



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, September 15, 2013

ON THIS DAY, THE SUNDAY AFTER THE FEAST OF THE UNIVERSAL CELEBRATION OF THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY, PRECIOUS, AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST, we commemorate Nikitas the Great Martyr; Philotheos the Righteous; Porphyrios of Mimon; discovery of the relics of St. Akakios, Bishop of Melitini; Holy Martyr Maximos; two holy maiden martyrs; discovery of the relics of St. Stephen the First Martyr; St. Gerasimos, founder of the Monastery of the Holy Trinity, near Makrynitsa; Bessarion of Larissa; Righteous Father Symeon, Archbishop of Thessalonica; and John the New Martyr of Crete (1811). *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. 2nd Antiphon Hymn Commemorating the Holy Cross – (Hymnal-p. 28):

This hymn replaces hymn on pgs. 28-29. Save us, O Son of God, Who was crucified in the flesh, as we sing to you, Alleluia.

2./4. Hymn for Feast of the Holy Cross – (Hymnal-pp.180-181):

This hymn, "Save, O Lord" – is sung before and after the Small Entrance. It is sung during the festal commemoration of the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross and also on the occasion of the Veneration of the Holy Cross on the Third Sunday of Great Lent. Save, O Lord Your people and bless Your inheritance. Give victory to those who battle evil and protect us all by Your Holy Cross.

3. Resurrectional Hymn (Third Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.106-109):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the mighty power of His arm. He has trampled down death by death, becoming the firstborn of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell and has granted to all the world His great mercy.

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 the Feast of the Holy Cross – (Hymnal-pp.232-235):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. Bestow Your mercies on the people called by Your Name, Christ God, Who freely let Yourself be raised on the Cross. To all who battle evil give joy in Your power, by gracing them with victory over every foe, for having You as their ally they possess a weapon of peace, an invincible trophy of victory.

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." Amen.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Galatians 2:16-20)

...yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives

in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Mark 8:34-9:1)

He called the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become My followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“Educate your children in the way in which they should go,
and when they are grown, they will not depart from it.”

(Proverbs 22:6)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

There is an old parable about a farmer that had two sons. As soon as they were old enough to walk, he took them to the fields and he taught them everything that he knew about growing crops and raising animals. When he got too old to work, the two boys took over the chores of the farm and when the father died, they had found their working together so meaningful that they decided to keep their partnership. So each brother contributed what he could and during every harvest season, they would divide equally what they had corporately produced. Across the years the elder brother never married, stayed an old bachelor. The younger brother did marry and had eight wonderful children. Some years later when they were having a wonderful harvest, the old bachelor brother thought

to himself one night, “My brother has ten mouths to feed. I only have one. He really needs more of his harvest than I do, but I know he is much too fair to renegotiate. I know what I'll do. In the dead of the night when he is already asleep, I'll take some of what I have put in my barn and I'll slip it over into his barn to help him feed his children.”

At the very time he was thinking up this plan, the younger brother was considering to himself, “God has given me these wonderful children. My brother hasn't been so fortunate. He really needs more of this harvest for his old age than I do, but I know him. He's much too fair. He'll never renegotiate. I know what I'll do. In the dead of the night when he's asleep, I'll take some of what I've put in my barn and slip it over into his barn.”

And so one night when the moon was full, those two brothers came face to face, each on a mission of generosity. An observer reflected that while there were no clouds in the sky, a gentle rain began to fall. He offered: “You know what it was – God weeping for joy because two of His children had realized His truth. Indeed, two of His children had grown to realize that *generosity* is one of the deepest characteristics of our God. Since we are made in His image, our being generous becomes the source of our joy as well. Life does not always seem fair, but as members of God's Body, we may be confident that we are continually provided with His Divine Grace and never-ending Love. He invites us to join in His mission to share with those He puts in our paths each day – at home, work, church, ...*wherever we find ourselves!*”

Special Petition for College Student Sunday – Today

Again we pray, for the hearts, the minds, and the lips of our college students, that they may receive the power of Your law and successfully comprehend the useful things which will be taught them, and so they will understand Your perfect will and contribute to the building up of Your Holy Church. Deliver them from every snare of the enemy, preserve them in the true faith in righteousness and purity all the days of their lives, that they may grow in wisdom and in the observance of Your commandments, and may be revealed as worshipers of Your name and heirs of Your Kingdom. Bless also their teachers, O Lord, bless the Orthodox

Christian Fellowship, its chaplains, student leaders and beneficiaries; and may they always proclaim the word of Your truth.

Archbishop Demetrios Holds Memorial Service at New Site of St. Nicholas Church Near Ground Zero

NEW YORK – On September 11, 2013, Archbishop Demetrios of America conducted a Trisagion (Memorial) Service to honor the memory of all those who tragically lost their lives twelve years ago during the terrorist attacks. The service was held atop the foundation where the new St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church will be rebuilt.

During the Memorial Service Archbishop Demetrios prayed for each of the Greek Orthodox victims and for the souls of all who perished on that day. Attending the service were Director of World Trade Center Construction Steve Plate, Superintendent of Police/Director of Public Safety for the Port Authority Police Michael A. Dedorko, Chief of the Port Authority Police Department Louie Koumoutsos, and a number of Greek Orthodox faithful whose family members were killed on 9-11. Clergy assisting in the service were Bishop Sevastianos of Zela, Port Authority Chaplains Frs. Andrew Eugenis and Nicholas Rafael, Frs. John Romas and John Lardas, Archdeacon Pandleimon Papadopoulos and Deacon Eleftherios Constantine.

St. Nicholas Church was the only house of worship destroyed on Sept. 11, 2001, crushed by the debris of the South Tower when it collapsed.



Hands of Love Collection for September 8, 2013

September, 2013: Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology

We will be collecting monetary donations to benefit

Holy Cross School of Theology / Hellenic College.



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

The GreekFest Food Committee **Needs your help.....**

We have one last food prep date set for:

Thursday, Sept. 19 – Galactobouriko – 5:30 until finished

Dates/times for set-up on Fri. Sept. 20 and Sat. Sept. 21 to be announced. Watch the calendar on our website.

Clean up will be held on Sun. Sept. 22
After the Divine Liturgy!

Let us come together in Christian fellowship to bring this important event together! Everyone is welcome to come to ALL the prep days
Thank you for your efforts and support!
And remember to sell tickets!!

Faithfully,
Julie & George Skouteris, Manny Haldopoulos, GreekFest – Tri-Chairs

And on this *the four hundred and seventy-seventh* 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, September 15th (Sunday after Feast of Holy Cross/College Student Sun.):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes
- 11:30 am Philoptochos Board Meeting
- 11:30 am Hellenic Language Class

Tuesday, September 17th (Feast of Ss. Sophia, Faith, Hope & Love):

- 5:45 pm Divine Liturgy (note NO Vespers Service beforehand)
- 7:00 pm Community Dinner (please bring non-fasting food)
- 7:30 pm Outreach Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 19th:

- 5:30 pm Greek Fest Baking - Galactoboureko (come join us and help)
- 6:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday, September 20th:

Greek Fest Set-up – times to be announced...

Saturday, September 21st:

Greek Fest Set-up – times to be announced...

6:30 p.m. - GreekFest 2013 at Dixie Wing Commemorative Hangar

Sunday, September 22nd (1st Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 am Orthros
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- 10:30 am Lunch & GreekFest Clean-up at Dixie Wing Commemorative Hangar, with GOYA Meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!