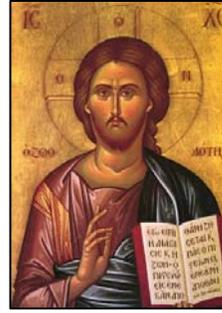




GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

*Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople:* [www.patriarchate.org](http://www.patriarchate.org)  
*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 Saturday, January 7, 2017**

**ON THIS DAY WE REMEMBER 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 Cedd, Bishop of Scotland; and Fursey, Abbot of Lagny. *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.* The memory of the just is observed with hymns of praise; for you suffices the testimony of the Lord, O Forerunner. You have proved to be truly more venerable than the Prophets, since you were granted to baptize in the river the One whom they proclaimed. Therefore, when for the truth you had contested, rejoicing, to those in Hades you preached the Gospel, that God was manifested in the flesh, and takes away the sin of the world, and grants 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 Sosen 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...”* O my soul, magnify the ever-virgin Maid who from the curse has redeemed us. O all spotless Bride, surpassing comprehension are the wonders of your childbirth, blessed Mother! Through you obtaining comprehensive salvation, we bring you a gift in striking up this worthy hymn of gratitude to you our Benefactress.

**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)**

*19*While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He 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.” <sup>3</sup>Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” <sup>4</sup>Paul 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.”<sup>5</sup> On hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus.<sup>6</sup> When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—<sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.<sup>8</sup> 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)**

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

*On this our fourteenth 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**

### **Saturday, January 7 (Feast of St. John the Baptist):**

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service**
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy**
- 6:00 p.m. Hands of Love – Community Vasilopita (St. Basil’s Bread Dinner)**

### **Sunday, January 8 (Sunday after Theophany):**

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros**
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy**
- 10:15 a.m. Memorial - Peter & Fotini Kalapodis (55 years & 10 years, respectively)/Parish Council Oath of Office**
- 11:00 a.m. Parish Council Meeting (with election of Parish Council officers)**

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