



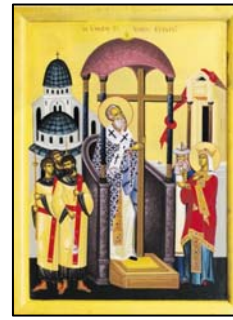
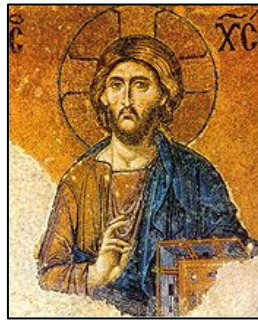
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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, September 20, 2009

**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 Holy Eustathios the Great Martyr, his wife, Theopiste, and their two sons, Agapios and Theopistos (+117); Saint Hilarion the New Martyr of Crete (+1804); Holy Fathers and Confessors, the Bishop Hypatios and the Presbyter Andrew; Saint Martin, Pope of Rome, Maximos, and their Companions; Holy Martyrs Artemidoros and Thalos; Holy Father Meletios, Bishop of Cyprus; and Righteous John of Egypt. *Through their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. 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./3. 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.

### **2. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the Second 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.

### **4. Hymn for Eustathios the Great Martyr – (not in Hymnal):**

*It is sung after the Small Entrance.* For their struggle, O Lord, Your Martyrs received the crown of immortality from You our God. Armed with Your might they defeated the tyrants. They also crushed the arrogance of demons. By their intercessions, O Christ our God, save our souls.

## **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 (Luke 5:14-19)**

*But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how He told you, while He was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” Then they remembered His words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.*

### **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:**

Blessed are those who mourn for the victims of our recent hurricanes; *may they find comfort in their pain and hope in their helplessness.*

Blessed are those who found a way to survive; *may they now find sufficient strength and healing as they re-assemble the scattered pieces of shattered lives.*

Blessed are those who tirelessly strive to provide relief and comfort; *may they be amply encouraged in their valiant efforts.*

Blessed are those who generously give money and supplies; *may they know the deep satisfaction of having made a difference.*

Blessed are those in every state of our great nation who unite now in compassionate service and love; *may they show us what it means to be family.*

***Glory to God for His mercy!***

***Thank You, Parishioners!***

We thank all our parishioners who assisted so generously at last night's successful GreekFest Fundraiser Dinner, whose proceeds will be used to pay off the mortgage on our property. Congratulations to our Chairman, Stephen Butler, and his hard-working and dedicated committee and all of our faithful parishioners who assisted this past week and for guiding our planning and preparations over the past year. *Finally, we thank you for your presence this morning and hope you will join us for the remaining clean-up at the hangar. Lunch will be provided there at no charge. We hope you will join us as soon as church services are over.*

On this the two hundred and eighty-eighth 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, September 20 (Sunday after Holy Cross/OCF Sunday):

7:45 a.m. Orthros Service

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

10:30 a.m. GreekFest Community Clean-up at Seymour Hangar

*We need everyone's help - Please join us as we "wrap-up" our 2009 Greek Fest program by cleaning the hangar and returning our supplies to storage. All parishioners who assist will be provided a complimentary GreekFest meal for lunch today.*

### Monday, September 21:

7:00 p.m. Religious Educators & Youth Workers Meeting

8:00 p.m. Education, Culture, & Youth Diakonia Committee Meeting

### Thursday, September 24:

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

### Friday, September 25:

5:00 p.m. HOPE/JOY Outing for our Youth (grades K-6) & Parents

### Saturday, September 26:

8:00 a.m. International Festival/Dragon Boat Races – *schedule and details to be announced for you to assist with our parish's food entry at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary founding celebration of Peachtree City, GA*

### Sunday, September 27 (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of St. Luke):

7:30 a.m. Orthros Service (*note earlier starting time*)

8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy (*note earlier starting time*)/Coffee Fellowship

10:30 a.m. Religious Education Classes

11:15 a.m. GOYA Meeting

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