



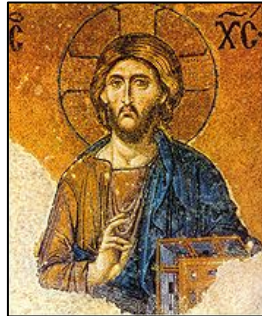
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: [www.atlanta.goarch.org](http://www.atlanta.goarch.org)

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: [www.saintchristopherhoc.org](http://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, July 26, 2009

**ON THIS DAY, THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES** Holy Priest-Martyrs Hermolaos, Hermippos, and Hermokratos; (+304); Paraskevi the Righteous Virgin-Martyr of Rome (+180); Holy Martyr Oreozelis; St. Prisca the Righteous Martyr; Moses the Hungarian; Righteous Ignatius the Steronite; and Jacob Nestsvetov the Enlightener of Alaska. 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 SMALL ENTRANCE**

### **1./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.118-121):**

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: The angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it became as dead men, and Mary stood at Your grave seeking Your most pure body. But You made hell a captive; You were untouched by its might. You came to the Virgin and granted life. O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

### **3. Hymn of Righteous Martyr Paraskevi – (not in Hymnal):**

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: Appropriate to your calling, O Champion Paraskevi, you worshipped with the readiness your name bears. For an abode you obtained faith, which is your namesake. Wherefore, you pour forth healing and intercede for our souls.

### **4. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (see handout):**

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 – (Hymnal-pp.224-227):**

*It is sung after the Small Entrance: O unfailing protection of Christians, and our faithful advocate before the Creator: though we are sinners, do not ignore our entreaty; but in your goodness, grant your timely help to us who appeal*

to you in faith. Quickly make intercession; on our behalf make speedy supplication, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

## **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 20:1-10)**

*Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that He must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.*

### **Epistle Reading (Gal. 3:23-4:5)**

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup>As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the

promise. <sup>4</sup>My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; <sup>2</sup>but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. <sup>3</sup>So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. <sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

### **Gospel Reading (Matthew 9:27-35)**

<sup>27</sup>As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, crying loudly, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!" <sup>28</sup>When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." <sup>29</sup>Then He touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith let it be done to you." <sup>30</sup>And their eyes were opened. Then Jesus sternly ordered them, "See that no one knows of this." <sup>31</sup>But they went away and spread the news about Him throughout that district. <sup>32</sup>After they had gone away, a demoniac who was mute was brought to Him. <sup>33</sup>And when the demon had been cast out, the one who had been mute spoke; and the crowds were amazed and said, "Never has anything like this been seen in Israel." <sup>34</sup>But the Pharisees said, "By the ruler of the demons He casts out the demons." <sup>35</sup>Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.

### **THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):**

<sup>32</sup>Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the Church of God,  
<sup>33</sup>just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, so that they may be saved."  
(1 Cor. 10:32-33)

## **PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:**

There is an ancient legend about some men who were on a long journey. They came across a great desert, and rode into a wilderness area. At sundown they came to a river. They got off their horses and knelt down by the river to drink water. Suddenly a voice spoke to them. The voice said, “Fill your pockets up with pebbles from along the river. And tomorrow you will be both glad and sorry.” So they did what the voice commanded. They got on their horses and rode away. On through the night they rode. Finally the sun began to peek over the horizon. They stopped and reached into their pockets and there they found diamonds and rubies. They held a treasure in their hands, and they were both glad and sorry. They were glad they had it, but they were sorry because they had not taken more.

The good news for us is we can have all we want of the treasure of God’s kingdom, all we are willing to take. If we will take that treasure, we will learn it is the discovery of a lifetime. The choice is ours!

*“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” (Matthew 13:44)*

On this the two hundred and eightieth 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!

# **COMMUNITY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

## **Sunday, July 26 (7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Matthew):**

7:30 a.m. Orthros Service

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/40 Day Memorial Service - Paul Flegas

10:30 a.m. Community Luncheon - A community luncheon will be offered in memory of the servant of God, Paul Flegas, who was the Koumbaros for Fr. George and Presbytera Marinda Tсахakis at their wedding 29 years ago. Everyone is invited to join us. May his memory be eternal.

## **Monday, July 27 (Feast of St. Panteleimon the Great Martyr & Healer):**

6:00 p.m. Orthros Service

7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy/Community Dinner (Non-fasting – please bring food if possible to share)

## **Friday, July 31 (The Ark of Salvation):**

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Vacation Church School Open House/Kick-Off Session

<p><i>Fast – Dormition of the Theotokos – August 1<sup>st</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup></i></p>
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## **Saturday, August 1 (The Ark of Salvation):**

8:15 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Vacation Church School for Toddlers – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – *Join us!*

## **Sunday, August 2 (8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Matthew):**

7:30 a.m. Orthros Service

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

10:30 a.m. Parish Luncheon

11:00 a.m. General Parish Assembly – Property Development

## **Monday, August 3:**

7:00 p.m. Paraklesis Service (we will pray for the health and welfare of all – join us!)

**Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!**