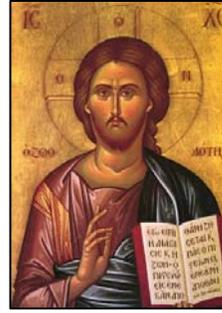




GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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



313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210
Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

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

Liturgical Guide for Wednesday, January 6, 2016

ON THIS DAY WE REMEMBER IN ANTICIPATION THE SYNAXIS (COLLECTIVE CELEBRATION) OF JOHN, THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET, BAPTIST, AND FORERUNNER (ON THE EVE OF THE FEAST). [CONCURRENTLY, THE TRANSFERENCE, TO WITHIN THE QUEEN CITY, OF HIS MOST PRECIOUS AND HOLY HAND]. We also remember the New-Martyr of Diminitisi (1695) and Holy New-Martyr Athanasios of Attalia (1700). *Through the intercessions of Your Forerunner, O Christ our God, have mercy 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./6. Hymn for the Beheading of St. John the Baptist – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung at the end of Orthros and after the Small Entrance. Remembrance by the just is praiseworthy, but being witness of the Lord suffices you, O Forerunner. A Prophet in truth and most revered, you have been revealed and approved worthy to baptize Him Whom you did proclaim. Therefore, as you are champion of the Truth, rejoicing that even to Hades is proclaimed, that God is manifested in the flesh, the sacrifice, for the sins of the world, and granting to us, the great mercy.

2. Hymn for Second Antiphon – (Hymnal-p.28):

On the occasion of Theophany feast, we sing the following hymn instead of the regular Soson imas, "Save us, O Son of God": "Save us, O Son of God, Who was baptized in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist, as we sing to You, Alleluia."

3./5./12. Hymn of the Theophany of our Lord – (Hymnal-pp.208-211):

This hymn is sung before and after the Small Entrance, and instead of Ithomen to fos, "We have seen the true light" after the distribution of Holy Communion): "At Your baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest, for the Father's voice bore You witness, by calling You His beloved Son, and the Spirit in the form of a dove, confirmed the truth of the Father's Word. O Christ our God, You have appeared to us and enlightened the world. Glory to You."

4. Small Entrance Exclamation of the Priest:

On the occasion of today's feast, the Priest intones the following at the Small Entrance: "Blessed in He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us. Save us, O Son of God, Who was baptized in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist, as we sing to You, Alleluia.

7. 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.

8. Kontakion of the Holy Theophany of our Lord – (Hymnal-p.-248-249):

This hymn is sung *after* the Small Entrance: “You have revealed Yourself to the world today, and Your light shines forth on us, who sing Your praise with full knowledge: You have come to us, O Lord; You are made manifest, O inaccessible Light.

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) – (not in Hymnal):

On the occasion of today’s feast, the following hymn is sung instead of “Axion Estin” or “Truly it is proper to call you blessed...” My soul, magnify her who has delivered us from the curse. O Most Pure Bride, blessed Mother, the wonder of your birth-giving surpasses all thinking. We have all received full salvation through her. Bearing a Hymn of Praise as our gift, worthily and resonantly we proclaim her our Benefactor.

11. Communion Hymn – (Hymnal-pp.328):

On the occasion of today’s feast, the following hymn is sung instead of “Aineite” or “Praise the Lord”: “The memory of the righteous will endure forever. (Ps. 111[112]). Alleluia.”

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></p>	<p>– St. John Chrysostom</p>
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Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Acts 19:1-8)

19While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” ³Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the

people to believe in the One Who was to come after Him, that is, in Jesus.”⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus.⁶ When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.⁸ He entered the synagogue and for three months spoke out boldly, and argued persuasively about the kingdom of God.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (John 1:29-34)

²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world!”³⁰ This is He of Whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man Who ranks ahead of me because He was before me.’³¹ I myself did not know Him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that He might be revealed to Israel.”³² And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on Him.”³³ I myself did not know Him, but the One Who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on Whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the One Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.

On this our thirteenth Feast of St. John the Baptist at our St. Christopher parish, 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

Wednesday, January 6 (Feast of the Holy Theophany of our Lord and Savior & Eve of Feast of St. John the Baptist):

- 5:00 pm Orthros Service for Feast of St. John the Baptist**
- 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy (Evening) & Community Dinner (non-fasting)**
- 7:30 pm Outreach & Evangelism Meeting**

Thursday, January 7:

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

Sunday, January 10 (Sunday after the Holy Theophany of our Lord):

- 7:30 am Orthros Service**
- 8:45 am Divine Liturgy/Memorial Service – 40 Days – Helen Demopoulos & 20 Years – Theodore Lamas/Parish Council Oath of Office**
- 10:15 am Religious Education Classes (for all ages)**
- 11:00 am Memorial Luncheon sponsored by Cynthia & Mahany Cromartie**
- 12:00 pm Parish Council Meeting**

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!