

49 - GEOGRAPHIC AREA /COMMUNITY - Strong local and surrounding state Orthodox parishes to learn from; Growth in area homebuilding for outreach; Fastest growing community in Georgia; Good location in Forsyth; No orthodox presence in north Georgia; No orthodox presence in north Georgia; On a busy road and very visibly; Large Hispanic population provide outreach; Forsyth county relationships; Location as the furthest north; Wealthiest area is within 10 miles of church; We have a large community right around the church that we are not trying to reach; Growth of Forsyth County; Large and growing Hispanic population; AIOPA stronger multi-Orthodox Community; Population growth in Forsyth County and surrounding areas; Involving non-orthodox Forsyth youth in VCC and youth programming; Community is very open to our church; Our strong relationship with the county government branches and departments; Forsyth county events; To provide more exposure in Forsyth County to Sts. RNI; With the Asian growth in Johns Creek and Cumming, the interest in the Indian Community to Orthodoxy is a great opportunity; Expansion of benevolence outreach in the local county; Positive representation of the Church in the Community; Amazing reputation of the community as well as land resources ready to be developed; Sustained growth of Forsyth County infrastructure, and population; Sustained growth of Forsyth County infrastructure, and population; Fast growing state and county; Growth of Forsyth county; Community is very open to our church; Forsyth County is one of the strongest counties in Georgia; Forsyth County is one of the wealthiest and fastest growing counties in Georgia; growth of Forsyth County gives the Church more opportunity to connect with and reach more people; the recognition in Forsyth Co and support from the local government to be a springboard for other endeavors/favor as we try to build the church building; New neighborhoods continue to populate; Sharing Church invitations and information to neighborhoods next to the Church; Cumming is growing rapidly - people and money seem to be flowing in and perhaps there are grant opportunities available in Cumming and/or Forsyth County that could be tapped; Growth in Forsyth county; further north like Dawson; low cost of housing in the area; More visibility/involvement in Forsyth County through community activities and outreach; The community of North Atlanta is still in a growth mode, so our opportunity to identify and recruit families to become parishioners at Sts RNI is very strong; Not everyone is from Cumming or Forsyth so looking outward to help others could be an idea; More involvement to help local Forsyth schools; Sponsor a program within the Cumming or Forsyth community; Forsyth county continues to be one of the fastest growing populations in Georgia—opportunity for more growth; A mission in Gainesville; Looking outside of Forsyth, Cumming area would be a start.

35 - GROWING NUMBERS OF SEEKERS/CONVERTS/LAPSED ORTHODOX DESIRING FAITH EDUCATION - Non-Orthodox seekers looking to find the truth cannot reliably find consistent & complete information about Orthodoxy on the internet; There is a vast number of folks who are looking to the stability and steadfastness of the faith; Disillusioned with protestant; Needs of young adult men seeking orthodoxy; More confusion in society means the Church can speak to these questions; More and more people searching for what Orthodoxy offers; Seekers of all

OPPORTUNITIES

backgrounds desiring an active spiritual life in the post-Covid world (having seminars and seeker-focused classes available on a regular basis like a “pre-Journey to Fullness” track/class?; Online classes to learn about Orthodoxy; Untapped potential of a parochial school or daycare for the training of community; Community opportunities-ie. Homeschool coops; increasing number of converts to Orthodoxy can be a catalyst for needed change in our the Church to discard cultural weights and entanglements hindering/heeding the spread of the Faith; a growth of homeschooling families in the area and people initiating their involvement in their children’s education can lead families to asking further questions about their faith/the Church/education should the Church pursue starting its own school as well; Growing home school community with families who are typically more interested in learning history, including Church history; Online/virtual classes for those not able to get to Cumming easily; As our community grows, the need for biblical education increases; A hybrid home school and church school program; 3 days at home and 2 days on campus learning or some sort of combination that helps parents to educate children in partnership with the church; A hybrid program could be more cost effective for families while not shifting the church’s priority away from being the church yet weaving our future young people to be tightly knit to the faith; Many families showing interest to the Orthodox Church; The United Methodist Church has lost their minds, we need to be recruiting these folks; Converting members use their connections to grow; Many Greek Orthodox in the area who either don’t attend church- how to appeal to those who left or just visited; Growing population of Eastern Europe immigrants recruitment opportunities; Ancient faith growing in those seeking other ways to worship God; Catholic church has struggled as well, need to be recruiting these folks as well; Continued implosion/collapse of Western, Denominational church as it fails to withstand the social/cultural pressures; Continued rise in cultural awareness of Orthodoxy through various high-profile personalities, a la Peterson, Pageau, Hanegraaf, and others; A cultural rise in Protestants looking for connection to the historical Church; we have a chance to gain more converts & increase members of our community; We continue to benefit from seekers and catechumens from other denominations both protestant and Catholic; We have to continue to find the narrow path that makes converts and cradle Orthodox feel welcome by finding something that they can identify with, and that is challenge; Many are disillusioned with Protestantism; No creeds – Orthodox, Protestant, Catholic do an adequate job using scientific discovery to demonstrate the case for a creator and to inoculate the young against atheist professors and teachers; A population jaded by the cultural mayhem, in search of truth, goodness and beauty; COVID in particular made more people feel isolated and suicides increased; Be an example of Christianity; Breakdown of society.

18 - OUTREACH, SERVICE AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES -

More outreach for the poor; More outreach in the community outside of church family; As we see all the chaos, hurt, and hate around us, there is a lot of opportunity to reach out and change hearts through Christ; Service projects; Get more involved in outreach activities such as soup kitchen; Find more places to outreach in the community; Boy Scouts involvement; Prison Ministry; Group activity opportunities; Involve our youth in assisting area food banks, nursing homes, etc.; Missionary Trips; Mission trips; Lanier

OPPORTUNITIES

Tech annual Craft Show – exposure (Philoptochos); Trail Life and American Heritage Girls are two parachurch youth organizations with would benefit greatly from including our Orthodox perspective, and we could be a host facility; I think there's opportunity to give young adults a better foundation, one that doesn't make them more secluded; Evangelism; Prison ministry; Plant additional church.

18 - TECHNOLOGY/COMMUNICATIONS-Technology; Snapchat; Tick tock; Digital expansion- social media, podcasts etc; Cheaper technology for Internet programs; Expand distribution of digital content – AF Radio; Growing sophistication of Technology enables more outreach; Video/Livestream of services; We could also digitize the brochures in the narthex and add to the website; Existing & emerging technologies; Social Media use growing to discover spirituality; Link for donation's during live feeds on Sunday Services and other services that are broadcast live; Additionally, young adults are addicted to social media and often have their views twisted/lacking truth; New video technology to help spread the word from our Parish to the outside world; Media Outreach – Media is an important part of society; We need to add more social media content which should be part of the Media and Streaming Ministry; Social media outreach; Most of the media is bad; Political views (social media) are creating strife, especially with young adults, in today's world; Media opportunities thru internet and YouTube; Online ministries cause uptick during pandemics and thereafter.

5 - TIMELESS THEOLOGY - Timeless theology; Orthodoxy Faith; Orthodox church provides a solid foundation of truth and greatness; We are the anecdote to wokeness and pushing people to core values of faith; Have a timeless theology.

5 - ECONOMIC ISSUES OPPORTUNITIES - Financial classes seems to be a more recent trend that other Christian denominations are promoting; I know of three families in past year (Catholic, Baptist & non-denominational) that offered financial classes; which I thought was interesting. Possible opportunity?;the struggling economy and people's physical needs can give the Church the opportunity to serve and give and bless tangibly; Inflation;

ONEOFFS

Parades;
Hiking Trips;
Homeschooling creates opportunities;
Other parish relationships;
Scientific discovery that points you straight to go Christ;
Toxic masculinity is welcome;
Families need equipping in this world with disintegration of family;

INTERNAL NOT EXTERNAL ITEMS THAT ARE NOT EXTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES-

~ Utilizing Fr B's worldwide presence for fundraising;
~ Text message system-;
~ We should go more church;
~ With the size of the land we have plenty of room for growth; Has been discussed by Fr ~ But there has never been an ask that I know of; Lots of land that we already own;

OPPORTUNITIES

I think once we have an additional priest we will be able to provide the depth of spiritual care that is hard to do with just 1 priest;

- ~ What is the STS RNI focus and goals?;
 - ~ Engage Parishioners to join groups that perform certain functions;
 - ~ We are in an enviable position to grow our facilities;
 - ~ A larger facility will encourage new people joining our church;
 - ~ We have land waiting to be built on;
 - ~ People in our parish and Orthodox faith outside of our parish are waiting for us to do something that shows growth;
 - ~ All are in anticipation, waiting for us to create the next big thing;
 - ~ It is highly anticipated by our current congregation as well; Outside ministries – We need to identify all the possible ministries and prioritize them;
 - ~ Festivals;
 - ~ Attendance/exposure from our Greek Festival;
 - ~ The community is positive and open towards our faith and culture especially during the festival; the popularity and success of the yearly Greek Festival;
 - ~ Greek Festival – Continue the Greek Festival with a strong emphasis on our faith;
 - ~ Greek Festival opportunity to grow parish;
 - ~ The community is positive and open towards our faith and culture, especially during the festival;
 - ~ If we do not already have a Ministries Manager, we need to have one;
- This will allow us to identify the opportunities and needs of the community that we might be missing;
- ~ We have the luxury of making a choice;
 - ~ We can actively pursue retrieval of the relics of our saints, Raphael, Nicholas and Irene from Lesvos, Greece;
 - ~ It should be an ongoing, planned project we see concluded in the next year, complete with the construction or purchase of a proper reliquary for the precious relics so they may be revered as part of our church proper;
 - ~ A travel professional should be retained to coordinate all arrangements and itinerary for air and accommodations for the trips required to make this goal reality and as affordable as possible for all participating parties;
 - ~ We need to have several members managing our social media and releasing approved and relevant information;
 - ~ Also will allow us to plan for future ministries and execute those plans;
 - ~ Father Barnabas's technological knowledge;
 - ~ STSRNI App – App that reaches Social Media with accurate information and media on our faith
 - ~ An Orthodox Educational section that has deeper dives into Orthodoxy, on our website could be key to ensuring seekers are finding the right truth from the internet Those sections will have links to all of Father B's (and others that are approved) talks, interviews, educational seminars, etc, that are done outside of Parish business;
 - ~ It would be nice if all those links to the media were housed in a Single section of the website;
 - ~ Faith Encouraged Ministries (we have a worldwide ministry opportunity);
 - ~ Creating a FAQ section for Non-Orthodox seekers;
 - ~ Maybe more marketing indicating that all are welcome would help;
 - ~ Connecting with youth;
 - ~ Events at other churches for all ages;
 - ~ Along with continuing to strengthen our convert community we should include a public relations campaign directed to Greek and Orthodox Christians;
 - ~ Donors to support major projects;
 - ~ Relationships with benefactors who will assist us with fund raising so we can begin the building process;
 - ~ Outside donors for development of our property; Relationships with benefactors who will assist us with fund raising so we can begin the building process;
 - ~ Corporate/Charity sponsorship for long-term projects;
 - ~ Relationships with benefactors who will assist us with fund raising so we can begin the building process;
 - ~ Maximize the value of our property by potentially leasing out a portion;
 - ~ Lease out some of our property;
 - ~ For our building goals, the near term economic environment is quite uncertain;
- but within 2-3 years the opportunity to build in a more affordable economic environment should exist;
- ~ Success of parish is build a cohesive group of people/parishioners who have the same goal in mind;
 - ~ Could Sts RNI become more of a safe haven for young adults? Possible opportunity;
 - ~ One opportunity we have is to increase our youth participation with other Church YAL or GOYA activities such as those from the Marietta and Atlanta Churches;
 - ~ Advertise more for the Greek ladies kitchen;
 - ~ This is an opportunity we are building but we could find more ways to get the word out;
 - ~ We could advertise to area restaurants to buy bakery ongoing for their restaurants, etc....;
 - ~ Relative affordable, I don't see this dynamic changing, I believe our strengths play well to this dynamic;
 - ~ Collaboration with other youth groups in the metropolis, fostering friendships and more participation in the church;
 - ~ Greater interaction for our youth with other local parishes;
 - ~ Working together with other orthodox churches in the area when it comes to VCC, festivals, Picnics, etc... inviting them to help, attend, etc...and vice versa;