



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org

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St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church



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Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, *Chancellor*

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, September 21, 2014

ON THIS DAY, THE SUNDAY OF THE LEAVE-TAKING OF THE FEAST OF THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY, PRECIOUS, AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS OF OUR LORD, GOD, & SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST, we commemorate the Apostle Kodratos, Bishop of Athens, Martyr (+130); The Holy Prophet Jonah (9th cent. B.C.); Righteous Father Jonah of Savvas; Holy Martyr Eusebius; Holy Martyrs and brothers Eusebius, Nestavos, and Zenon; Holy Fathers and Bishops of Cyprus, Meletios and Isakios; Holy Martyr Priscus; and Holy Six Martyrs who served as aides to Maximian. *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./5./10. 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. Small Entrance Exclamation of the Priest:

On the occasion of today's feast, the Priest intones the following at the Small Entrance: Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His footstool, for He is holy. Save us, O Son of God, Who was crucified in the flesh, as we sing to You, Alleluia.

4. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. Megalynarion (Hymn to the Theotokos) – (not in Hymnal):

Instead of “Axion Estin” or “Truly it is proper to call you blessed...”: Today, the Cross abolishes the death which befell the human race by eating from the tree. For the generational curse of the fore-mother is undone by the Child of the pure Mother of God, whom all the Powers of Heaven magnify.

9. Communion Hymn – (Hymnal-p.325):

For today’s Feast of the Holy Cross, we sing the following: Let the light of Your face shine on us, O Lord. Alleluia. [Psalm 4]

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S DIVINE LITURGY

<p><i>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.</i> – St. John Chrysostom</p>

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:

Since 2003, the Orthodox Church in the United States has designated the Sunday *following* the Elevation of the Holy Cross as Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) College Student Sunday. Today is that date and I ask all our faithful Orthodox Christians to call to mind and prayer our college students, their professors, their families, and those who minister to them.

"A home away from home" is one of the most common descriptions of OCF given by Orthodox college students and alumni. This is an honor for OCF that we are an extension of their homes and families. This is also a great tribute to the many spiritual advisors across North America who devote their love to campus ministry.

Today, let us lift in prayer our students in college, their teachers, and all those serving in campus ministry.

"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.”

Thank You, Parishioners!

We thank all our parishioners who assisted so generously at last night’s GreekFest Fundraiser Dinner, whose proceeds will be used to help us build our new building on Ebenezer Road. Congratulations to our Co-Chairmen, Tammy Soulakos and Kirk Panayis, and their 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.*

And on this *the five hundred and twenty-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!



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Hands of Love Collection for September, 2014

September, 2014: Holy Cross Greek Orthodox
School of Theology

We will be collecting monetary donations to benefit Holy Cross School of Theology / Hellenic College.

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 21st (Sunday after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy, followed by Memorial Service (6 months) – Elias Panayis
- 10:30 am Lunch & GreekFest Clean-up at Dixie Wing Commemorative Hangar
- 11:30 am GOYA Meeting (at Hangar)

Thursday, September 25th:

- 6:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, September 28th (1st Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy, followed by Memorial Service - Kostas Kalloniatis (5 yrs.) & Gregory Theos (2 yr.)
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes (*for all ages*)
- 11:30 am Philoptochos General Meeting
- 12:30 pm Let's Eat! (*Join us at Broadway Diner, 535 S. Glynn St., Suite 1009, Fayetteville, GA 30214. It's easy – no reservations, Dutch Treat, and open to all...!*)

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