



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

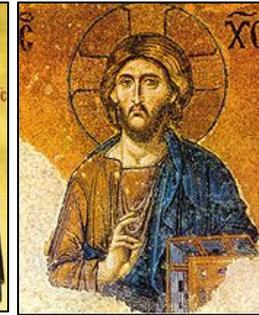
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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, February 1, 2015

ON THIS DAY, THE 16TH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, THE PERIOD KNOWN AS **TRIODION** BEGINS, WITH THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE PARABLE OF THE PUBLICAN (TAX COLLECTOR) AND THE PHARISEE TAKEN FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL OF SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST. ON THIS DAY, WE ALSO CELEBRATE THE FOREFEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR IN THE TEMPLE; HOLY MARTYR TRYPHON (+251); RIGHTEOUS FATHER PETER OF GALATIA; RIGHTEOUS FATHER BENDIMIANOS; PERPETUA AND HER COMPANIONS (202-203); RIGHTEOUS TIMOTHY THE CONFESSOR; BRIDGET OF IRELAND; RIGHTEOUS FATHER AND CONFESSOR BASIL, ARCHBISHOP OF THESSALONIKA (+950); HOLY MARTYR THEIOS, ALONG WITH TWO CHILDREN; HOLY MARTYR KARIOS; HOLY NEW MARTYR ANASTASIOS OF NAVPLION (1654); AND RIGHTEOUS DAVID AND SYMEON. *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 THE SMALL ENTRANCE

1./2. Resurrectional Hymn (First Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.98-101):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: Although Your tomb was sealed with a stone, O Savior, and Your most pure body was guarded by the soldiers, You rose on the third day giving life to all the world. Therefore, O giver of life, the powers of heaven praise You: Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Your kingdom. Glory to Your saving wisdom, O only lover of mankind.

3. Hymn Commemorating the Forefeast – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: The choir of heaven's hosts, from the vaults of the heavens, bends forward to the earth and beholds as an infant the firstborn of all creation being carried in the embrace of His holy virgin Mother unto the Temple. And with us they sign today a forefestal anthem, kin awe and astonishment.

4. Hymn Commemorating Holy Martyr Tryphon – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: Your Martyr, O Lord, was worthily awarded by You the crown of incorruption, in that he contested for You our immortal God. Since he possessed Your power, he defeated the tyrants, dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. O Christ God, at his fervent entreaties, save our souls.

5. 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.

6. Kontakion of the Forefeast of the Presentation of the Lord – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: With our hearts instead of arms today, believers, with most pure and righteous thoughts let us receive in our embrace the Lord and Master Who comes to us, and let us offer our forefestal hymns of praise.

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 (Matthew 28:16-20)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Amen.

Epistle Reading for Today (Romans 8:28-39)

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom He predestined he also called; and those whom He called He also justified; and those whom He justified He also glorified. ³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold His own Son, but gave Him up for all of us, will He not with Him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God Who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, Who died, yes, Who was raised, Who is at the right hand of God, Who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him Who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Regular Gospel Reading for Today (Luke 18:10-14)

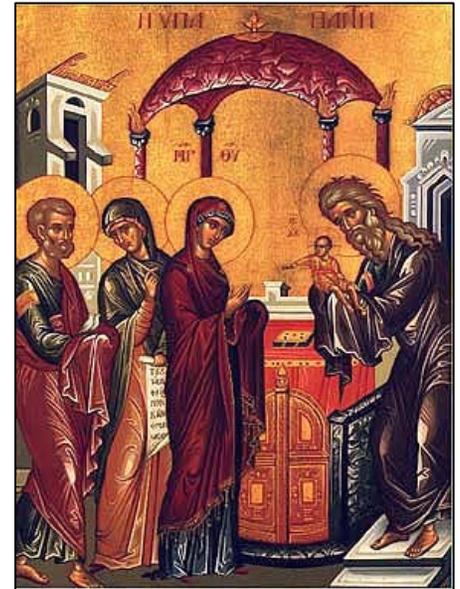
"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."]

MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):
"God, be merciful to me, a sinner!". (Luke 18:13)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

*Tomorrow Evening - Monday, February 2,
We celebrate the Feast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple:*

When the most pure Mother and Ever-Virgin Mary's forty days of purification had been fulfilled, she took her first-born Son to Jerusalem on this, the fortieth day after His birth, that she might present Him in the temple according to the Law of Moses, which teaches that every first-born male child be dedicated to God, and also that she might offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons, as required by the Law (Luke 2:22-24; Exod. 13:2; Lev. 12:6-8). On this same day, a just and devout man, the greatly aged Symeon, was also present in the temple, being guided by the Holy Spirit. For a long time, this man had been awaiting the salvation of God, and he had been informed by divine revelation that he would not die until he beheld the Lord's Christ. Thus, when he beheld Him at that time and took Him up into his aged arms, he gave glory to God, singing: "Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master. . ." And he confessed that he would close his eyes joyfully, since he had seen the Light of revelation for the nations and the Glory of Israel (Luke 2:25-32). From ancient times, the Holy Church has retained this tradition of the churching of the mother and new-born child on the fortieth day and of the reading of prayers of purification.



SUPER APPEAL FROM FR. GEORGE:



I am asking for you to make **TODAY** even more **SUPER** by **EACH OF OUR ADULTS** donating **\$100 (or more if you would like)!** We need all of our families to help us achieve our SUPER goal of \$10,000 no later than March 1st! **DON'T DELAY – MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY!** Make checks payable to Saint Nicholas National Shrine. I am calling upon you to help rebuild the only Church destroyed on 9/11 and to assist in launching Orthodox Christianity into American consciousness at a level previously unimaginable. The Saint Nicholas Church of Lower Manhattan is being resurrected as The Saint Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero and each Church of our Archdiocese is asked to support this critically important effort.





Today, February 1st – Souper Bowl Sunday

*Our Philoptochos Society is collecting canned goods and monetary donations to help the Fayette Samaritans as part of the National Souper Bowl of Caring effort to be conducted nationwide today. **Thank you for offering at least \$1 and one LARGE canned good for each family member to help the needy.***

Thank You for your Hands of Love!



Hands of Love: February 2015



"For the poor will never cease from the land; therefore, I command you to do this word which says, You shall surely open your hands to your brother, to your poor and needy in your land." Deut. 15:11

Sunday, February 1, 2015 : Souper Bowl of Caring

Souper Bowl of Caring works to mobilize those looking to
fight hunger and poverty
in their own communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game.

In the weeks leading up to or on Super Bowl Sunday, we take up a collection, asking for one dollar and/or one item of canned food from each family member for people in need. 100% of our donation will go directly to [Fayette Samaritans](#).

Started by a youth group in 1990,

Souper Bowl of Caring has since grown all over the world, collecting more than \$100 million and donating it back into their own communities.

TACKLE



HUNGER

And on this 544th 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, February 1 (Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee Beginning of Triodion):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship

10:45 am Religious Education Classes (for all ages)

11:30 am Philoptochos General Meeting (rescheduled from 1/18)

The Week of February 2-7 is Fast-Free!

Monday, February 2 (The Meeting of our Lord in the Temple):

5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

5:45 p.m. Divine Liturgy (Evening)

7:00 p.m. Community Dinner (non -fasting food - please join us)

Thursday, February 5:

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, February 8 (Sunday of the Prodigal Son):

7:45 am Orthros Service

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Memorial Service – Tsvetan Andreev
/Coffee Fellowship**

10:45 am Religious Education Classes (for all ages)

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