference members. Tour includes one historic house visit and a complete motor tour through the Historic District and other city sights. (Arranged for Friday only)

A tour guide book in your conference bag list a variety of tour options from which you can select to fit your personal schedule.

Select your choice:

I will make my own plans-----Yes ----No

Friday and Saturday

Hilton Garden Inn -----On your own to walk all sights Yes ----No----

Arranged for Friday only

Gray Line Motor Tour----- Minimum of 20 tourist required Yes---- No----

Name----- Last name-----

Parish city----- State-----Zip-----

This Sign up Form is required with tour payment and mailed to:

**Jamie Newman
Finance Coordinator
C/o St Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
14 West Anderson Street
Savannah GA 31401**