



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

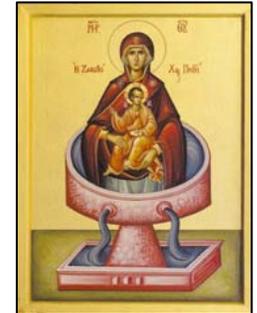
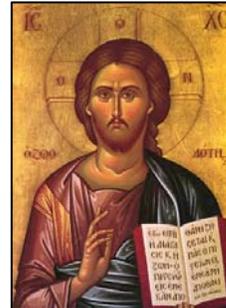
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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



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

Liturgical Guide for Thursday, April 24, 2014

RENEWAL FRIDAY – THEOTOKOS OF THE LIFE-GIVING SPRING

ON THIS DAY, THE EVE OF THE FEAST, WE COMMEMORATE THE CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH OF THE LIFE-GIVING SPRING OF THE THEOTOKOS OUTSIDE CONSTANTINOPLE. On this day, we also remember Apostle and Evangelist Mark, and New Martyr Emmanuel and Companions. *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.

DURING THE 40 DAYS FOLLOWING OUR LORD'S PASCHA/PASSOVER FROM DEATH TO LIFE, ORTHODOX FAITHFUL ARE ENCOURAGED TO GREET ONE ANOTHER UPON FIRST ENCOUNTER AS FOLLOWS:

Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen!

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER SMALL ENTRANCE

1./2./4./13./14. Hymn for the Feast of Pascha *(our Lord's passover from death to life):*

Sung three times after the opening of the Divine Liturgy, before and after the Small Entrance, after the distribution of Holy Communion and just before the close of the Liturgy: Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

3. Small Entrance Exclamation of the Priest:

On the occasion of the Feast of Pascha, the Priest intones the following at the Small Entrance: "In your choirs, bless the Lord, you of Israel's wellspring. Save us, O Son of God, who did rise from the dead, we sing to You: Alleluia!"

5. Hymn for Pascha – (not in Hymnal):

Sung after the Small Entrance: They, who were with Miriam came before dawn, and finding the stone rolled away from the Tomb heard from the Angel: "Why do you seek as man among the dead, Him, Who dwells in Light Eternal? Behold the shroud of the grave; make haste and proclaim to the world, that the Lord is risen, putting to death, Death; for He is the Son of God, the Savior of humankind."

6. Hymn for Life-Giving Spring of the Theotokos – (not in Hymnal):

Sung after the Small Entrance: O Theotokos, your church is like the Garden of Paradise, since it pours out healings and cures like ever-living rivers. We come to it with faith, and we draw strength and eternal life from its water, through you who are the Spring that received Life himself.

For you intercede with Christ our Savior, who was born from you, and you entreat Him to save our souls.

7. Hymn for St. Mark the Apostle and Evangelist – (not in Hymnal):

Sung after the Small Entrance: St. Mark Holy Apostle and Evangelist, intercede to merciful God to grant forgiveness of our sins to our souls.

8. Kontakion for Pascha – (Hymnal-pp.274-277):

Sung after the Small Entrance: Into the grave You descended, Immortal One, yet You destroyed the power of Hades, and as victor You arose, O Christ our God; You proclaimed to the myrrh-bearing women a greeting of joy, You brought peace to Your holy apostles, and to the fallen You granted resurrection.

9. Trisagion Hymn – (Hymnal-p. 292-293):

On the occasion of today's feast, we sing the following hymn instead of the Trisagion hymn: "As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves in Christ. Alleluia. (3)"

10. Megalynarion (Hymn to the Theotokos) (Hymnal-pp.304-307):

Today, the following hymn is sung instead of "Axion Estin" or "Truly it is proper to call you blessed...": The Angel cried out to the woman full of grace: Rejoice, O Pure Virgin; again I say, rejoice, for your Son is risen from the tomb on the third day. Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you. Exult and be glad, O Zion. Be radiant, pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son.

11. Special Hymn at the Diptychs (not in Hymnal):

The waters of the Spring are salvation for all who are ill. Let us therefore come in faith and draw grace from it.

12. Communion Hymn (Hymnal-pp.318-319):

On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord": Receive the Body of Christ; drink from the font of immortality. Alleluia.

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

Epistle Reading (Acts 3:1-8)

In those days, Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful to ask alms of those who entered the temple. Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked for alms. And Peter directed his gaze at him, with John, and said, "Look at us." And he fixed his attention upon them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but I give you what I have; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. And leaping up he stood and walked and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.

Gospel Reading (Luke 10:16-21)

¹⁶“Whoever listens to you listens to Me, and whoever rejects you rejects Me, and whoever rejects Me rejects the one Who sent Me.” ¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in Your name even the demons submit to us!” ¹⁸He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” ²¹At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was Your gracious will.

On this the eleventh celebration of the Life-Giving Spring of the Theotokos 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

No Fasting During Bright Week – Pascha through Saturday, 4/26

Bright Thursday, April 24 (Eve of Feast of the Life-Giving Spring of the Theotokos):

5:00 pm Great Vespers

5:45 pm Divine Liturgy/Community Dinner (please join us)

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!