



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

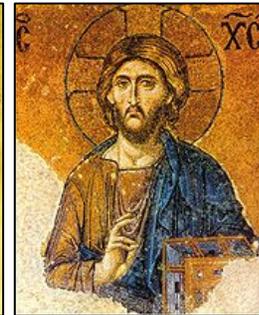
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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, August 10, 2014

ON THIS DAY, THE NINTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES Laurence the Holy Martyr & Archdeacon of Rome (+258); Chitus of Athens, Bishop of Rome (+258); and Hippolytus the Martyr of Rome. *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. Hymn for Second Antiphon – (pg. 28 of Hymnal):

On the occasion of the Feast of the Transfiguration, we sing the following hymn instead of the regular Soson imas. “Save us, O Son of God”: “Save us, O Son of God, Who was transfigured on Mount Tabor, as we sing to You, Alleluia.”

2./4. Hymn for Feast of the Transfiguration – (Hymnal-pp.220-221):

It is sung before and after the Small Entrance. When You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, You showed Your disciples Your glory as far as they could bear. So now, for us sinners also, let this same eternal light shine forth through the prayers of the Theotokos. O .Giver of light, glory to You.

3. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the 4th Tone) – (Hymnal-pp. 126-7):

It is sung 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.

5. 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.

6. Kontakion for Feast of Transfiguration – (Hymnal-pp.284-287):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing Your disciples as much of Your glory as they could bear, so that when they see You crucified they will know that You suffer freely, and they will tell all the world that You are truly the radiance of the Father.

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 (I Cor. 3:9-17)

For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one can lay any foundation

other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw — the work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. If what has been built on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a reward. If the work is burned up, the builder will suffer loss; the builder will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 14:22-34)

Immediately He made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning He came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

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

"Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple. (1 Cor. 3:16-17)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Living in a Plastic Bubble

Someone once shared: I feel as though I live in a plastic bubble. It surrounds me, but it cannot be seen. I see everyone around me, I hear them speak. Behind their words, they hide from me. They look at me and think they know me. But they don't see my bubble, they don't look long enough to see it. I try to talk with them, to share myself, but my words return, unlistened to. And nobody hears.

I move through the days insulated in my protective bubble. I reach out to ones that I love, but they don't notice. They don't feel my need. When I extend my hand, no one takes it. Heavy hearted, I withdraw it, vowing never to offer it again. I call to those around, I beg, "Please, help me. Please touch me. Please love me." And nobody hears.

Though not made of plastic, my bubble is real. It is comprised of many things. The sting of harsh words, spoken thoughtlessly. The heartache of love unrequited. The disappointment of a trust broken. The guilt of past mistakes. The terror of, again, being rejected. These things envelop me, isolate me; in my torment I scream, but it is silent. And nobody hears.

I sought escape from my invisible prison. I looked for someone, some person who would see my bubble and free me of it. I searched for years, to naught. *And then, when all seemed hopeless, I turned my eyes in a new direction. There He stood, arms outstretched, beckoning me. He spoke to me. He touched me.*

Then I understood what I should have always known. Through all the empty years and broken dreams, I never had been alone. He was

always there, just waiting for me to call. I closed my eyes and whispered, “God, please help me. Please touch me. Please love me.”

And He heard.

- Reprinted from *God and You: Person to Person*

Our Prayer Shawls Will Wrap Up Cancer Patients



Following church services, Fr. George will offer the special blessing of the prayer shawls. They will be given to the counseling staff at the Cancer Treatment Center of America (CTCA) in Newnan. *We welcome the Rev. Chip Gordon, Director of Pastoral Care, to our parish for this blessing.* He will share with us his work and that of the Cancer Treatment Centers of America.

Please contact Susan Kleto at 770.253.8469 or sbkleto@gmail.com to either become a participant in this ministry, to receive yarn, to receive sew-in labels, to receive a Prayer Guide, or if you have any questions. We have some beautiful skeins of yarn available to those who need some yarn.

Parish Community Whitewater Rafting Trip Weekend - Columbus, GA

Yesterday nearly 50 of our parishioners of all ages traveled to Columbus, Georgia, and enjoyed an afternoon of Whitewater rafting as part of our GOYA Reunion/Community Outreach. *We commend Anna Pelky and Katie Wilson for organizing this event and all those who participated.* More than 20 spent the night and are representing us at the Transfiguration Church in Columbus today as their parishioners celebrate their Name Day (August 6th). *We wish them Chronia Polla and thank them for their luncheon hospitality offered to our parishioners today.*



YOU'RE INVITED

What: 7 Rolling and Baking PARTIES

When:

* August 14- Batter Prep 7:30pm

* August 16- Baking 9:00am- 4:00pm (Tiropita/
Spanakopita)

* August 21- Batter Prep 6:30-8:00pm

* August 23- Baking 9:00am-4:00pm (Tiropita/
Spanakopita)

* September 6- 9:00am- 2:00pm (Dolmathes)

* September 13- 9:00am-2:00pm (Kourabiethes/
Koulourakis)

* September 18- 6:00pm (Galactoboureko)

Where:

Conveniently located at
St. Christopher Church





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

And on this *the five 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 SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 10th (9th Sunday of St. Matthew; Whitewater Rafting Weekend):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Blessing of Prayer Shawls/Coffee Fellowship

Monday, August 11th:

6:00 pm Paraklesis Service (*we will pray for the health and welfare of all*)

Wednesday, August 13th:

6:00 pm Paraklesis Service (*we will pray for the health and welfare of all*)

Thursday, August 14th (Eve of Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos):

5:00 pm Great Vespers Service (Evening)

5:45 pm Divine Liturgy (Evening), followed by Community Dinner (*Please bring fasting food; fish is permitted*)

7:30 pm Batter Prep for GreekFest Appetizers (Spanakopites) – *please join us!*

Saturday, August 16th:

9:00 am - ? Baking for GreekFest Appetizers (Spanakopites) – *please join us!*

Sunday, August 17th (10th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Chrismation – Bill Wiley/Blessing of New School Year

11:30 am GOYA Meeting

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!

Hands of Love Collection for September, 2014



One Roof Outreach Ministry

*We will collect non-perishable food items
and monetary donations.*