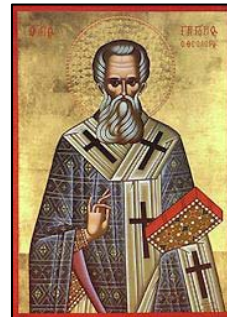
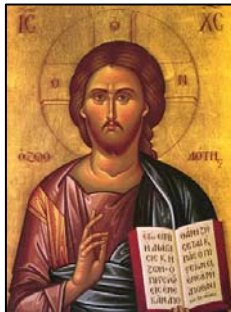




GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: www.atlanta.goarch.org
St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church



313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210
Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, Chancellor

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, January 25, 2009

ON THIS DAY, THE 15TH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, we commemorate our Holy Father Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople (+388); Righteous Father Castinus, Bishop of Byzantium; Righteous Father Publius; Righteous Father Maris; Holy Martyr Medoula and her Companions; Righteous Father Demetrios the Skevophylax; Righteous Father Apollos of the Thebaid; and Holy New Martyr Auxentios. *Through their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.*

Welcome, Visitors and Newcomers, to our Mission Parish!

We invite you to enter your name, mail/email addresses in our Guest Register (near the entrance) if you are interested in joining and assisting with our mission's development. We want to keep you informed of our schedule and location of services. ***You and your family are welcome; we look forward to knowing you. We invite you and your family to join and assist us often!***

Please consider that only baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians in canonical good standing may approach for Holy Communion. All are invited to partake of the Antidoron ("instead of the gifts") distributed at the conclusion of today's Divine Liturgy.

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER THE SMALL ENTRANCE

1./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Grave Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.122-125):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: By Your Cross, O Lord, You destroyed death; to the thief You opened paradise. The myrrhbearers' sorrow You transformed into joy, and You sent Your apostles forth to proclaim that You had risen from the dead, Christ our God, bestowing on all the world Your great mercy.

3. Hymn for St. Gregory the Theologian – (not in Hymnal):

This hymn is sung after the Small Entrance: The pastoral flute of your theology conquered the trumpets of orators. For it called upon the depths of the Spirit, and you were enriched with the beauty of words. Intercede to Christ our God, O Father Gregory, that our souls may be saved.

4. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (see music distributed):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: Made comely with garments woven from your venerable blood, you stand before the Lord, the King of Heaven and earth, O famed Martyr Christopher. With the choirs of Angels and the Martyrs you chant, singing the thrice-holy hymn and most awesome praises. Thus, by your intercessions with God, save us, your servants.

5. Kontakion sung in anticipation of the Presentation of the Lord (to be celebrated 2/2) (Hymnal-pp.250-253):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: For our salvation You took flesh and You sanctified the Virgin's womb; You blessed the aged Simeon as You lay resting in his arms; and having come to save us all, O Christ our God, to these troubled times, bring Your lasting peace. Give strong and undaunted faith to all Your people, O only lover of mankind.

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES **FROM TODAY'S ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY**

The Scriptures were not given us for this only, that we might have them in books, but that we might engrave them on our hearts.

– St. John Chrysostom

Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (John 21:1-14)

After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and He showed Himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered Him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large

fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask Him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after He was raised from the dead.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Hebrews 7:26-8:2)

²⁶For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, He has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for His own sins, and then for those of the people; this He did once for all when He offered Himself. ²⁸For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever. ⁸Now the main point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, One Who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ²a Minister in the sanctuary and the true tent that the Lord, and not any mortal, has set up.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 19:1-10)

¹He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ²A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see Him, because He was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." ⁶So he hurried down and was happy to welcome Him. ⁷All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." ⁸Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my

possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.”⁹ Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham.¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

TODAY’S MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.” (John 3:17)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Am I Doing a Job or Offering Ministry to God?

At times, we may approach our service to our Church as a *task or job to be performed*, rather than view it as a *diakonia* or service to our Lord and His Body of Believers.

Perhaps we do something to help because no one else will, without realizing our gifts of time and talents as true service/ministry to our Lord.

Maybe we commit just enough time at a task to get by, rather than offer our personal talents to the best of our ability, thereby honoring God and thanking Him as well.

Perhaps we find it easy to offer ourselves only so long as our assistance does not interfere with our other activities, rather than let go of material or self-centered desires that limit or prevent us from offering our best to God.

Sometimes we may stop helping because no one praises or thanks us, rather than persevere . . . even when no one is looking or we do not derive a personal benefit.

Perhaps we are more concerned with individual success with our work, rather than concern for faithfulness to our Lord's plan of salvation for all humankind and the critical importance of our communal efforts.

I encourage you to listen to the voice of God that is calling and asking you to serve each day within His Holy Church. Rather than perceive your efforts as a "mere job", consider them as "offerings, as sacred tasks, as *diakonias*, or as ministries" that will lead you, your family, and fellow parishioners to spiritual fulfillment and excitement, and help us go forward in our walk of faith leading to God's Kingdom.

Then, we will at the Day of Judgment, hear God's joy when He proclaims: *"Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your Master."* (Matthew 25:23)

May God bless and empower each of us, His co-workers, whom He is calling to assist in the ministry of this parish and our community at large. May we see ourselves in the same context with which St. Peter encouraged his co-workers more than 2,000 years ago to consider:

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9) AMEN!



PHILOPTOCHOS HANDS OF LOVE

Through Today

***Our Philoptochos Society will be collecting for
One Roof Outreach Ministry in Newnan, GA.***

***Diapers – All Sizes, Pull-Ups – All Sizes
Children’s New Underwear***

Also Today

***Our Philoptochos Society will be collecting monetary
donations for our St. Christopher’s Dance Group.***

Next Sunday, February 1

***Our Philoptochos Society will be collecting canned
goods and monetary donations to help the Fayette
Samaritans as part of the National Souper Bowl of
Caring effort to be conducted next Sunday.***

Thank You for your Hands of Love!

And on this the two hundred and fifty-sixth Sunday of our St. Christopher's parish community, we continue to thank each of you for your presence and support. Although it may seem like we are just a handful of men, women and children, if we commit ourselves to serving our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we will experience the miracle of growth as the Holy Spirit brings others into His service to help us build His new church in the Peachtree City, Georgia area for the glory of God!

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, January 25 (15th Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Memorial Service
- 10:30 a.m. Memorial Luncheon
- 11:00 a.m. General Parish Assembly Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. GOYA Meeting
- 1:30 p.m. Hellenic Dance Practice

Sunday, February 1 (Sunday of Canaanite Woman/Souper Bowl of Caring):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy & Agiasmos/Blessing of Water
- 10:45 a.m. Parish's St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival
- 11:30 a.m. Hellenic Language Class
- 12:30 p.m. Introduction to Orthodoxy Class

Monday, February 2 (Presentation of our Lord & Savior into the Temple):

- 6:00 p.m. Orthros (Evening)
- 7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy (Evening)
- 8:00 p.m. Community Dinner (Non-fasting – please bring food)

Sunday, February 8 (Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee/Triodion Begins):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 10:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes
- 11:30 a.m. Greek Fest Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. Hellenic Dance Practice
- 12:00 p.m. Parish Council Meeting

The Week of February 9-14 is Fast-Free!

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!