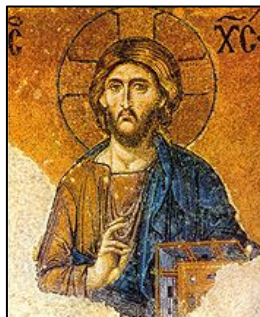




## GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)  
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: [www.atlmetropolis.org](http://www.atlmetropolis.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, February 7, 2010

ON THIS DAY, THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE TRIODION PERIOD WHICH WE REFER TO AS MEAT FARE SUNDAY, WE CALL TO MIND THE SECOND AND INESCAPABLE COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. WE ALSO COMMEMORATE Righteous Father Parthenios, Bishop of Lampsakos (4<sup>th</sup> cent.); The Mothers of the Three Hierarchs: Emmeleia (Basil), Nona (Gregory), and Anthousa (Chrysostom); Righteous Father Luke the New of Greece (+846); The 1,003 Holy Martyrs, intercessors for the Four Tribunes martyred in Nikomedia; Holy Mother Mastridia; Holy Six Martyrs of Phrygia; Righteous Father Peter of Monovatia; Holy Martyr Theopemptos and his Four Companions; Holy Father Aprion, Bishop of Cyprus; Holy New Martyr George of Crete. *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.*



**Please join us here this coming Saturday,  
February 13<sup>th</sup>,  
as we commemorate  
*the Saturday of the Souls.*  
Orthros, 7:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 9:00 a.m.,  
followed by Memorial Service for our departed  
brethren. *For those who are able, please bring  
Kolyva.***

## **SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER THE SMALL ENTRANCE**

### **1./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Second Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.102-105):**

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: When You descended into death, Life immortal, You vanquished the power of hell by your resplendent divinity, and when You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out triumphantly: O giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You.

### **3. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (see music distributed):**

*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 Meat Fare Sunday – (Hymnal-pp.260-263):**

*It is sung after the Small Entrance:* When You come to the earth, O God, in Your glory, all creation will tremble and a river of fire will flow before Your throne

of judgment. The books will be opened and the secrets of all will be revealed. On that day, O just Judge, deliver me from eternal flames and make me worthy to stand at Your right.

## **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 Corinthians 8:8-9:2)**

*"Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are*

*destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.*

### **Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 25:31-46)**

*"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will put the sheep at His right hand and the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you gave Me clothing, I was sick and you took care of Me, I was in prison and you visited Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw You hungry and gave You food, or thirsty and gave You something to drink? And when was it that we saw You a stranger and welcomed You, or naked and gave You clothing? And when was it that we saw You sick or in prison and visited You?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of My family, you did it to Me.' Then He will say to those at His left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from Me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not give Me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of You?' Then He will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."*

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

“Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.” *(Matthew 11:29-30)*

**PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:**

*(Excerpt from the Canon of the Sunday of the Last Judgment)*

Seventh Ode: WE HAVE SINNED, TRANSGRESSED, DONE WRONG BEFORE YOU. WE HAVE NOT WATCHED OR DONE AS YOU HAVE COMMANDED US, BUT DO NOT GIVE US UP UTTERLY, O GOD OF OUR FATHERS.

*HAVE MERCY ON ME, O GOD, HAVE MERCY ON ME.*



Let us, faithful, fall down and lament before that day of judgment comes, when the heavens shall be destroyed, the stars fall and all the earth shall be shaken, that at the end we may receive mercy from the God of our fathers.

The trial is without respect of persons, and fearful is the judgment on that day; nothing escapes the Judge, no favor can be won with bribes. But spare me, Master, and deliver me from all Your fearful wrath.

The Lord comes to judge: who can endure the sight of Him? Tremble, my wretched soul! Tremble and prepare for your wretched departure, that you may gain mercy and compassion from the God of your fathers.

Terror seizes me when I think of the unquenchable fire, of the bitter worm, the gnashing of teeth, and soul-destroying hell; yet I do not turn to true compunction. Lord, Lord, before the end, strengthen Your fear within me.

I fall down before You and offer You my words as tears: I have sinned as the Harlot never sinned, and I have transgressed as no other man on earth. But take pity on Your creature, O Master, and call me back.

Turn back, repent, uncover all that you have hidden! Say to God, to whom all things are known: You alone know all my secrets, Savior; have mercy on me, as David says, according to Your mercy.

Doxastikon: I sing the praises of the Three that are one in Essence, of the One that is three in Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one power, one will, one energy, one thrice holy God, one sovereign Kingdom.

Theotokion: Virgin, God comes forth in beauty from the chamber of your womb; He is clothed as a King in the divinely-woven robe dyed mystically in your all-pure blood, and He reigns over all the earth.

Katavasia WE HAVE SINNED, TRANSGRESSED, DONE WRONG BEFORE YOU. WE HAVE NOT WATCHED OR DONE AS YOU HAVE COMMANDED US, BUT DO NOT GIVE US UP UTTERLY, O GOD OF OUR FATHERS.

And on this the three hundred and 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!

# SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Today is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Triodion period – *Great and Holy Lent begins Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.*

**Sunday, February 7 (Meatfare Sunday – Sunday of Judgment – no meat after today for those seeking strict fast during Great Lent; Souper Bowl Sunday; SCOPA Scout Sunday):**

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Souper Bowl of Caring/SCOPA Scout Sunday
- 10:15 a.m. Ice Cream Sundae Sunday
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes
- 11:30 am Hellenic Language Class

**Thursday, February 11:**

- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

**Saturday, February 13 (Saturday of the Souls – Bring Kolyva):**

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy & Memorial Service (Bring Kolyva)
- 10:30 a.m. Philoptochos Ladies “Tea” Planning Meeting

**Sunday, February 14 (Cheesefare/Forgiveness Sunday –no dairy products after today for those seeking strict fast during Great Lent):**

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 10:15 a.m. Vespers of Forgiveness
- 11:45 a.m. Parish Council Meeting

***Great and Holy Lent begins Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>***

**Monday, February 15 (“Clean Monday” – “Kathara Deftera”):**

- 6:00 p.m. Great Compline Service (*note earlier start time*)

**Wednesday, February 17 (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of Great Lent):**

- 6:00 p.m. Service of the 9<sup>th</sup> Hour & Presanctified Liturgy
- 7:15 p.m. Community Lenten Dinner & Lenten Family Program (*Please bring fasting food to share and join us for our Family Lenten Program series that concludes each Wednesday by 8:30 p.m. For six consecutive weeks, we will focus on the book, Happy in the Lord, The Beatitudes for Everyday by Kyriaki and Thomas FitzGerald. You and your family are encouraged to attend.*)

**Thursday, February 18:**

- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

**Friday, February 19 (1<sup>st</sup> Friday of Great Lent):**

- 7:00 p.m. Salutations to the Theotokos Service

**Saturday, February 20 (Saturday of the Souls – Bring Kolyva):**

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy & Memorial Service (Bring Kolyva)

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



## ***PHILOPTOCHOS HANDS OF LOVE***

### **Souper Bowl of Caring Today,**

The 21<sup>st</sup> annual *Souper Bowl of Caring* will take place today, *Super Bowl Sunday*. Organizations and people across the country will participate by donating funds and canned food goods to soup kitchens and other organizations that fight hunger. Begun by a senior high school youth group in Columbia, South Carolina, to help fight hunger in its community, the idea has grown into a national campaign.

Each parishioner is asked to share two canned food goods and \$2 to donate towards this effort. Our food and funds collected will be presented to St. John the Wonderworker Church's Loaves & Fishes Program (daily soup kitchen in Grant Park in south metro Atlanta). *Thank you for your canned foods and \$2!*

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

*Fr. George would like to thank Fr. Vasile Mihai and his family (Presbytera Danielle and their son Eugene) for visiting our parish today and offering church services, as well as sharing his sermon and Adult Religious Education Class with our faithful. Fr. George thanks our parish family for its support and generosity during Katie & Steven's wedding weekend.*