



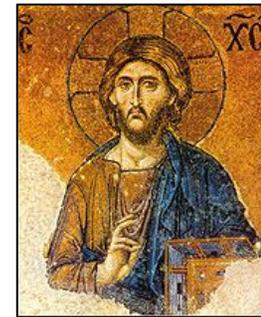
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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, October 5, 2014

ON THIS DAY, THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES Charitina the Martyr (+290); Methodia the Righteous of Kimolos; Eudokimos the Unknown of Mt. Athos; and Peter, Alexis, Jonah, Hermogenes & Tikhon, Metropolitans of Moscow. *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./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the 4th Tone) – (Hymnal-pp126-7):

It is sung *before* and *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.

3. 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.

4. Kontakion – (Hymnal-pp.224-227):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: O unfailling protection of Christians, and our faithful advocate before the Creator: though we are sinners, do not ignore our entreaty; but in your goodness, grant your timely help to us who appeal to you in faith. Quickly make intercession; on our behalf make speedy supplication, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY

<p><i>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.</i> – St. John Chrysostom</p>

Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (Luke 24:36-53)

While they were talking about this, Jesus Himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at My hands and My feet; see that it is I Myself. Touch Me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as

you see that I have." And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, and He took it and ate in their presence. Then He said to them, "These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about Me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up His hands, He blessed them. While He was blessing them, He withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (2 Cor. 6:16-7:1)

¹⁶What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ¹⁷Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, ¹⁸and I will be your Father, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." ⁷Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and of spirit, making holiness perfect in the fear of God.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 6:31-36)

Luke 6:31 Do to others as you would have them do to you. 32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. 33 If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34 If you

lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. 35 But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.”
(Romans 12:17-18)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

This morning, I wish to share an insightful story about a man on a boat. He is not alone, but acts as if he were. One night, without warning, he suddenly begins to cut a hole under his seat.

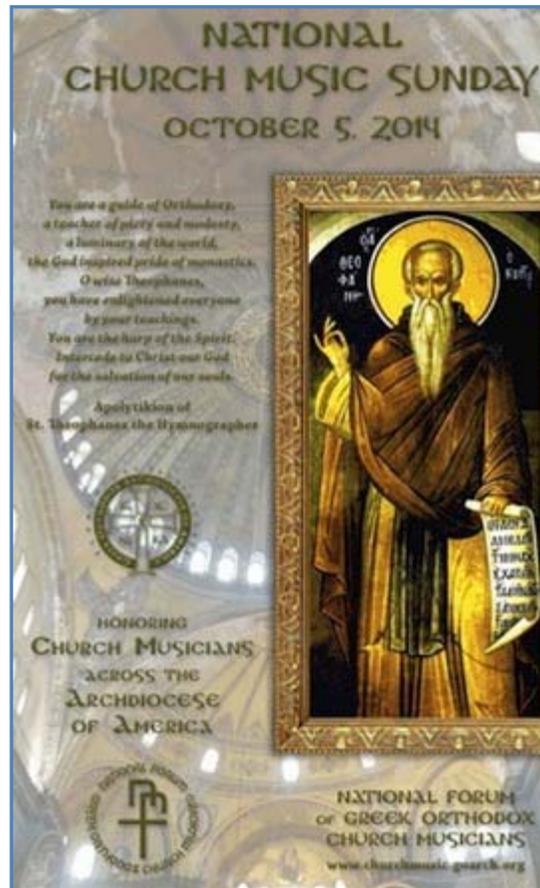
The other people on the boat shout and shriek at him: “What on earth are you doing? Have you gone mad? Do you want to sink us all? Are you trying to destroy us?”

Calmly, the man answers: “I don't understand what you want. What I'm doing is none of your business. I paid my way. I'm not cutting under your seat. Leave me alone!”

What the fanatic (and the egotist) will not accept, but what you and I cannot forget, is that all of us are in the “same boat.” Scriptural verses that inspire us to live in mutual harmony include: “*If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.*” (Rom. 12:18) “*Therefore, my brothers, let us set an example to our*

kindred, for their lives depend upon us, and the sanctuary—both the temple and the altar—rests upon us.” (Judith 8:24)

National Church Music Sunday Today – October 5, 2014



Each year, on the first Sunday in October (on or after the Feast of St. Romanos the Melodist, the patron saint of church musicians), parishes across the Archdiocese of America celebrate NATIONAL CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY. It is a day we set aside particularly to honor the contributions of local choir members, psaltai, and music educators who serve their churches through the hymnology of our Orthodox Church. In addition, it is a day when we recognize the work of the diocesan choir federations as well as the National Forum of

Greek Orthodox Church Musicians, who through their music ministry, strive to enhance the development of church choirs, church musicians, and liturgical music at diocesan and archdiocesan levels.

Toward these ends, Fr. George, on behalf of our St. Christopher Church, recognizes the contributions of all church musicians at our parish, our Metropolis, and our Archdiocese. He will offer a special prayer for our choir director, choir members, chantors, our Metropolis Choir Federation, and our National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians.



Hands of Love: October 2014



"For the poor will never cease from the land; therefore, I command you to do this word which says, 'You shall surely open your hands to your brother; to your poor and needy in your land.' " Deut. 15:11

October 2014: St. John the Wonderworker

We will be collecting *non-perishable food* items
for the **Loaves and Fishes Program**

ST. JOHN THE
Eastern Orthodox



WONDERWORKER
Church in America

The **Loaves and Fishes Program** is one of the ministries of Saint John the Wonderworker Orthodox Church in Atlanta. They are feeding the poor twice daily with two hot meals. Also, they have a monthly distribution of sacks of groceries to individuals. All the Orthodox Churches in the city of Atlanta, with the blessing of the Greek Orthodox Bishop, Metropolitan Alexios, support the feeding of the poor and homeless of Atlanta through the food program at St. Johns Orthodox Church. The Orthodox Churches supply the program with canned goods, left over catering items, money, and volunteers. For more information please visit <http://www.saintjohnwonderworker.org/>

Thank you for supporting this program -- Kim Haldopoulos, Hands of Love Coordinator

Saint Romanos the Melodist

The hymnologists of the Orthodox Church are Christians of virtue and great faith, having been endowed with musical talent as well as the power of religious inspiration. Their creations enrich our worship services and help turn our souls towards God. Perhaps the greatest of all hymnologists is **St. Romanos the Melodist**. Many other hymnologists wrote ecclesiastical hymns, but none of them inspired the Christians as much as St. Romanos.



Romanos was a Syrian Christian who lived in the beginning of the 6th century. A convert to Orthodoxy from Judaism, he was ordained a deacon and served in the Church of Beirut. His talent was great. Unlike others, he wrote his hymns in simple language and produced a pleasant meter in the verse by the way he accented words. The hymns he composed appealed to the hearts of the people, and are still sung today.

Romanos has been called "Sweet Singer" (*Glykophonos*), "Melodist" (*Melodhos*), and "Righteous Chanter" (*Psaltis Dhikeosinis*). He wrote hundreds of hymns celebrating the mystery of the Incarnation, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, and the living of a Christian life. One of his most famous compositions is the hymn celebrating the Nativity of our Lord, "Today the Virgin gives birth to One who is above all living things..." (*! Parthenos Simeron*). St. Romanos is also said to have composed the Akathist Hymn, a *kontakion* that we still chant during the Friday evening *Heretismoi* services of Great Lent.

Romanos died on October 1st in 510 AD. He was a productive genius and artist, writing and accenting thousands of *kontakia*. He has been called the patron saint of all who sing for the Church. Others say he is the leader in the world of religious hymnology. Surely, he has made a profound contribution to divine worship and deserves to be recognized by all who sing and by all who listen to the hymnology of our services.

The first Sunday on or after the Feast of St. Romanos (October 1st) is designated by our Archdiocese as **NATIONAL CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY**. Each year on this Sunday, we pause to honor the gifts and contributions of our church musicians — clergy, choir directors, psaltai, choir members, organists, and Church School music educators. We thank them for their devotion to our Church through their ministry of music.





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

And on this *the five hundred and twenty-ninth* 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, October 5th (2nd Sunday of St. Luke/National Church Musicians Sunday):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy, Prayer for Choir & Chantors, & Memorial Service
(40 Days) – Athanasios "Tom" Kleto

10:45 am Religious Education Classes *(for all ages)*

11:45 am Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, October 12th (Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council – Fr. George away From Atlanta today – you're encouraged to worship at Annunciation Cathedral):

7:45 am Orthros Service @ Annunciation Cathedral in Atlanta

9:00 am Divine Liturgy @ Annunciation Cathedral in Atlanta

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!