



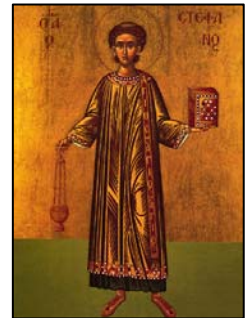
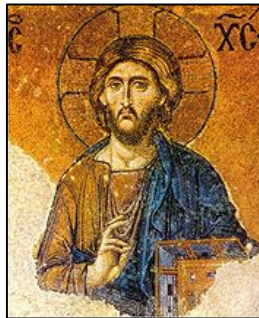
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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, August 2, 2009

ON THIS DAY, THE EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES the Recovery of the Relics of Stephen the Holy First-Martyr and Archdeacon (+415); Holy Martyr Archdeacon Phocas and Justinian the King of blessed memory, commemorated with the Apostles; the discovery of the relics of the Holy Martyrs Maximos, Dada, and Scintilianus; the consecration of the divine temple of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist, John the Theologian, near the Great Holy Church; and Holy Glorious New-Martyr Theodore of the Dardanelles (+1690). 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 (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 of First-Martyr & Archdeacon Stephen – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: For the struggles you endured for Christ God, a royal diadem crowns your head, O First Champion of Martyrs. For you refuted the folly of the Jews and beheld your Savior on the right of the Father. Ever beseech Him, therefore, 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 for the Feast of Transfiguration – (Hymnal-pp.284-287):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing Your disciples as much of Your glory as they

could bear, so that when they see You crucified they will know that You suffer freely, and they will tell all the world that You are truly the radiance of the Father.

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 20:11-18)

“But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.’ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?’ Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, ‘Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to Me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to My brothers and say to them, I am ascending to My Father and Your Father, to My God and Your God.’ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that He had said these things to her.”

Epistle Reading (1 Corinthians 1:10-17)

¹⁰*Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose.* ¹¹*For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that*

there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 14:14-22)

¹⁴When He went ashore, He saw a great crowd; and He had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸And He said, “Bring them here to Me.” ¹⁹Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. ²²Immediately He made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.” (1 Cor. 11:1)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

In the 1920s, a sociology class at John Hopkins University made a study of children in deprived neighborhoods in Baltimore. They identified two hundred children who appeared doomed to spend years in prison. After twenty-five years, another study was made to discover what had happened to those particular children.

Surprisingly, only two were incarcerated. As these men and women were interviewed, over and over again came the name of their teacher, “Aunt Hannah.” The sociologists were correct in their predictions. By all indications, the children would be dregs of society; but there was an intervention, Aunt Hannah, an elementary school teacher who loved them. *What about us – are we concerned and committed enough to do the same, in the Name of our Lord, God, and Savior, the Transfigured Christ?*

On this the two hundred and eighty-first 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

Fast of the Dormition of the Theotokos continues through end of August 14th

Sunday, August 2 (8th 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)

Wednesday, August 5 (Eve of the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord):

6:30 p.m. Fr. George invites our parishioners to join our sister parish of Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Marietta, GA for this evening's Divine Liturgy. Beginning at 6:30 p.m., Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou and his parishioners, led by Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta and joined by area clergy will celebrate the parish's Name Day. This is the 20th Anniversary of Transfiguration Church and their faithful will offer a dinner afterwards. Everyone is welcome to join

*us. (Address: 3431 Trickum Road, NE, Marietta, GA 30066,
Telephone: 770/924-0483)*

Thursday, August 6 (Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord):

6:00 p.m. Evening Orthros Service

7:00 p.m. Evening Divine Liturgy/Annual Blessing of the Fruit

8:00 p.m. Community Parish Dinner (please bring lenten food)

Friday, August 7:

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

Saturday, August 8:

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Greek Fest Baking - details to be announced

Sunday, August 9 (9th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:30 a.m. Orthros Service

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

10:15 a.m. Progression Sunday for Religious Education Classes (all students and teachers are encouraged to attend and receive their certificates for the end of the 2008-2009 Religious Education year.

Note: *The first day of the 2009-2010 academic year will begin next Sunday, August 16th.)*

10:45 a.m. 2009-2010 Parish Calendar Planning Meeting - all Parish Council and Ministry Leaders are encouraged to join us as we plan our upcoming calendar for the new ecclesiastical year beginning September 1st. Please bring your calendars and special requests and help us coordinate and communicate our efforts in a unified manner.

11:45 a.m. Parish Council Meeting

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!