



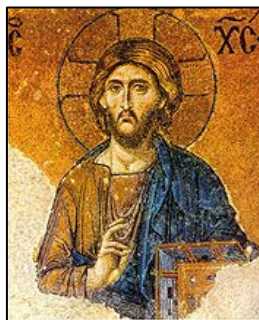
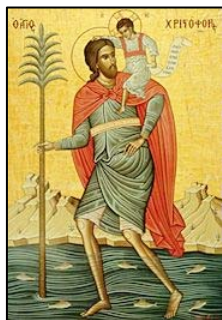
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: [www.atlmetropolis.org](http://www.atlmetropolis.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, January 17, 2010**

**ON THIS DAY, THE 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, WE COMMEMORATE** our Righteous Father, Anthony the Great (+356 – St. Anthony is known as the Founder of Christian Monasticism.); our Righteous God-bearing Father and Wonderworker, Anthony the Younger, an ascetic of the Skete in Verroia; Righteous Achilles; Holy New-Martyr George of Ioannina (+1838); and Pious King Theodosios the Great. *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 St. Anthony the Great – (not in Hymnal):**

This hymn is sung *after* the Small Entrance: "Imitating the ways of Elias the Zealot, and following the way the Baptist made straight, Father Anthony of the desert you became inhabitant, and you supported the universe by your prayers. Therefore, pray to Christ our God to save our souls."

### **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 Presentation of the Lord – (Hymnal-pp.250-253):**

*It is sung after the Small Entrance:* For our salvation You took flesh and You sanctified the Virgin's womb; You blessed the aged Simeon as You lay resting in his arms; and having come to save us all, O Christ our God, to these troubled times, bring Your lasting peace. Give strong and undaunted faith to all Your people, O only lover of mankind.

## **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 21:1-14)**

*After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and He showed Himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered Him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask Him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the*

*same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after He was raised from the dead.*

### **Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Hebrews 13:17-21)**

*<sup>17</sup>Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls and will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with sighing—for that would be harmful to you. <sup>18</sup>Pray for us; we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. <sup>19</sup>I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may be restored to you very soon. <sup>20</sup>Now may the God of peace, Who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, <sup>21</sup>make you complete in everything good so that you may do His will, working among us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.*

### **Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 19:1-10)**

*<sup>1</sup>He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup>A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup>He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see Him, because He was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” <sup>6</sup>So he hurried down and was happy to welcome Him. <sup>7</sup>All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” <sup>8</sup>Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” <sup>9</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house,*

*because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”*

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

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.” (John 3:17)

**PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:**

***Am I Doing a Job or Offering Ministry to God?***

At times, we may approach our service to our Church as a *task or job to be performed*, rather than view it as a *diakonia* or service to our Lord and His Body of Believers.

Perhaps we do something to help because no one else will, without realizing our gifts of time and talents as true service/ministry to our Lord.

Maybe we commit just enough time at a task to get by, rather than offer our personal talents to the best of our ability, thereby honoring God and thanking Him as well.

Perhaps we find it easy to offer ourselves only so long as our assistance does not interfere with our other activities, rather than let go of material or self-centered desires that limit or prevent us from offering our best to God.

Sometimes we may stop helping because no one praises or thanks us, rather than persevere . . . even when no one is looking or we do not derive a personal benefit.

Perhaps we are more concerned with individual success with our work, rather than concern for faithfulness to our Lord's plan of salvation for all humankind and the critical importance of our communal efforts.

I encourage you to listen to the voice of God that is calling and asking you to serve each day within His Holy Church. Rather than perceive your efforts as a "mere job", consider them as "offerings, as sacred tasks, as *diakonias*, or as ministries" that will lead you, your family, and fellow parishioners to spiritual fulfillment and excitement, and help us go forward in our walk of faith leading to God's Kingdom.

Then, we will at the Day of Judgment, hear God's joy when He proclaims: *"Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your Master."* (Matthew 25:23)

May God bless and empower each of us, His co-workers, whom He is calling to assist in the ministry of this parish and our community at large. May we see ourselves in the same context with which St. Peter encouraged his co-workers more than 2,000 years ago to consider:

*"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."* (1 Peter 2:9) AMEN!

# **Archiepiscopal Encyclical for Assistance and Prayers to Haiti**

Jan 13, 2010

## **Archbishop Demetrios Issues Encyclical Calling for Prayers and Help for the Earthquake Victims in Haiti**

**NEW YORK** – With great sadness, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios received the tragic news of the devastating destruction and the loss of human lives in Haiti following the earthquake in that country yesterday, January 12, 2010.

“Our thoughts and prayers are now with the people of Haiti,” said Archbishop Demetrios who immediately issued an encyclical calling upon the faithful of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America to pray for the safety, health and well being of all the people of Haiti and in particular the Greek Orthodox faithful there.

In his encyclical to the parishes of the Archdiocese, the Archbishop also calls for all parishes “to conduct a special collection on Sunday, January 17 as a response of compassion to the needs of the people of Haiti.”

There are two Greek Orthodox parishes in Haiti under the Metropolis of Mexico. The first is the parish of St. John the Baptist in Pétionville, a district in the capital of Port-au-Prince. The second is the newly established parish of St. Mathias. Due to the severed communications, the Metropolis of Mexico has not been able to establish contact with the parishes until now.

# **Archiepiscopal Encyclical for Assistance and Prayers to Haiti**

Jan 13, 2010

*To the Most Reverend Hierarchs, the Reverend Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, the Presidents and Members of the Parish Councils of the Greek Orthodox Communities, the Distinguished Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Day, Afternoon, and Church Schools, the Philoptochos Sisterhoods, the Youth, the Hellenic Organizations, and the entire Greek Orthodox Family in America*

## **Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

It was with great sadness and compassion that we received the tragic news of the devastating earthquake that struck yesterday the country of Haiti, causing widespread destruction and loss of countless lives. Thousands are presumed dead, many more have lost family members, homes, and jobs, and the infrastructure and institutions of the capital city, Port-au-Prince, are in ruins.

In response to this tragedy, I ask first and foremost of the faithful of the Greek Orthodox Church in America to offer their fervent prayers for the people of Haiti. May we help them through our prayers to find heavenly solace in this hour of grief and pain, and may they find strength and hope in Him through faith and through the ministry of love and healing offered from around the world. In addition, may we also offer our prayers for the Greek Orthodox faithful and the two parishes of Haiti who are under the archpastoral leadership of His Eminence Metropolitan Athenagoras of Mexico. We pray for their safety and well-being, and for their witness and service during this difficult time.

I also ask that the parishes of our Holy Archdiocese conduct a special collection on Sunday, January 17 as a response of compassion to the needs of the people of Haiti. This country and its people have experienced numerous tragedies and struggles, and this natural disaster has deepened the challenges with the destruction of hospitals, schools, churches, and relief centers. It is requested that the offerings be sent to the Archdiocese made out to the “Greek Orthodox Archdiocese” earmarked for the Haiti Relief Fund.

Through prayers, gifts, and service may we respond to this tremendous crisis, knowing that our Lord will be faithful to bring comfort and healing through our witness of His love.

With paternal love in Christ,

DEMETRIOS

Archbishop of America

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**Share the Light Sunday Encyclical of SCOBA**

Jan 8, 2010

*At that time Jesus went on  
through cities and villages, preaching and bringing the good  
news of the kingdom of God .*

(St. Luke 8: 1-3)

**Share the Light Sunday**  
***17 January 2010***

*To the Most Reverend Clergy, Venerable Monastics, and The  
Devout Faithful of the Holy Orthodox Churches in the Americas*

## **Dearly Beloved in the Lord,**

We, the Hierarchs of SCOBA, greet you in the Name of our Lord and Savior. Daily we offer prayers to God for you and your family. Our dedicated priests offer untiring care for the flock of Christ which has seen many changes and challenges this past year.

During His earthly ministry, our Lord traveled during His time on earth from city to city and village to village bringing the Good News of His Kingdom. As we travel throughout our pastoral folds, we experience much of the same as we share your love and as we share the love of Christ with you. It is our great privilege to reach out and share the message of the Gospel with everyone in our communities. It is also our responsibility to reach out to those who have left the embrace of the Church, as well as those who have never heard the saving message of Christ.

It is precisely this commitment to mission and outreach that compels us, your spiritual shepherds, to support and endorse the outreach work in our communities of ministries like the Orthodox Christian Network (OCN). Using the communication tools of the day, the OCN is producing weekly radio programs syndicated all over the country, as well as study guides to help those who listen to the programs. OCN operates three full time Internet radio stations: *The Ark* , *The Rudder* , and now *The Anchor* , an all-talk radio station with an Orthodox Christian perspective. Our faithful and interested seekers can hear not only contemporary Orthodox music, but also the timeless beauty of the hymns of the Church from around the world. OCN also produces regular programming to edify, educate and evangelize with the life-giving Good News of Orthodox Christianity.

On this special and national Share The Light Sunday, your Hierarchs ask you to stop at this first part of the year and consider how you can join together with your fellow Orthodox Christians from around the nation in providing the vital support that allows OCN to do so much to serve you and your children with the timeless beauty of our faith.

With paternal blessings and love in Christ,

† **Archbishop DEMETRIOS**

**Chairman**

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of  
America

† **Metropolitan PHILIP**

**Vice Chairman**

Antiochian Orthodox Christian  
Archdiocese  
Of North America

† **Metropolitan CHRISTOPHER**

**Secretary**

Serbian Orthodox Church in North  
And South America

† **Metropolitan NICHOLAS of**

**Amissos**

**Treasurer**

American Carpatho-Russian  
Orthodox  
Diocese in the USA

† **Archbishop NICOLAE**

Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese  
In the Americas

† **Metropolitan JOSEPH**

Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox  
Church

† **Metropolitan JONAH**

Orthodox Church in America

† **Metropolitan CONSTANTINE**

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the  
USA

† **Archpriest Alexander Abramov**

Acting Representative of the  
Moscow, Patriarchate in the USA

† **Bishop ILIA of Philomelion**

Albanian Orthodox Diocese of  
America

And on this the three hundred and 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 17 (15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Luke):**

- 7:45 am Orthros Service**
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship**
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes**
- 11:30 am GOYA Meeting**
- 11:30 am Philoptochos General Meeting**
- 12:30 pm Hellenic Language Class**

### **Thursday, January 21:**

- 7:00 pm Choir Practice – please join us!**

### **Sunday, January 24 (Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee; Triodion Begins):**

- 7:45 am Orthros Service**
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Memorial Service - Nicholas Christodoulopoulos**
- 10:30 am Parish St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival**
- 11:15 am Coffee Fellowship Reception**

### **Thursday, January 28:**

- 7:00 pm Choir Practice – please join us!**

### **Friday, January 29:**

- 7:30 pm Parish Council Fellowship Dinner**

### **Saturday, January 30 (Feast of the Three Hierarchs):**

- 7:45 am Orthros Service**
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy**

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