



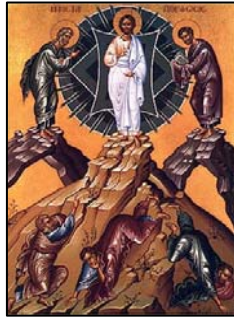
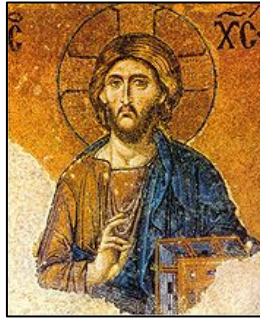
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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 9, 2009

ON THIS DAY, THE NINTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE SUNDAY FOLLOWING THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES Holy Apostle Matthias of the 70 (+63); Holy 10 Martyrs, Julian, Martian, John, Iakovos, Alexios, Demetrios, Photios, Peter, Leondios, and Maria the Patrician; Holy Martyr Anthony of Alexandria; Righteous Father Psois of Egypt; Righteous Herman of Alaska (born +1756); and the memory of the finding of the revered icon of Kamoulianos, made without human hands. 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./3. Hymn for Feast of the Transfiguration— (Hymnal-pp.220-221):

It is before and after the Small Entrance: When You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, You showed Your disciples Your glory as far as they could bear. So now, for us sinners also, let this same eternal light shine forth through the prayers of the Theotokos. O Giver of light, glory to You.

2. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the 4th Tone) – (Hymnal-pp. 126-7):

It is sung 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.

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 20:19-31)

“When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ After He said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so I send you.’ When He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in His hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in His side, I will not believe.’ A week later His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then He said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see My hands. Reach out your hand and put it in My side. Do not doubt but believe.’ Thomas answered Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in His name.”

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (I Cor. 3:9-17)

For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building

on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw — the work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. If what has been built on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a reward. If the work is burned up, the builder will suffer loss; the builder will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 14:22-34)

Immediately He made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning He came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

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

“Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy that person. For God’s temple is holy, and you are that temple.”

(1 Cor. 3:16-17)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

A strong person works out every day to keep his body in shape, but a follower of our Lord with strength kneels in prayer to keep his soul in shape.

A strong person isn’t afraid of anything, but a follower of our Lord with strength shows her courage in the midst of fear.

A strong person won’t let anyone get the best of him, but a follower of our Lord with strength gives the best of himself to everyone.

A strong person walks sure-footedly, but a follower of our Lord with strength knows God will catch her when she falls.

A strong person wears the look of confidence on his face, but a follower of our Lord with strength wears grace.

A strong person has faith that she is strong enough for the journey, but a follower of our Lord with strength has faith that in the journey she will become strong.

Are we merely strong . . . or do we rely on our faith to provide the strength to overcome life’s difficulties and gain victory with our Lord?

An Afternoon of Fellowship – Sunday, August 16th, 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Hosted by Outreach Committee Chairman, Georgia Lungaro and her husband Charlie at their home - 446 Senoia Road, Fayetteville, GA, (770) 461-5055. Main dish and sodas will be provided.

On this the two hundred and eighty-second 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 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

Monday, August 10:

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

Wednesday, August 12:

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

Friday, August 14 (Eve of Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos):

7:00 p.m. Great Vespers for the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

Saturday, August 15 (Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos):

7:45 a.m. Orthros Service

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

10:30 a.m. Greek Fest Baking – Pastichia

Sunday, August 16 (10th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:30 a.m. Orthros Service

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

10:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes (1st Day of Classes – 2009–2010 year)

2:00 p.m. Afternoon of Fellowship (at Charles & Georgia Lungaro's home – see above)

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!