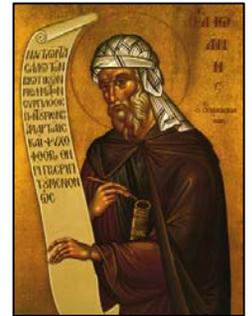
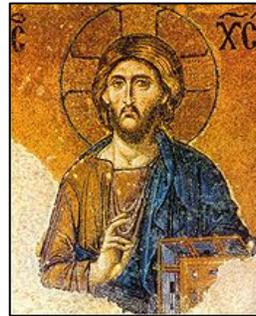




GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

*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 Sunday, December 4, 2016

ON THIS DAY, THE 10TH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, THE CHURCH remembers Great Holy Martyr Barbara (+307); Righteous Father, John the Monk, Presbyter of Damascus (+745); Righteous Father John, Bishop of Polibotos, the Wonderworker; New Priest-Martyr Seraphim, Bishop of the Phanar in Greece (+1601); Juliana the Martyr of Heliopolis; Saints Christodoulos and Christodoula; and Alexander Hotovitzky, New Hieromartyr of Russia, Missionary to America. *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 (Grave Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.122-125):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: By Your Cross, O Lord, You destroyed death; to the thief You opened paradise. The myrrhbearers' sorrow You transformed into joy, and You sent Your apostles forth to proclaim that You had risen from the dead, Christ our God, bestowing on all the world Your great mercy.

3. Hymn for St. Barbara the Great Martyr – (not in Hymnal):

This hymn is sung after the Small Entrance: Let us honor the all-virtuous Saint Barbara; for she broke the snares of the enemy, and she escaped from them like a bird, with the Cross as her help and shield.

4. Hymn for St. John of Damascus – (not in Hymnal):

This hymn is sung after the Small Entrance: Guide of Orthodoxy and a sacred teacher of piety and dignity, luminary of the world, and God-inspired jewel of monastics, O wise John, the Spirit's instrument: by your teachings you enlightened all. Intercede with Christ our God for the salvation of our souls.

5. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (see handout):

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.

6. Kontakion – Preparation for the Nativity (11/26-12/24) – (Hymnal-pp.240-243):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: Today the Virgin goes forth, making her way to a cave where from her, ineffably, God the eternal Word will be born. Let the world be filled with joy, hearing these tidings. Joining the angels and shepherds, let us give glory to Him who is God from all ages, yet wills to be seen as a little child.

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY

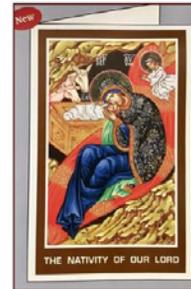
The Scriptures were not given us for this only, that we might have them in books, but that we might engrave them on our hearts. – St. John Chrysostom

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 (Gal. 3:23-29; 4:1-5)

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female;



You are invited to share your family's name(s) in our first ever

St. Christopher Church Parish Christmas Card

to be distributed to all parish families before Christmas. Proceeds will be used to assist our needy brothers and sisters.

The donation per family is \$25.00.

St. Christopher Church Parish Christmas Card

Print Name(s) exactly as you wish to appear in the card...

(e.g., Haralambos, Xanthippe, Tassos & Zoe Pourlos, or Mr. & Mrs. Haralambos Pourlos & Children, or The Pourlos Family)

Ordered by: _____, Phone _____

Attach check made payable to "St. Christopher Philoptochos" for \$25.00 and give directly to Lydia McGee or Presbytera Marinda no later than Sunday, 12/11/16, 11:30 a.m. (please do not mail)

IT'S COMING.



will you be aboard the christmas bus?
sunday, december 18

Saint Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

Casting Call for 2016 Christmas Pageant



As we prepare for the Holy Nativity of our Lord on December 25th, Fr. George has selected a special Christmas Pageant that brings together our parish family of all ages. Parents are encouraged to sign-up their children to participate as *Mary, Joseph, Shepherds, Wise Men, Angels, and animals* that witnessed the Good News of our Savior's blessed birth. **Parents, please notify Katie Wilson by next Sunday, December 4th, at 11:30 a.m. if your children and you would like to participate (yes, we need adults also).** Call or text Katie at 404/434-0877. Before signing up, please be reminded of the mandatory practice on Saturday, December 17 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. *The pageant is on Sunday, December 18th at 10:30 a.m.*

for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise. ⁴My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; ²but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. ³So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 13:10-17)

Luke 13:10 Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. 11 And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. 12 When Jesus saw her, He called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." 13 When He laid His hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. 14 But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the Sabbath day." 15 But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? 16 And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" 17 When He said this, all His opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that He was doing.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe" (Hebrews 12:28)



["Follow" & "Like"](#) our Facebook page. *Be sure to check our status for updates and photos.*

And on this 634th 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!

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

As we prepare to celebrate the Incarnation of our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ, on the Feast of His Holy Nativity, let us remember in our personal prayers as well as our efforts to prepare ourselves leading up to this blessed celebration:

- that we are blessed to serve as parents, religious educators, youth workers, ministry leaders, and instructors
- that through our One God in Three Persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), we are God's One Holy People
- that we should never be a party to any division within the Body of Christ. Rather, our goal is to be perfectly united in mind and heart with all others who follow our Incarnate Lord.
- that we should always strive not to misplace our loyalties with this person or that one
- that Christ, of whom we are a part, is not divided. He is of one mind. So let us and all His people be together and in agreement.

- that we should seek to be like-minded, having the same love, one in spirit and purpose.
- And through the Name of Jesus Christ, the source of our unity and salvation, we can easily accomplish these things and more *for His Glory and not ours.*

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

Nativity Fast – continues through December 24

Sunday, December 4 (10th Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship
- 10:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes
- 11:30 a.m. Community Christmas Tree Decorations

Monday, December 5 (Eve of Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker):

**FR. GEORGE WILL OFFER ORTHROS AT 8AM & DIVINE LITURGY AT 9AM
AT THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL CHAPEL AT THE METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA.**

- 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers Service
- 5:45 p.m. Divine Liturgy/Community Dinner (*please bring
fasting food; fish permitted*)

Thursday, December 8:

- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, December 11 (11th Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30 a.m. Parish Council Elections
- 10:45 a.m. Religious Education Classes
- 11:45 a.m. Parish Council Meeting

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