



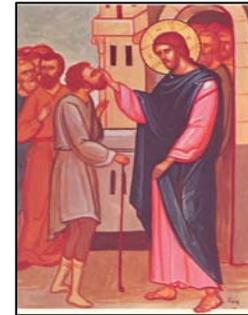
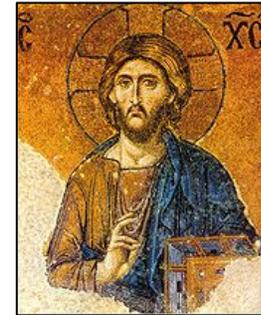
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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, December 1, 2013

ON THIS DAY, THE 14TH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES Nahum the Prophet; Philaret the Merciful of Amnia; Ananias the Persian, Holy Father Theocletus the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Lacedaemonia; and Holy Fathers Ananias and Solochon, Archbishops of Ephesus. *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 Second Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.118-121):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: The angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it became as dead men, and Mary stood at Your grave seeking Your most pure body. But You made hell a captive; You were untouched by its might. You came to the Virgin and granted life. O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

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 – Preparation for the Nativity – (Hymnal-pp.240-243):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: Today the Virgin goes forth, making her way to a cave where from her, ineffably, God the eternal Word will be born. Let the world be filled with joy, hearing these tidings. Joining the angels and shepherds, let us give glory to Him who is God from all ages, yet wills to be seen as a little child.

5. 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

<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></p>	<p><i>– St. John Chrysostom</i></p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (Matthew 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 (Ephesians 2:4-10)

⁴But God, Who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which He loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what He has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 18:35-43)

Luke 18:35 As He approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. 36 When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. 37 They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." 38 Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" 39 Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 40 Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to

Him; and when he came near, He asked him, 41 "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me see again." 42 Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." 43 Immediately he regained his sight and followed Him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

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.

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

¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone." (Ephesians 2:19-20)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Those who are baptized in Jesus Christ do not need to strive after a new life. They have already attained new life through dying with Christ – as noted in today's Special Baptismal Epistle lesson from St. Paul's letter to the Romans (6:3-11).

But, they do need to nurture that new life so it can grow and mature. That's what our Lord's Holy Church is for. That's what constant prayer is for. That's what faithful worship with our families is for. That's what consistent reading of Holy Scripture is for. That's what the Orthodox faith is for. It is like the Parable of the Sower. Many of those seeds sprouted up, but only a few grew into maturity. The rest withered and died.

The baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ is dying to our self-centered endeavors and being resurrected into a life marked by His grace and love. When we live in the baptism of Christ our Savior, we touch the hearts of others and help open them to the Holy Spirit and new life in Christ.

As we celebrate the Holy Sacrament of Baptism for young Alyssa Ann Dobur this morning, we are given a special reflective opportunity to consider whether we are living and growing in the new life we were given when we were baptized and chrismated into the Holy Orthodox Church – the Body of Christ.

And on this the four hundred and eighty-seventh 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!

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday, November 15 – Wednesday, December 24 – Nativity Fast

Sunday, December 1 (14th Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Sacrament of Holy Baptism (*Baby Girl Dobur*)/Memorial Service – One Year – Bishop John of Amorion
- 10:30 a.m. Philoptochos Lenten Luncheon (*featuring foods offered at Lenten Market*)
- 10:45 a.m. Philoptochos Lenten Bakaliko (Market)

Thursday, December 5:

- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Friday, December 6 (St. Nicholas the Wonderworker):

Note: Fr. George will offer Orthros at 8:00 am & Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am, Archangel Michael Chapel, 2480 Clairmont Road, NE, Atlanta

Saturday, December 7:

- 9:00 a.m. Off-Site Storage Re-organization (*volunteers needed*)
- 9:00 a.m. Parish Council Training for Candidates (offered at Transfiguration Church, Marietta (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.))
- 9:30 a.m. Philoptochos Board Training Session with Dee Nicolaou

Sunday, December 8 (10th Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Memorial – One Year – Panayiotis

- Zographos/Coffee Fellowship
10:30 a.m. Parish Council Elections/Baby Shower for Claudia
& Jim Sliwinski
11:30 p.m. Community Christmas Tree Decoration
11:45 a.m. Parish Council Meeting

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!



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

Hands of Love

November 24-December 8

Grant Park Christmas Basket Program at
St. John the Wonderworker Orthodox Church



We will be collecting hats, scarves and gloves
for adults and gifts for teenagers.
Please pick an angel from the wish tree!

Through December 8th, a wish tree for needy families will be located in our Church. Please pick an angel from the tree and bring it back with your gift by December 8. The donations will go to St. John the Wonderworker, and will be distributed in the "Grant Park Christmas Basket Program".

Grant Park Christmas Basket Program for needy families in the inner city of Atlanta is a Program of St. John the Wonderworker Orthodox Church of Atlanta, in which they collect food boxes and toys for the children. Every year, the families pick up the gifts on the Saturday before Christmas. The program begins around the first of November with the collection of food and toys.

Personal note:

Every month when we collect donations through our Hand of Love Program, and especially at Christmas when we collect gifts for teenagers and hats and gloves for the adults, I get totally overwhelmed by the great kindness, generosity and thoughtfulness of our parishioners who give with such loving and tender hearts. I feel extremely humbled and lucky to be part of a small church in which the great love manifested by its members makes it seem like there are hundreds or even thousands of people that offer the presents, even though everything comes from a few dozen kindhearted and exceptionally generous people. I personally thank you for all your past donations and I am convinced I will continue to be impressed each time I will look under the wish tree.

May you all have a blessed and peaceful Christmas!

Claudia Sliwinski
Hands of Love Coordinator



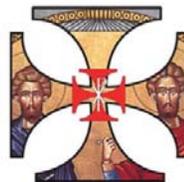
IS YOUR FRIDGE BARE???
ARE YOU OUT OF LENTEN MEALS???
Are you out of Lenten Recipes???

TIRED OF THE HASSLE OF THE GROCERY STORE???
Tired of having to fight crowds, wait in line, pay HUGE prices and then having to go home to cook AND do dishes???



SHOP AT THE LENTEN MARKET!!!!

- **When?** Today, December 1, 2013
- **Where?** Conveniently located in the church bookstore
- **Why? WHY YOU ASK???**



- **HOMEMADE** meals, prepared by someone **OTHER** than you!
- **NO** real prep work
- **EASY** clean up
- *ALL* money goes to support the Victims of the Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines in response to Archbishop Demetrios' Encyclical requesting our prayers and offerings of support! ([Click to read Encyclical](#))

Philoptochos is hosting a Lenten Luncheon (good-will donations welcomed) December 1st! In addition we will be selling homemade meals, pre-packaged, ready to HEAT AND EAT! It is that simple! Come buy 1, 2, 3 or more meals for the week...the more you buy the less work you have to do each night!!!

Soldiers' Angels for Christmas



If you are looking for a way to support our military this Christmas, Philoptochos has joined forces with Soldiers Angels and has made plans to do just that!

Soldiers' Angels is a volunteer nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide aid and comfort to the men and women of all branches of our military, as well as their families on the home front. Some of you may remember the beautiful quilts made by our Philoptochos a few years ago. Those quilts were sent to the largest hospital in Afghanistan and used for our badly wounded who needed extra comfort on the way home. Our Philoptochos wanted to support our military again, and have adopted an Army family of 6 through *Soldiers' Angels for Christmas*. Because Military families usually live on a very tight

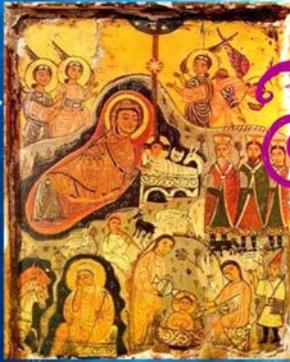
budget, putting together Christmas can be a real challenge for some of them.

Here is an excerpt from the email we just received from our family: "I don't know how to say thanks to you and your church. It is an incredible thing you are doing here helping out a family for Christmas, and we are blessed that you received ours. We just got to Fort Stewart here in Georgia a few months ago from Fort Campbell in Kentucky. It has been challenging at times but we wouldn't trade this life now because it's all we really know anymore. Thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts, you all really are angels!"

The family includes (Dad, Mom and 4 children - Boy 15, Girl 13, Boy 12 and Boy 8). We have a list from the mother of everything the children would like. We are going to send them a nice card from Walmart for food for Christmas dinner and then purchase a gift or two for each child. *If you are interested in participating in this outreach, please contact Faye Georgeo (770-861-4954), fayeg924@yahoo.com.*

NOTE: This effort is not replacing our angel tree for St. John the Wonderworker Christmas program; that will still be going on as well.

CELEBRATING THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
IN A WORLD IN NEED OF



Faith, Hope and Love

Catholic-Orthodox Ecumenical Gathering

DECEMBER 17, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M.
FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION



HIS EMINENCE
METROPOLITAN ALEXIOS
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA



HIS EXCELLENCY, MOST REVEREND
WILTON D. GREGORY
CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF ATLANTA



GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE ANNUNCIATION
2500 CLAIRMONT RD N.E., ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30329
(404) 633-5870

PEOPLE ARE KINDLY ASKED TO BRING CANNED FOODS AND NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO BENEFIT
THE LOAVES AND FISHES MINISTRY OF
ST. JOHN THE WONDER WORKER ORTHODOX CHURCH
AND
ST. FRANCIS TABLE AT THE CATHOLIC SHRINE OF
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
TO HELP FEED ATLANTA'S HOMELESS.

www.aarchatl.com

www.atlmetropolis.org