



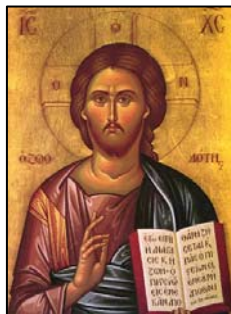
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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 22, 2009

ON THIS DAY, THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE TRIODION PERIOD WHICH WE REFER TO AS MEAT FARE SUNDAY, WE CALL TO MIND THE SECOND AND INESCAPABLE COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. WE ALSO COMMEMORATE the Finding of the Relics of the Holy Martyrs of Eugenios (+395-408); Righteous Father and Confessor Athanasios of Paulopetrios; Anthousa the Holy Martyr and her 12 Companions; Holy Martyr Synetos; Holy Telesforos, Bishop of Rome; Righteous Fathers Thalassios (+440), Limnaios (5th cent.) and Baradatos. *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.

Please join us here this coming Saturday, February 28th,
as we commemorate
the Second of Three Saturdays of the Souls...
Orthros, 7:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 9:00 a.m.,
followed by Memorial Service for our departed brethren.
For those who are able, please bring Kolyva.

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER THE SMALL ENTRANCE

1./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Third Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.106-109):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the mighty power of His arm. He has trampled down death by death, becoming the firstborn of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell and has granted to all the world His great mercy.

3. 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.

4. Kontakion for Meat Fare Sunday – (Hymnal-pp.260-263):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: When You come to the earth, O God, in Your glory, all creation will tremble and a river of fire will flow before Your throne of judgment. The books will be opened and the secrets of all will be revealed. On that day, O just Judge, deliver me from eternal flames and make me worthy to stand at Your right.

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 (Mark 16:9-20)

Now after He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons. She went out and told those who had been with Him, while they were mourning and weeping. But when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it. After this He appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them. Later He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and He upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw Him after He had risen. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using My name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover." So then the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it. Amen.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2)

"Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall. Am I not free? Am I not

an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 25:31-46)

"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will put the sheep at His right hand and the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you gave Me clothing, I was sick and you took care of Me, I was in prison and you visited Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw You hungry and gave You food, or thirsty and gave You something to drink? And when was it that we saw You a stranger and welcomed You, or naked and gave You clothing? And when was it that we saw You sick or in prison and visited You?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of My family, you did it to Me.' Then He will say to those at His left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from Me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not give Me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of You?' Then He will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

MEMORY VERSE *(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):*

"Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light." *(Matthew 11:29-30)*

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

(Excerpt from the Canon of the Sunday of the Last Judgment)

Seventh Ode: WE HAVE SINNED, TRANSGRESSED, DONE WRONG BEFORE YOU. WE HAVE NOT WATCHED OR DONE AS YOU HAVE COMMANDED US, BUT DO NOT GIVE US UP UTTERLY, O GOD OF OUR FATHERS.

HAVE MERCY ON ME, O GOD, HAVE MERCY ON ME.

Let us, faithful, fall down and lament before that day of judgment comes, when the heavens shall be destroyed, the stars fall and all the earth shall be shaken, that at the end we may receive mercy from the God of our fathers.



The trial is without respect of persons, and fearful is the judgment on that day; nothing escapes the Judge, no favor can be won with bribes. But spare me, Master, and deliver me from all Your fearful wrath.

The Lord comes to judge: who can endure the sight of Him? Tremble, my wretched soul! Tremble and prepare for your wretched departure, that you may gain mercy and compassion from the God of your fathers.

Terror seizes me when I think of the unquenchable fire, of the bitter worm, the gnashing of teeth, and soul-destroying hell; yet I do not turn to true compunction. Lord, Lord, before the end, strengthen Your fear within me.

I fall down before You and offer You my words as tears: I have sinned as the Harlot never sinned, and I have transgressed as no other man on earth. But take pity on Your creature, O Master, and call me back.

Turn back, repent, uncover all that you have hidden! Say to God, to whom all things are known: You alone know all my secrets, Savior; have mercy on me, as David says, according to Your mercy.

Doxastikon: I sing the praises of the Three that are one in Essence, of the One that is three in Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one power, one will, one energy, one thrice holy God, one sovereign Kingdom.

Theotokion: Virgin, God comes forth in beauty from the chamber of your womb; He is clothed as a King in the divinely-woven robe dyed mystically in your all-pure blood, and He reigns over all the earth.

Katavasia WE HAVE SINNED, TRANSGRESSED, DONE WRONG BEFORE YOU. WE HAVE NOT WATCHED OR DONE AS YOU HAVE COMMANDED US, BUT DO NOT GIVE US UP UTTERLY, O GOD OF OUR FATHERS.

Philoptochos Fundraising Baking – THIS Saturday!

Come join us THIS Saturday, February 28, after the 2nd Saturday of the Souls Church Services – from 10:00 a.m. – until we finish...

to prepare Tiropetes & Spanakopites

for our 2009 Spring Fundraiser.

Bring a bag lunch, your pastry brush, and apron.

Please confirm your commitment to be present and assist us by calling Presbytera Marinda Tsahakis, 770/381-1842 today!

We appreciate your help and welcome your efforts. We also will be following this same schedule after the 3rd Saturday of the Souls Church Services on Saturday, March 7.

Healthy Parenting Program Today, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Good parenting isn't hammering our child into a clone or ideal of the "perfect child", but rather, being a partner in helping our young ones to discover what God intends them to be and helping them reach that goal. Good parenting seeks to discover healthier ways to raise our children and be well-functioning adults.

This third installment in Paula Marchman's ongoing series of pastoral support and counseling for our parish starts with an examination of how our children develop in their early years, along with the importance of their relationship with their parents or caregivers. This early growth influences later developmental issues of autonomy and self-esteem, and how they show up in adolescence and young adulthood.

In addition, Paula will examine the importance of healthy boundaries in our families. She will use role plays and interactive discussion to demonstrate the importance of boundaries, structure, discipline, and power in childhood development. In today's world, rather than parents becoming their children's best friends, they are encouraged to become leaders of their youth. This approach will help our youth make healthy choices and become problem-solvers and good decision-makers as they confront the challenges of today's world. Handouts and resources from the Archdiocese Center for Family Care will be distributed.

As parents, it is our goal to we give our children roots and wings. We hope you and our youth, twelve years of age and up will join us as we learn and practice healthy parenting.

And on this the two hundred and sixtieth 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

Today is the 3rd Sunday of the Triodion period – Great and Holy Lent begins Monday, March 2nd.

Sunday, February 22 (Meatfare Sunday – Sunday of Judgment – no meat after today for those seeking strict fast during Great Lent):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 11:005 a.m. Parish Program - *Paula Marchman – Healthy Parenting*
- 1:00 p.m. GOYA Outing for Lunch/Putt-Putt Golf
- 1:30 p.m. Hellenic Dance Practice

Wednesday, February 25:

- 6:00 p.m. Philoptochos Recipe Fellowship (Everyone invited)

Friday - Sunday, February 27 – March 1:

GOYA Lenten Retreat – Diakonia Center, Salem, SC

Saturday, February 28 (Second Saturday of the Souls – Bring Kolyva):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy & Memorial Service (Bring Kolyva)
- 10:00 a.m. Philoptochos Appetizers Preparation - Week 2

Sunday, March 1 (Cheesefare/Forgiveness Sunday –no dairy products after today for those seeking strict fast during Great Lent):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Blessing of Water
- 10:15 a.m. Vespers of Forgiveness
- 11:00 a.m. Philoptochos Membership Drive
- 11:30 a.m. Hellenic Language Class
- 12:30 p.m. Introduction to Orthodoxy Class

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!