



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

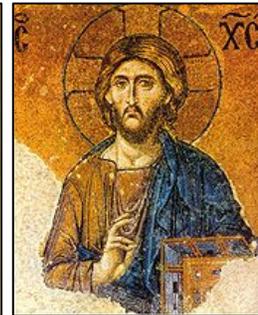
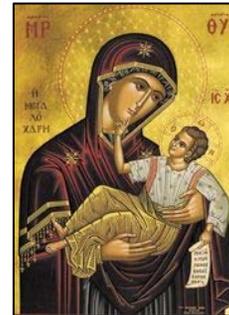
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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 4, 2013

ON THIS DAY, THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES the Seven Holy Youths of Ephesus Maximilian, Exacustodian, Jamblichus, Martinian, Dionysius, John, & Constantine (+249-251); the recovery of the relics of our devout mother Evdokia, the Martyr; Holy Martyr Thathuel; and Holy Martyr Ia and those with her. *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.

Take this Sunday Bulletin with you to *SHARE* with someone who is *not* here today.

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER SMALL ENTRANCE

1./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the 1st 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 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 for the 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 (Luke 24:36-53)

While they were talking about this, Jesus Himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at My hands and My feet; see that it is I Myself. Touch Me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, and He took it and ate in their presence. Then He said to them, "These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about Me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up His hands, He blessed them. While He was blessing them, He withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Epistle Reading (Romans 12:6-14)

⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. ⁹Let love be genuine; hate

what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 9:1-8)

⁹And after getting into a boat He crossed the sea and came to His own town. ²And just then some people were carrying a paralyzed man lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.” ³Then some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” ⁴But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? ⁵For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and walk’? ⁶But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” —He then said to the paralytic—‘stand up, take your bed and go to your home.’ ⁷And he stood up and went to his home. ⁸When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.

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

“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.”

(1 Cor. 10:31)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

There is a story from the Desert Fathers about a young monk who asked one of the old men of the desert why it is that so many people

came out to the desert to seek God and yet most of them gave up after a short time and returned to their lives in the city.

The old monk told him, “Last evening my dog saw a rabbit running for cover among the bushes of the desert and he began to chase the rabbit, barking loudly. Soon other dogs joined in the chase, barking and running. They ran a great distance and alerted many other dogs. Soon the wilderness was echoing the sounds of their pursuit but the chase went on into the night.”

After a little while, many of the dogs grew tired and dropped out. A few chased the rabbit until the night was nearly spent. By morning, only my dog continued the hunt. “Do you understand,” the old man said, “what I have told you?”

“No,” replied the young monk, “please tell me father.”

“It is simple,” said the desert father, “my dog saw the rabbit.”

In Matthew 13:45-46, Jesus said “the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.” The merchant understood at once the value of the commodity before him, and he sacrificed everything to obtain it. *What about us? Are we willing to do the same?*



Hands of Love Collection for August 11th, 2013
The Loaves & Fishes Program –
*We will be collecting non-perishable food items (especially
canned foods) & monetary donations to support.*



Dear St. Christopher Church,



I truly enjoyed having your parishioners last year at my home in Salem, South Carolina, at the Metropolis Diakonia Retreat Center. You planted me and now I am inviting you to come see how large my vines and branches have become.

Over the summer, I felt the hills around me vibrate as many Orthodox youth participated in the St. Stephen's summer camps and as they were encouraged to follow Christ and live for Him. Without you, I never would have been able to experience them! But I and all my friends (plants, buildings, humans and animals) really want to see you again.

Your friend, Danielle, is helping our parish plan a volunteer work weekend retreat up here for all of you on August 16th – 18th. So please, come escape the Atlanta Metro area in August. It's much cooler here in Salem in the evenings. I promise Danielle will allow time to enjoy a relaxing swim in the lake, time to canoe, or a walk on the hiking trail, after you help me with a few chores I cannot complete myself.

Just let Danielle know you are coming at danielledawkins83@gmail.com or (770) 827-3056 as soon as possible.

Thanks and y'all come back now!

The Vineyard



And on this the four hundred and seventy-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

Dormition of the Theotokos Fast – August 1 - 14

Sunday, August 4 (6th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship

11:00 am GOYA Reunion Luncheon at Pascal's Restaurant & Special Activity (to be announced by Jeanie Ellinas)

11:00 am Tenth Anniversary Planning Meeting – feel welcome to join us!

11:30 am Hellenic Language Class

Monday, August 5 (Eve of the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord):

5:00 pm Great Vespers Service

5:45 pm Divine Liturgy/Blessing of the Grapes/Community Dinner, fasting food & fish are permitted

Wednesday, August 7th:

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

Thursday, August 8th:

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday, August 9th:

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

Sunday, August 11 (7th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Blessing of New School Year & Blessing of Prayer Shawls/Coffee Fellowship

11:00 am Open House for New Religious Education Classes

11:30 am Parish Council Meeting

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!

Let's EAT!™

Don't want to cook?

Let's EAT!™

Tired of doing the dishes?

Let's EAT!™

Been meaning to eat out with your family?

Let's EAT!™

Have you been putting off catching up with old friends?

Let's EAT!™

Wish you had the opportunity to meet new friends?

Let's EAT!™

Join us at Partners Pizza* (which features healthy salads, sandwich choices & pizza) on Sunday, August 25th, 11:45 a.m. It's easy – *no reservations, Dutch Treat, and open to all...!*

FOR A PREVIEW of the fun and fellowship you will enjoy, take a look at our outing on Sunday, July 28th, when 24 parishioners and friends did just that –
www.saintchristopherhoc.org

Let's EAT!™



*215 Northlake Drive, Peachtree City, GA 30269)