



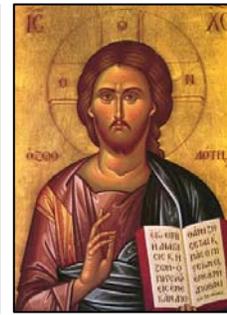
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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, January 12, 2014

ON THIS DAY, THE SUNDAY AFTER THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST, WE COMMEMORATE Tatiana the Martyr of Rome (+226) and Martyr Mertios (+305). *Through their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.*

Welcome, Visitors and Newcomers, to our 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 of the Theophany of our Lord – (Hymnal-pp.208-211):

This hymn is sung *before and after* the Small Entrance: “At Your baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest, for the Father’s voice bore You witness, by calling You His beloved Son, and the Spirit in the form of a dove, confirmed the truth of the Father’s Word. O Christ our God, You have appeared to us and enlightened the world. Glory to You.”

2. Resurrectional Hymn (Fourth Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.110-113):

It is sung *before and after* the Small Entrance: The joyful news of Your resurrection was proclaimed by the angel to the women disciples. Having thrown off the curse that fell on Adam, they ran elatedly to tell the apostles: Death has been vanquished; Christ our God is risen from the dead, blessing all the world with His great mercy.

4. 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.

5. Kontakion of the Holy Theophany of our Lord – (Hymnal-p.-248-249):

This hymn is sung *after* the Small Entrance: “You have revealed Yourself to the world today, and Your light shines forth on us, who sing Your praise with full knowledge: You have come to us, O Lord; You are made manifest, O inaccessible Light.

6. Special Hymn instead of Trisagion Hymn – (Hymnal-pp.292-293):

On the occasion of today's baptism, we sing the following hymn instead of the Trisagion hymn: "As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves in Christ. Alleluia. (3)"

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.

Special Epistle Reading for Today's Baptism (Rom. 6:3-11)

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with Him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we will certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised

*from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.
¹⁰The death He died, He died to sin, once for all; but the life He lives, He lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

Special Gospel Reading for Today's Baptism (Mt. 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.

Regular Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Eph. 4:7-13)

⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it is said, "When He ascended on high He made captivity itself a captive; He gave gifts to His people." ⁹(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He Who descended is the same one Who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts He gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Regular Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 4:12-17)

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made His home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— ¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." ¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

TODAY'S MEMORY VERSE *(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):*

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”
(Hebrews 13:8)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Back when the telegraph was the fastest means of long-distance communication, there was a story, perhaps just a legend, about a young man who applied for a job as a Morse code operator. Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, noisy office. In the background a telegraph clacked away. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office. The young man completed his form and sat down with seven other waiting applicants. After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in. Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. Why had this man been so bold? They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet. They took more than a little satisfaction in assuming the young man who went into the office would be reprimanded for his presumption and summarily disqualified for the job.

Within a few minutes the young man emerged from the inner office escorted by the interviewer, who announced to the other applicants, “Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job has been filled by this young man.”

The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and then one spoke up, “Wait a minute – I don't understand. He was the

last one to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair."

The employer responded, "All the time you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse code: 'If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.' None of you heard it or understood it. This young man did. So the job is his."

This past week we observed a three-day vigil and commemoration for Holy Theophany, one of the three greatest Feast Days of the Orthodox Church. Each day, we heard the words of our Heavenly Father proclaim at Jesus Christ's baptism (Mark 1:11): *"You are My Son, the Beloved; with You I am well pleased."*

My brothers and sisters in Christ, our livelihood, indeed our life, depends upon our ability to discern the meaning of these words directed continually to us from our Heavenly Father: "You are My child, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."



["Follow" & "Like"](#) our Facebook page. *Be sure to check our status for updates and photos.*

And on this the four hundred and ninety-third 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 SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 12 (Sunday After the Holy Theophany of our Lord and Savior):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Sacrament of Holy Baptism
- 10:30 am Community Luncheon

Thursday, January 16:

- 6:30 pm Choir Practice

Saturday, January 18 (Saints Athanasios & Cyril):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- 6:00 pm Hands of Love – Community Vasilopita Dinner
(*St. Basil's Bread – see flyer below*)

Sunday, January 19 (12th Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Memorial Service – George Tagalos
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes
- 11:30 am GOYA Meeting
- 11:30 am Philoptochos General Meeting
- 4:00 pm Trisagion Service – George Tagalos (*Greenlawn Cemetery in southwest Atlanta*)

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

Holy Theophany and the Blessing of the Waters:

During this past week's church services related to the Feast of Theophany, water was blessed and given to the faithful to carry home and use throughout the year. By His Baptism in the Jordan, Jesus Christ touched our lives, the environment, and our whole world, revealing His Divinity and desire to make all things, nature and the world, holy. This is a sign that our lives are precious to the Lord and we are immersed in His love. If you could not join us, we still have some Holy Water Bottles and Fr. George would be glad to give it to you.



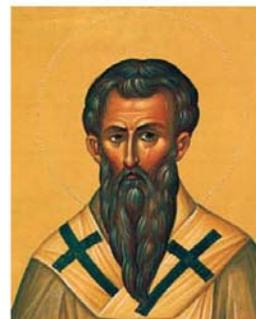
Philoptochos News:



Good Will Offering to Benefit the Saint Basil Academy

Sponsored by the Philoptochos Chapter
of St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

Food · Live Auction · Entertainment for All Ages



**Saturday, January 18, 2014
6 PM to 10 PM
Peachtree City Event Center**

If your name begins with, please bring:

- A - G: Desserts
- H - M: Salads
- N - S: Vegetables or vegetable casseroles
- T - Z: Pasta, rice or potato dish

Philoptochos will provide the main course and beverages.

Bring enough to feed your family and at least 6 others.

Please come early (5 PM) to help set up or stay after to help clean up.