



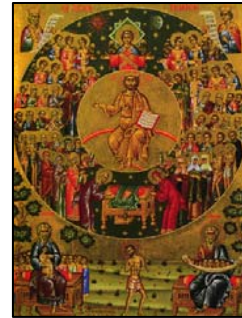
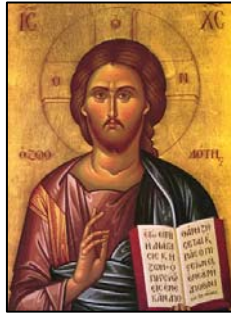
## GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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, May 30, 2010

ON THIS DAY, THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW – THE SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, THE CHURCH CELEBRATES THE MEMORY OF ALL THE SAINTS OF GOD FROM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, IN ASIA, LIBYA AND EUROPE, IN THE NORTH AND IN THE SOUTH: THE RIGHTEOUS PROPHETS, MARTYRS, CONFESSORS, BISHOPS, TEACHERS, ASCETICS, AND ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE GLORIFIED GOD THROUGH HOLY LIVING AND DYING, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE NOT ESPECIALLY COMMEMORATED ON SOME SPECIFIC DAY IN THE ORTHODOX CHURCH YEAR. THE ALL-HOLY THEOTOKOS AND THE HOSTS AND ANGELS ARE ALSO HONORED ON THIS DAY. WE ALSO REMEMBER our Righteous Father Isaakios, Founder of the Monastery of Dalmatos (+410); Macrina, Grandmother of St. Basil the Great; Holy Martyr Natalios; Righteous Barlaam the Monk of Caesarea; Holy New-Martyrs Roman and Teletios; and Holy Martyrs Eusebios and Christina. By the intercessions of Your pure Mother, and of all Your Saints, from all time, have mercy on us, O Christ our God, and save us, as the only Good and Loving One. 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 (Plagal of the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 for Today's Feast of All Saints – (Hymnal-pp. 174-175):**

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. Throughout the world Your Church is adorned with the blood of the martyrs as with royal purple and fine linen. Through them she cries out to You, Christ our God: Grant Your lasting peace to all the world and bestow on our souls Your great mercy.

### **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 for All-Saints Sunday – (Hymnal-pp.282-283):**

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. To You, O Lord, Creator of the universe, the world offers the God-bearing martyrs as the first fruits of creation.

Through their prayers, and through those of the Theotokos, keep Your Church in perfect peace, O Savior rich in mercy.

**6. Communion Hymn for Sunday of All Saints – (Hymnal-pp.323):**

*On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is usually sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord": "Exalt, You Just, in the Lord; from the upright praise is fitting. Alleluia!" (Psalm 32[33]:1)*

**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 (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."*

**Epistle Reading (Hebrews 11:33-12:2)**

*...who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run*

*with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of God.*

**Gospel Reading (Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30)**

*"Everyone therefore who acknowledges Me before others, I also will acknowledge before My Father in heaven; but whoever denies Me before others, I also will deny before My Father in heaven. Whoever loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. Then Peter said in reply, "Look, we have left everything and followed You. What then will we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for My name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.*

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

*"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." (Mt. 28:19-20)*

**PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:**

Many labor under the wrong concept of success. This is the idea of achieving possessions, status, power. A person's self-image is measured by what he or she earns or possesses, by what he or she socially can do or economically control. However, the Saints teach another radically different concept of success based on faithfulness and discipleship. True success is measured by

the depth of one's personal communion with God, concern for the salvation of souls, and the advancement of the Kingdom. A truly successful person is a saint – one who seeks wholeness in God, who strives to grow in the image of Christ, who finds fulfillment and happiness in loving and serving others for God's glory.

## FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

Honoring the friends of God with much reverence, the Prophet-King David says, “But to me, exceedingly honorable are Thy friends, O Lord” (Ps. 138:16). And the divine Apostle, recounting the achievements of the Saints, and setting forth their memorial as an example that we might turn away from earthly things and from sin, and emulate their patience and courage in the struggles for virtue, says, “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every burden, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us” (Heb. 12:1).

This commemoration began as the Sunday (Synaxis) of All Martyrs; to them were added all the ranks of Saints who bore witness (the meaning of “Martyr” in Greek) to Christ in manifold ways, even if occasion did not require the shedding of their blood.

Therefore, guided by the teaching of the Divine Scriptures and Apostolic Tradition, we the pious honor all the Saints, the friends of God, for they are keepers of God's commandments, shining examples of virtue, and benefactors of mankind. Of course, we honor the known Saints especially on their own day of the year, as is evident in the Menologion. But since many Saints are unknown, and their number has increased with time, and will continue to increase until the end of time, the Church has appointed that once a year a common commemoration be made of all the Saints. *This is the feast that we celebrate today.* It is the harvest of the coming of the Holy Spirit into the world; it is the “much fruit” brought forth by that “Grain of wheat that fell into the earth and died” (John 12:24); it is the glorification of the Saints as “the foundation of the Church, the perfection of the Gospel, they who fulfilled

in deed the sayings of the Savior” (Sunday of All Saints, Doxasticon of Vespers).

In this celebration, then, we reverently honor and call blessed all the Righteous, the Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, Confessors, Shepherds, Teachers, and Holy Monastics, both men and women alike, known and unknown, who have been added to the choirs of the Saints and shall be added, from the time of Adam until the end of the world, who have been perfected in piety and have glorified God by their holy lives. All these, as well as the orders of the Angels, and especially our most holy Lady and Queen, the Ever-virgin Theotokos Mary, do we honor today, setting their life before us as an example of virtue, and entreating them to intercede in our behalf with God, Whose grace and boundless mercy be with us all. Amen.

And on this *the three hundred and twenty-first* 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, May 30 (Sunday of All Saints):**

**7:45 am Orthros Service**

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship Reception**

**10:45 am Religious Education Classes**

**11:30 am Philoptochos General Meeting**

### **Monday, May 31 – Fast of the Apostles Begins and continues through June 28<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Thursday, June 3:**

**7:00 pm Choir Practice**

### **Sunday, June 6 (Second Sunday of St. Matthew):**

**7:45 am Orthros Service**

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship Reception**

**10:45 am Religious Education Classes**

**11:30 am Hellenic Language Class**

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