



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 Sunday, January 17, 2016

ON THIS DAY, THE 12TH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, WE COMMEMORATE our Righteous Father, Anthony the Great (+356 – St. Anthony is known as the Founder of Christian Monasticism.); our Righteous God-bearing Father and Wonderworker, Anthony the Younger, an ascetic of the Skete in Verroia; Righteous Achilles; Holy New-Martyr George of Ioannina (+1838); and Pious King Theodosios the Great. *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./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the 4th Tone) – (Hymnal-pp126-7):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: From on high You descended, O merciful Lord. You accepted the cross and three days in the tomb to free us from the bondage of sin, O our life and resurrection. Glory to You, O Lord.

3. Hymn of St. Anthony the Great – (not in Hymnal):

This hymn is sung *after* the Small Entrance: Imitating the manners of Elijah the Zealot, and following the straight paths of John the Baptist, O Father Anthony, you colonized the desert and you supported the Empire by your prayers. Therefore, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

4. 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.

5. Kontakion of the Presentation of the Lord – (Hymnal-pp.250-253):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: For our salvation You took flesh and You sanctified the Virgin's womb; You blessed the aged Simeon as You lay resting in his arms; and having come to save us all, O Christ our God, to these troubled times, bring Your lasting peace. Give strong and undaunted faith to all Your people, O only lover of mankind.

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 (John 21:15-25)

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time He said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to Him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know everything; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this He said to him, "Follow me." Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about him?" Jesus said to him, "If it is My will that he

remain until I come, what is that to You? Follow me!" So the rumor spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to You?" This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Hebrews 13:17-21)

Hebr. 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls and will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with sighing — for that would be harmful to you. 18 Pray for us; we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. 19 I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may be restored to you very soon. 20 Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, 21 make you complete in everything good so that you may do His will, working among us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 17:12-19)

¹²*As He entered a village, ten lepers approached Him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When He saw them, He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked Him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and*

give praise to God except this foreigner?”¹⁹ Then He said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

TODAY’S MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.” (John 3:17)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Am I Doing a Job or Offering Ministry to God?

At times, we may approach our service to our Church as a *task or job to be performed*, rather than view it as a *diakonia* or service to our Lord and His Body of Believers.

Perhaps we do something to help because no one else will, without realizing our gifts of time and talents as true service/ministry to our Lord.

Maybe we commit just enough time at a task to get by, rather than offer our personal talents to the best of our ability, thereby honoring God and thanking Him as well.

Perhaps we find it easy to offer ourselves only so long as our assistance does not interfere with our other activities, rather than let go of material or self-centered desires that limit or prevent us from offering our best to God.

Sometimes we may stop helping because no one praises or thanks us, rather than persevere . . . even when no one is looking or we do not derive a personal benefit.

Perhaps we are more concerned with individual success with our work, rather than concern for faithfulness to our Lord's plan of salvation for all humankind and the critical importance of our communal efforts.

I encourage you to listen to the voice of God that is calling and asking you to serve each day within His Holy Church. Rather than perceive your efforts as a "mere job", consider them as "offerings, as sacred tasks, as *diakonias*, or as ministries" that will lead you, your family, and fellow parishioners to spiritual fulfillment and excitement, and help us go forward in our walk of faith leading to God's Kingdom.

Then, we will at the Day of Judgment, hear God's joy when He proclaims: *"Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your Master."* (Matthew 25:23)

May God bless and empower each of us, His co-workers, whom He is calling to assist in the ministry of this parish and our community at large. May we see ourselves in the same context with which St. Peter encouraged his co-workers more than 2,000 years ago to consider:

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9) AMEN!

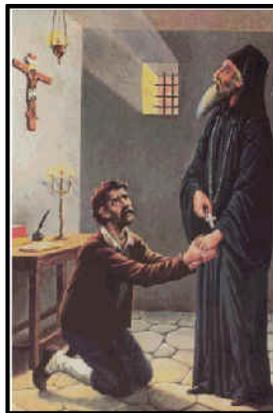
ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TODAY

Stalin, Siberia and Salt: Russian Recluse's Life Story Made into Film

*British director to tell the tale of Agafia Lykova, the only remaining member of a family
of Old Believers who fled to remote Siberian taiga in 1936*



Agafia Lykova and her family only learned that Stalin was dead and the Soviet Union was a superpower in 1978.
Photograph: Itar-Tass photo/Corbis



The Freedom of Forgiveness

St Dionysios of Zakynthos is a powerful example of forgiveness. He shows us how forgiveness can free us to be who God made us to be, rather than trapping us and defining us by our sins and shortcomings.



["Follow" & "Like" our Facebook page](#) – St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church.
Be sure to check our status for updates and photos.

And on this 591st 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 SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 17 (12th Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service**
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Memorial Service - Tzvetan Andreev**
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes (*for all ages*)**
- 11:30 am Hellenic Dance Practice**

Monday, January 18 – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Thursday, January 21:

- 6:30 pm Choir Practice – *please join us!***

Sunday, January 24 (14th Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service**
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Memorial Service**
- 10:30 am GOYA Meeting**
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes (*for all ages*)**
- 11:30 am Philoptochos General Meeting**

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