



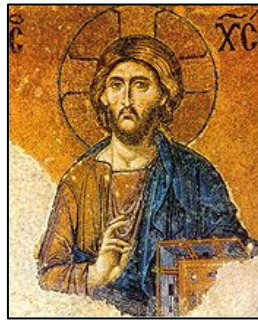
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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 6, 2009

**ON THIS DAY, THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES** *the Wondrous Miracle at Colossus by the Archangel Michael; Holy Martyr Romylus (+98-117); Holy Martyrs Eudoxios, Zenon, and Makarios (+304); Holy Martyrs Kalodote and the 1,104 soldiers who perished by the sword; Saints Faustus the Presbyter, Makarios, Andrew, the Monks Vivos, Kyriakos, Dionysios, and Andronikos; Saints Thekla and Andropelagia, Theokletos the Ship's Master, and a second Kyriakos, a layman. [On this day, the Chapel of the Most Holy Theotokos, within the Church of Saint Irene, was consecrated.] 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./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Fourth Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.110-113):**

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: The joyful news of Your resurrection was proclaimed by the angel to the women disciples. Having thrown off the curse that fell on Adam, they ran elatedly to tell the apostles: Death has been vanquished; Christ our God is risen from the dead, blessing all the world with His great mercy.

### **3. Hymn for the Miracle at Colossus by Archangel Michael – (not in Hymnal):**

*It is sung after the Small Entrance.* O Commander of the Heavenly Host, we the unworthy beseech you, that through your entreaties you will fortify us, guarding us in the shelter of the wings of your ethereal glory, even as we fervently bow before you crying: "Deliver us from all danger, as Commander of the Powers on high!"

### **4. 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.

## **5. Kontakion for the Nativity of the Theotokos – (Hymnal-pp.228-231):**

*It is sung after the Small Entrance.* Your holy birth delivered Joachim and Anna from the reproach of childlessness and liberated Adam and Eve from death's corruption, O Pure One. Thus free from the stain of sin, we, your people, honor your birth, crying out to you: A woman thought barren brings forth the Theotokos who nourishes Christ our life.

## **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 (Mark 16:1-8)**

*When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; He is not here. Look, there is the place they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.*

### **Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 16:13-24)**

*1Cor. 16:13 Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. 14 Let all that you do be done in love. 15 Now, brothers and sisters, you know that members of the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; 16 I urge you to put yourselves at the service of such people, and of everyone who works and toils with them. 17 I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and*

*Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; 18 for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. So give recognition to such persons. 19 The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, greet you warmly in the Lord. 20 All the brothers and sisters send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. 21 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. 22 Let anyone be accursed who has no love for the Lord. Our Lord, come! 23 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. 24 My love be with all of you in Christ Jesus.*

### **Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 21:33-42)**

*Matt. 21:33 “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. 34 When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. 35 But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. 37 Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ 38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ 39 So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. 40 Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” 41 They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” 42 Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?’”*

### **THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE**

**(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):**

“Let the beauty of the LORD our GOD be upon us,  
and establish the work of our hands for us.”

*(Psalm 90:17)*

## **PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:**

*This past Monday, we celebrated the beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year on the Eve of this Feast. As we contemplate the priorities for our spiritual lives these next twelve months, consider the counsel of St. John Chrysostom on how we should shape our lives in Christ:*

“We often speak of human emotions as having dimensions. One person is said to have deep feelings, while another is said to be shallow in their emotions. One person is said to have a wide and open heart, while another is said to have a heart which is narrow and closed. Of course, these are simple images; yet what do these images truly convey? When our emotions are deep toward a person or an event, it means that we cannot ignore that person or event, but must remain closely involved. When our emotions are wide and open, it means that we can respond to many people and events, not just a few. Jesus had deep emotions of love toward people, and he prayed deeply about every event in their lives; and he also had wide emotions, loving everyone he encountered with equal depth. *This is how we must aspire to become.* Shallow emotions lead to apathy and complaining; so they make us indifferent toward other people and toward the events which shape their lives. And narrow emotions enable us to ignore the cries of pain and suffering that we hear all around us. To be a Christian means to extend one’s heart both downward and outward.”

On this the two hundred and eighty-sixth 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 6 (13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Matthew):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30 a.m. Ice Cream Sundae Sunday – please join us (*Thank you George & Helen Psihountas for sponsoring today's event.*)
- 10:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes
- 11:30 a.m. Hellenic Language Class – *1<sup>st</sup> class of 2009-2010 year!*

### Tuesday, September 8 (Evening Celebration –Nativity of the Theotokos):

- 6:00 p.m. Orthros Service
- 7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy/Community Dinner (*non-fasting food*)

### Thursday, September 10:

- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

### Saturday, September 12:

- 3:00 p.m. Sacrament of Holy Baptism – *Isabella Maria Ellinas*

### Sunday, September 13 (Sunday Before the Feast of the Elevation of Holy Cross):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30 a.m. Philoptochos “Hands of Love” – *collection for Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology*
- 10:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes
- 11:30 a.m. Hellenic Dance Practice
- 11:45 a.m. Parish Council Meeting

### Monday, September 14 (Evening Celebration – Feast of the Elevation of Holy Cross):

*Please bring freshly cut basil leaves/stems if available by 5:30 p.m. for preparation for Service of the Holy Cross to be offered at the end of the Orthros Service.*

- 6:00 p.m. Orthros & Service of the Elevation of the Holy Cross
- 7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy/Community Dinner (*Strict fast all day*)

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