



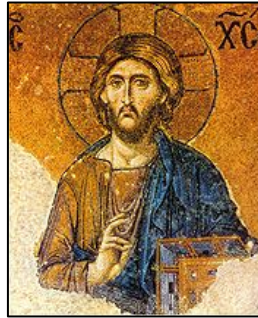
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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 30, 2009

ON THIS DAY, THE TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES *the Leave-Taking of the Feast of the Beheading of the Holy, Glorious, Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist, John; Holy Fathers, Patriarchs of Constantinople: Alexander (+340), Paul IV (+784), and John; Phantinos and January, Martyrs; Holy 16 Martyrs of Thebes; and Holy Six Martyrs of Melitini. 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 (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 for the Beheading of St. John the Baptist – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. Remembrance by the just is praiseworthy, but being witness of the Lord suffices you, O Forerunner. A Prophet in truth and most revered, you have been revealed and approved worthy to baptize Him Whom you did proclaim. Therefore, as you are champion of the Truth, rejoicing that even to Hades is proclaimed, that God is manifested in the flesh, the sacrifice, for the sins of the world, and granting to us, the great mercy.

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 Nativity of the Theotokos – (Hymnal-pp.228-231):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. Your holy birth delivered Joachim and Anna from the reproach of childlessness and liberated Adam and Eve from death's corruption, O Pure One. Thus free from the stain of sin, we, your people,

honor your birth, crying out to you: A woman thought barren brings forth the Theotokos who nourishes Christ our life.

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 (Matthew 28:16-20)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Amen.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 15:1-11)

1 Cor. 15:1 Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, 2 through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you — unless you have come to believe in vain. 3 For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5 and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. 7 Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them — though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11 Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 19:16-26)

Matt. 19:16 Then someone came to Him and said, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" 17 And He said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only One Who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." 18 He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; 19 Honor your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 20 The young man said to Him, "I have kept all these; what do I still lack?" 21 Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow Me." 22 When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions. 23 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. 24 Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." 25 When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, "Then who can be saved?" 26 But Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible."

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

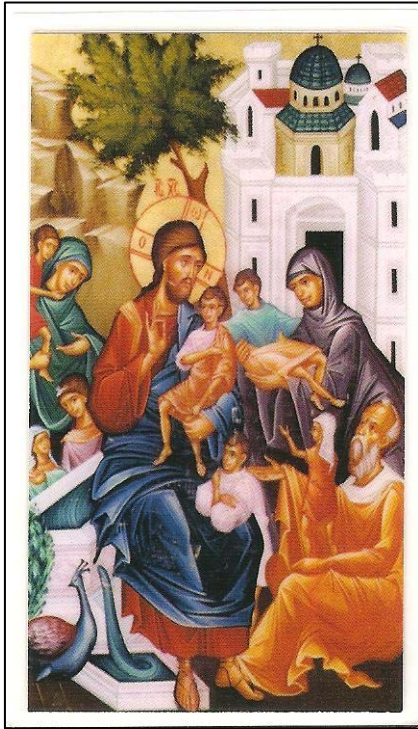
**"I treasure Your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against You."
(Psalm 119:11)**

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Thank you for your presence, support and encouragement today and always. In that spirit, I am grateful to our brothers and sisters in Christ who encouraged me to share this message with all of our families and visitors as we begin our new Ecclesiastical Year.

Indeed, we welcome everyone to all our church services, fellowship opportunities, educational classes, and special ministries. As your Pastor, I cannot express in words my joy when I see families and relatives attend

church together and teach our youth and small children to worship our Lord, share His love, extend His fellowship and service, and shine the resplendent light of His mercy and forgiveness to all that we encounter.



In this spirit, I extend with loving support and encouragement to all of us, including our families and visitors with small children, to not hesitate to take advantage of our special room (Nursery) that is available in the back of the church. It is equipped with a first-rate speaker that broadcasts my petitions and prayers, as well as the hymns and responses of the choir and faithful as we worship together. We hope you will feel comfortable to use it during church services when our infants and small children become anxious, tired, fussy, loud, or run around after getting tired of sitting in the pews during church services or coffee fellowship, or when they need extra space to rest and relax.

Our Parish Council has set aside this room for parents to share with their children as the need arises. Our only request is that we not leave our children in our Nursery *unattended* or *with other parents without their expressed permission* to look after our children. In addition, I am pleased to share that many of our parishioners have expressed an interest in offering to assist parents of our youth by looking after them when they become tired or anxious. Their gift of assistance to the families of our youngest brethren gives our parents a short and welcome respite. *I thank all of you again for your support.*

Our youth are God's gift to us. I commend our faithful for making the resources noted above available. I hope we will use them when needed. *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."* (Romans 15:13)

On this the two hundred and eighty-fifth 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, August 30 (12th Sunday of St. Matthew)

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship
- 10:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes

Monday, August 31 (Eve of New Ecclesiastical Year on September 1st)

7:00 p.m. Vespers for the Protection of the Environment - Join us as we offer prayers of supplication to our loving God and Savior Jesus Christ for the protection of the environment and stability in all creation. This service is in preparation for the new ecclesiastical year, September 1st, when our world-leader, His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew has asked us to pray for the environment on this occasion.

Thursday, September 3

- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Saturday, September 5

- 9:00 a.m. Greek Fest Baking - Dolmathes

Sunday, September 6 (13th Sunday of St. Matthew)

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship & Ice Cream Sundae Sunday
- 10:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes
- 11:30 a.m. Hellenic Language Class

Tuesday, September 8 (Nativity of the Theotokos)

- 6:00 p.m. Orthros Service (Evening)
- 7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy (Evening)
- 8:00 p.m. Community Dinner - Please bring non-fasting food if possible

Thursday, September 10

- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!