



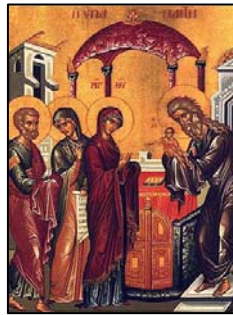
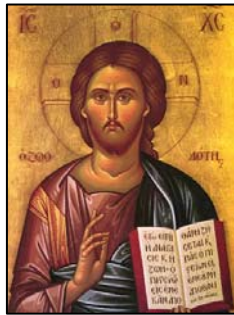
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: www.atlmetropolis.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, February 1, 2009

ON THIS DAY, THE SUNDAY OF THE CANAANITE WOMAN, we commemorate the Forefeast of the Presentation of our Lord and Savior in the Temple; Holy Martyr Tryphon (+251); Righteous Father Peter of Galatia; Righteous Father Bendimianos; Perpetua and her Companions (202-203); Righteous Timothy the Confessor; Bridget of Ireland; Righteous Father and Confessor Basil, Archbishop of Thessalonika (+950); Holy Martyr Theios, along with two children; Holy Martyr Karios; Holy New Martyr Anastasios of Navplion (1654); and Righteous David and Symeon. *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 (Plagal of the 4th Tone) – (Hymnal-pp. 126-7):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: From on high You descended, O merciful Lord. You accepted the cross and three days in the tomb to free us from the bondage of sin, O our life and resurrection. Glory to You, O Lord.

3. Hymn for the Forefeast of the Presentation – (not in Hymnal):

This hymn is sung after the Small Entrance: Bowing toward the earth, the celestial choir of the Vaults of Heaven behold the First-born of all Creation being brought to the Temple as a nursing infant by Mary, who knew not man. They now sing with us, a hymn of the Forefeast, in awesome ecstasy.

4. Hymn for Holy Martyr Tryphon – (not in Hymnal):

This hymn is sung after the Small Entrance: For his struggle, O Lord, Your martyr received the crown of immortality from You our God. Armed with Your might, he defeated the tyrants. He also crushed the arrogance of demons. By his intercessions, O Christ our God, save our souls.

5. 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.

6. Kontakion for Forefeast of the Presentation of the Lord (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: On this day Symeon receives with gladness God, the Giver of the Law, and he cries to Him in fear: Let me depart now, O Master Christ, for I have seen You, the Glory of Israel.

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 21:15-25)

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time He said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to Him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know everything; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this He said to him, "Follow me." Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about him?" Jesus said to him, "If it is My will that he remain until I come, what is that to You? Follow me!" So the rumor spread in the community

that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to You?" This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Romans 8:28-39)

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom He predestined He also called; and those whom He called He also justified; and those whom He justified He also glorified. ³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He Who did not withhold His own Son, but gave Him up for all of us, will He not with Him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God Who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, Who died, yes, Who was raised, Who is at the right hand of God, Who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him Who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 15:21-28)

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But He did not answer her at all. And His disciples came and urged

Him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before Him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

". . . neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Rom. 8:38-39)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

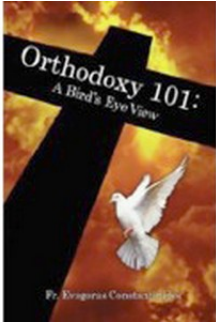
A teacher noticed one of her students, a shy young boy, was having trouble working out his arithmetic assignment. The teacher went to the child quietly and asked if she could *help* with any questions, knowing the boy was timid about asking for help.

After the problem was solved, the little boy thanked the teacher. The teacher told the little boy not to be shy about asking questions, "That's one of the reasons I am here."

The little boy thought about that for a moment, and then asked quietly, "*What would be another reason you are here?*"

What if you asked this same question about me as your Pastor . . . *for what reasons am I here?* I would respond that in addition to helping you with what you are facing right now in your lives, I have been called by our Lord, Jesus Christ to serve, to teach, to worship, and to provide His fellowship . . . according to His will, to all of you, His beloved people, His sheep. That includes offering His love, His mercy, His forgiveness, and His hope for the future, in a spirit of faithfulness and cooperation with each of you, my co-workers. *Glory to God always!*

Introduction to Orthodoxy Classes - Next Class Today at 12:30 p.m.



Parishioners, visitors, and newcomers who would like an overview of the Orthodox faith are encouraged to attend this course to be presented on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month, from 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Fr. George is using the text, *Orthodoxy 101: A Bird's Eye View* (available for purchase in our Bookstore).

Our first class met on Sunday, January 18, 2009 and will meet every first and third Sunday at 12:30 p.m. through the end of May. This series is an excellent resource for anyone contemplating joining the Church and also helpful for Orthodox Christians who wish to increase his or her understanding of our faith.



PHILOPTOCHOS HANDS OF LOVE

Today, February 1st

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 today.

Thank You for your Hands of Love!



Souper Bowl of Caring

Hunger Quiz

- 1. How many people in the United States live in households considered to be food insecure?**
a) 7 million b) 16 million c) 24 million d) 35 million
- 2. What percentage of U.S. cities is not able to provide adequate quantity of food to those in need?**
a) 16% b) 29% c) 45% d) 59%
- 3. True or False? The United States has the highest wage inequality of any other industrialized nation?**
- 4. How much money did it cost to purchase a 30-second commercial during the 2007 Super Bowl?**
a) 1.5 million b) 2.2 million c) 2.6 million d) 3 million

(Please see back of bulletin for answers.)

This year marks a special event for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Today, Super Bowl Sunday is the 20th anniversary since the youth of Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC addressed the issue of hunger with this Super Bowl Sunday prayer:

"Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat."

The prayer inspired this single church to invite 21 other congregations to join them in collecting \$5,700, which was donated to local charities that provide assistance to the those in need. Over the past 20 years, more than \$50 million has been raised in cash and food for organizations that fight hunger. From a single prayer and a single youth group, the Souper Bowl of Caring has become a powerful nationwide movement that touches more lives each year.

Drop a few dollars in a soup pot today as we collect for this worthy effort. Leave your canned food goods in the kitchen. Your donation will go directly to the charity chosen by our Philoptochos – *the Fayette Samaritans*. With your help, more dollars will be raised, more lives will be changed, and more people will experience the joy of serving Christ by serving others.

And on this the two hundred and fifty-seventh 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, 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 (*please join us*)

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

- 7:30 a.m. Orthros/Baptism
- 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

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!

Answers to the Souper Bowl of Caring Hunger Quiz

1. **D - 35 Million** - The number of people in the United States that live in food insecure households would fill over 500 NFL stadiums. *The Food Research and Action Center: Household Food Security in the United States 2005*
2. **C - 45%** - Despite the fact that we live in one of the wealthiest nations in the world, many of our cities are not able to help their citizens meet their basic needs. This is where the local food banks and ministries have to step in. Your donations will be sent directly to the local charity chosen by your parish to help people in need. *The United States Conference of Mayors: 2006 Hunger and Homelessness Survey*
3. **True** - People can work full-time at minimum wage and still not make enough money to maintain a basic standard of living--buying food, paying their rent and medical bills, buying clothes for their children and affording a car so they can travel back and forth to work. *Bread.org*
4. **C - 2.6 Million** - This is a day when millions of dollars are spent to enjoy the Super Bowl experience. It is also a day that we can choose to turn our thoughts and dollars towards those without a bowl of soup to eat. *CNN Money.com*