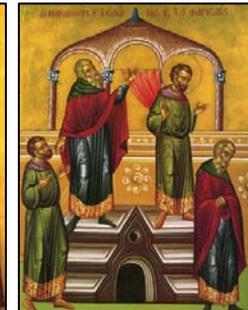
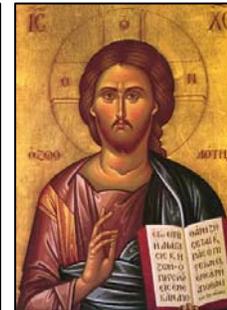




*Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: www.atlanta.goarch.org
St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org*

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, February 24, 2013

ON THIS DAY, THE 16TH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, THE PERIOD KNOWN AS TRIODION BEGINS, WITH THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE PARABLE OF THE PUBLICAN (TAX COLLECTOR) AND THE PHARISEE TAKEN FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL OF SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST. ON THIS DAY, WE ALSO COMMEMORATE the First and Second Discovery of the Precious Head of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist, St. John (+452) and Romanos, Prince of Uglich. *By the intercessions of Your Forerunner, O God, have mercy on us. Amen. 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 First Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.114-117):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

3. Hymn for Today's Feast of St. John the Baptist– (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: The head of the Forerunner radiates incorruptible rays of healing upon the faithful as it rises from the earth. Heavenward, the assembly of Angels is gathered, while below the human race is called to offer glory to Christ God in unison.

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 for Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee– (Hymnal-pp.254-255):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: Let us flee the boastful words of the Pharisee and learn humility from the sighs of the publican; let us cry out to the Savior: Spare us, for You alone are rich in forgiveness.

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
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Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (Luke 24:12-35)

But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened. Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing Him. And He said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered Him, "Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed Him over to be condemned to death and crucified Him. But we had hoped that He was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find His body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive.

Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Him." Then He said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into His glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, He interpreted to them the things about Himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, He walked ahead as if He were going on. But they urged Him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So He went in to stay with them. When He was at the table with them, He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was talking to us on the road, while He was opening the Scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and He has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how He had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (2 Cor. 4:6-15)

⁶For it is the God Who said, "Let light shine out of darkness", Who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

¹⁰ always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹ For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹² So death is at work in us, but life in you. ¹³ But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with Scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴ because we know that the One Who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into His presence. ¹⁵ Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 18:10-14)

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures for ever.” *(1 Chronicles 16.34)*

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

(Excerpt from the Canon of the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee)



Sixth Ode: AS I LOOK UPON THE RAGING SEA OF LIFE, WITH ITS ROUGH WATERS OF TEMPTATION, I RUN TOWARDS YOUR CALM HAVEN AND CRY ALOUD TO YOU: LEAD MY LIFE FROM CORRUPTION, GREATLY MERCIFUL ONE!

*GLORY TO YOU, OUR GOD,
GLORY TO YOU!*

The Publican and Pharisee both ran in the race of life, but the one was overcome by foolish pride: He was brought to a shameful shipwreck, while the other was saved by humility.

Changing to a righteous course of life, let us emulate the wisdom of the Publican:

Let us run from the hateful conceit of the Pharisee, so letting ourselves attain to life.

Let us eagerly follow the ways of Jesus the Savior, and His humility, in our desire to attain the

eternal dwelling of joy, and to find rest in the land of the living.

You have shown Your disciples, Master, the humility that raises men on high: girding Your loins with a towel, You washed their feet, preparing them to follow Your example.

The Pharisee spent his life in virtue, and the Publican in sin; but the one was foolishly brought low through his pride, while the other in his humility of mind was raised up to the heights.

Theotokion: I was created naked in innocence and simplicity; then the enemy clothed me with the garment of sin and passionate flesh. But now I am saved, O Maiden, through your intercession.

LET US, BELIEVERS, CLAP OUR HANDS IN GLADNESS, FULFILLING THE MOST PRECIOUS FEAST. BY KNOWING GOD THROUGH THE THEOTOKOS, LET US GLORIFY HIM WHO WAS BORN OF HER.

And on this *the four hundred and fifty-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 SCHEDULE

Sunday, February 24 (Triodion Begins – Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee)

(This is a Fast Free Week – February 24 – March 2)

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy, followed by Special Presentation by Lydia McGee
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes
- 11:30 am Hellenic Language Class
- 11:30 am Philoptochos General Meeting & Philoptochos Board Meeting

Thursday, February 28:

6:30 pm Choir Practice – *everyone invited to join us*

Friday, March 1 and Saturday, March 2:

Fr. George will be away from Atlanta

Sunday, March 3 (17th Sunday of St. Luke – Sunday of the Prodigal Son):

Note: No Orthros Service Today

- 10:00 am 40 Day Churching – Andrea & Baby Girl Dobur
- 10:15 am Divine Liturgy *(Note later starting time)*
- 11:30 am Ice Cream Sundae Sunday
- 11:45 am Religious Education Classes

Tuesday, March 5 – Thursday, March 7:

Three-Day Clergy Meeting at Diakonia Retreat Center – Fr. George will be away from Atlanta, Tuesday, March 5 – Saturday, March 9

Remember to visit our website, saintchristopherhoc.org for calendar updates.

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!



Helping Hands of Love - Extra Efforts!

March 10, 2013

One Roof Outreach Ministry

We will collect personal hygiene items and cleansing products:

toilet tissue, paper towels, bar soap, toothpaste, disposable razors, lotion, shampoo, feminine products, disposable diapers for children and adults, liquid dishwashing detergent, laundry detergent.

One Roof is an alliance of churches of many different denominations, as well as community organizations and businesses. Through their joint effort they hope to improve the goodwill of the Coweta County community. Through donations from churches, organizations and individuals, One Roof offers help in emergency financial situations by paying rent, placing evicted or fire victim families in motels, and paying utility bills, among other situations.

For more information, please look at: <http://www.oneroofoutreach.org/index.htm>