



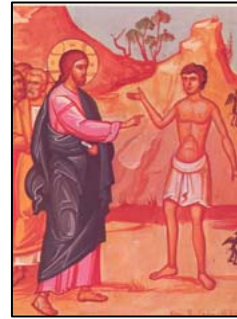
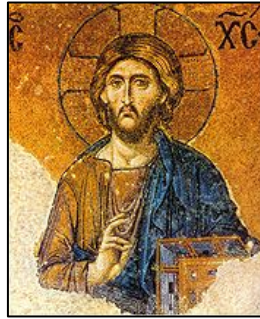
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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 18, 2009

ON THIS DAY, THE 6TH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES Holy Martyrs Markianos and Martyrios the Notaries (+355); Holy Martyr Chrysaphos; Holy Martyrs Chrysanthe and Tabitha the Merciful, who St. Peter raised from the dead (1st cent.); Holy Martyr Anastasios; Holy Martyr Valerinus; Holy Martyr Savinus; and Holy Martyrs Valerius and Chrysafos. *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 Commemorating Saints Markianos & Martyrios – (see handout):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. For their struggle, O Lord, Your Martyrs received the crown of immortality from You our God. Armed with Your might they defeated the tyrants. They also crushed the arrogance of demons. By their intercessions, O Christ our God, save our souls.

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 – (Hymnal-pp.224-227):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: O unflinching 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

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 (Gal. 1:11-19)

¹¹For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; ¹²for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹³You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. ¹⁴I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. ¹⁵But when God, Who had set me apart before I was born and called me through His grace, was pleased ¹⁶to reveal His Son to me, so that I might proclaim Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being, ¹⁷nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus. ¹⁸Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days; ¹⁹but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 8:26-39)

Luke 8:26 Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. Luke 8:27 As He stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met Him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. 28 When he saw Jesus, he fell down before Him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have You to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me" — 29 for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) 30 Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. 31 They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. 32 Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So He gave them permission. 33 Then the demons came out of the man and

entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. 34 When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. 35 Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. 36 Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. 37 Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So He got into the boat and returned. 38 The man from whom the demons had gone begged that He might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 39 "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only Him.'" Then the devil left Him, and suddenly angels came and waited on Him. (Matt. 4:10-11)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Some boys were playing on a beach with a large beach ball. By accident, the ball was thrown too high, and driven by the wind, it landed in the water. No thought was given to it for a few minutes, until one of the boys noticed it was traveling farther and farther away from the shore. One of the boys decided to retrieve the ball.

After jumping into the water, he realized that it was farther from shore than he had thought. Grabbing hold of the ball proved more difficult than he had

expected, for it was riding high on the waves. Each time he sought to grip it, the ball slipped out of his hands. He now noticed that he was quite a distance from shore, and he realized that he was getting tired. Just then, fear gripped him as he realized that he could drown. But as a Christian, he offered a brief prayer, calling on God to protect him. His prayer brought him reassurance that God would help him, and his fear was replaced by confidence.

Suddenly the thought occurred to him that he could swim around the ball so that each attempt to grab it would push it in toward the shore. The plan worked. In a matter of minutes, he was able to step on shore with the retrieved ball.

Every Christian has this choice in every situation: succumb to fear or have faith. Learning this lesson can bring us peace of mind in the many turmoils we pass through in this life. *Remember, faith and fear are enemies. You must choose one or the other, but you cannot have both.*

New Philoptochos Cookbook Is "In Production" & Will Be Available Around December 1, 2009!



Our Philoptochos Society has completed its new Cookbook, entitled ***Let's Eat GREEK, Y'all!*** It will be available for sale around December 1st. All proceeds will be contributed to charity. Price and order information will be available shortly.

We have collected 380 recipes from our parishioners and their families, and we appreciate our parishioners' tremendous support in sharing family recipes.

For additional information, please telephone our Cookbook Chairman, Cynthia Cromartie, at 770/487-7384 or email her at cynthiacromartie@bellsouth.net. We appreciate your great assistance.

On this the two hundred and ninety-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

Sunday, October 25 (6th Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 10:15 a.m. Doxology of October 28th
- 10:30 a.m. Stewardship Sunday Program & Anniversary of our Founding Luncheon

Monday, October 26 (Feast of St. Demetrios the Myrrhbearer & Great Martyr of Thessaloniki & Anniversary of our Parish's Founding):

- 6:00 p.m. Evening Orthros Service
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Divine Liturgy, followed by Community Dinner (non-fasting)

Thursday, October 29:

- 5:30 p.m. "Ecumenical Gathering of Peace" at Annunciation Cathedral
(Join us as we welcome His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to our Holy Metropolis in this ecumenical service featuring Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant choirs, our Archbishop Demetrios, Metropolitan Alexios and the Catholic Archbishop of Atlanta. A reception will follow where we will gather to greet the Patriarch. *Fr. George recommends you come early for seating.*)

Sunday, November 1 (5th Sunday of St. Luke; Daylight Savings Time Ends):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 10:15 a.m. Artoklasia Service (*in commemoration of the Patron Saints of National Philoptochos – Saints Cosmas & Damianos*)
- 10:30 a.m. Ice Cream Sundae Sunday - *You and your family are encouraged to treat yourselves to this special dessert today following church services. It is offered on a rotating basis by our parish families on the first Sunday of the month (and an alternative food is offered on lenten Sundays). We thank Costas & Tammy Soulakos for offering today's ice cream and toppings.*
- 10:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes
- 11:45 a.m. Parish Council Meeting

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!