



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

*Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople:* [www.patriarchate.org](http://www.patriarchate.org)  
*Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website:* [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)  
*Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website:* [www.atlanta.goarch.org](http://www.atlanta.goarch.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, March 3, 2013**

ON THIS DAY, THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE TRIODION PERIOD, THE 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, WE REMEMBER OUR LORD'S PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL SON, TAKEN FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE. ON THIS DAY, WE ALSO COMMEMORATE the Holy Martyrs Eutropius, Cleonicus and Basiliscus (+308); Theodoretos the Holy Priest-Martyr of Antioch; Sts. Zelon & Zoelos; and Righteous Virgin Piamon. *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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 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.

#### **4. Kontakion for Sunday of the Prodigal Son– (Hymnal-pp.256-259):**

*It is sung after the Small Entrance:* From my Father's glory, I have foolishly turned away. By my sins, I squandered all the riches He gave me. Therefore, like the prodigal, I cry out to Him: I have sinned before You, compassionate Father. Accept my repentance, and take me back again as one of Your hired servants.

### **SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S 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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#### **Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 6:12-20)**

<sup>12</sup>“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. <sup>13</sup>“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the

Lord, and the Lord for the body. <sup>14</sup>And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by His power. <sup>15</sup>Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." <sup>17</sup>But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him. <sup>18</sup>Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. <sup>19</sup>Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

### **Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 15:11-32)**

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was

*dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"*

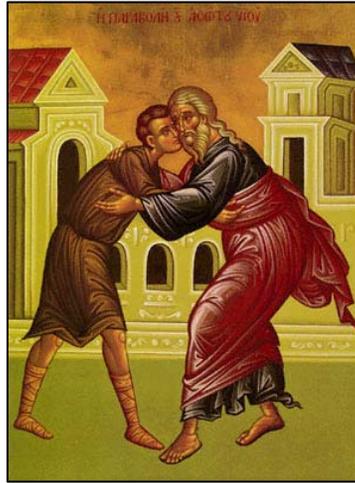
**MEMORY VERSE** *(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):*

“Sing to the LORD, all the earth. Tell of His salvation from day to day. Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples.” *(1 Chronicles 16.23-24)*

**PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:**

*(Excerpt from the Canon of the Sunday of the Prodigal Son)*

Sixth Ode: SAVIOR, I AM HELD FAST, IN THE DEPTH OF SIN, OVERWHELMED BY THE SEA OF LIFE. BUT AS YOU BROUGHT JONAH FROM THE BELLY OF THE WHALE, SO BRING ME OUT FROM THE PASSIONS AND SAVE ME!



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

The depths of sin ever hold me fast, and the tempest of transgressions overwhelms me! Pilot me, O Christ my God, to the haven of life and save me, King of glory!

I have wasted in evil living the wealth which the Father gave me, and now I am brought to poverty. I am filled with shame and enslaved to fruitless thoughts.

Therefore I cry to You, Lover of humankind: Take pity on me and save me! I am wasted with hunger, deprived of every blessing, and an exile from Your presence. O Christ, supreme in loving kindness, take pity on me now as I return and save me as I sing Your praises, Lover of humankind!

Theotokion: O Maiden who conceived Christ the Savior and Master, count me worthy of salvation. I lack all good in my poverty, pure Virgin: Grant that I may sing the praises of your majesty!

SAVIOR, I AM HELD FAST, IN THE DEPTH OF SIN, OVERWHELMED BY THE SEA OF LIFE. BUT AS YOU BROUGHT JONAH FROM THE BELLY OF THE WHALE, SO BRING ME OUT FROM THE PASSIONS AND SAVE ME!

And on this the four hundred and fifty-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

Today is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Triodion period – *Great and Holy Lent begins Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>*.

### Sunday, March 3 (17<sup>th</sup> 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  
away from Atlanta, Tuesday, March 5 – Saturday, March 9

### Thursday, March 7:

6:30 pm Choir Practice

### Sunday, March 10 (Judgment Sunday – Meatfare Sunday):

*Note: No Orthros Service Today*

10:00 am Divine Liturgy (*Note later starting time*)

11:45 am Parish Council Meeting/Hellenic Language Class

Graduation Spring Sale baking - make filling - *times to be announced*

**Remember to visit our website, [saintchristopherhoc.org](http://saintchristopherhoc.org) for calendar updates.**

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



### **Helping Hands of Love - Extra Efforts!**

**Next Sunday - 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>*