



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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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, March 5, 2016**

ON THIS DAY, THE FIRST SATURDAY OF THE SOULS, WE REMEMBER ALL WHO HAVE PIOUSLY FALLEN ASLEEP IN THE HOPE OF THE RESURRECTION. WE ALSO COMMEMORATE Konon the Gardener; Theodore the Recruit; Mark the Ascetic; Righteous Father Mark of Athens; John the Bulgarian; Mark the Faster; and Parthenios the New Martyr who contested in Didymoteichos. *O Christ, the Master, place the souls of all who have gone to their repose in the tentings of the just, and have mercy on us for You alone are immortal. Amen.*

## **Welcome, Visitors and Newcomers, to our Parish!**

We invite you to enter your name and 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./3./4. Special Hymn for Saturday of Souls – (not in Hymnal):**

*It is sung after the Great Doxology, and before and after the Small Entrance.* O only Creator Who out of love for man arrange all things with depth of wisdom, and impart to all what is beneficial, O Lord, grant repose to the souls of Your servants. For they have placed their hope in You, our Creator and Fashioner and God.

### **2. Hymn for Second Antiphon – (Hymnal-pp.28):**

*On the occasion of today's feast, we sing the following hymn instead of the regular Sosonimas. "Save us, O Son of God": "Save us, O Son of God, among the saints glorified, as we sing to You, Alleluia."*

### **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 – (Hymnal – pp.354–355):**

*This hymn is sung after the Small Entrance: Among the saints give rest, O Christ, to the souls of Your servants where there is no pain, nor sorrow, nor suffering, but only life everlasting.*

**7. Special Communion Hymn (Psalm 64[65]) – (not in Hymnal):**

Blessed are those You have chosen and taken to dwell within Your courts, O Lord. Their memory will endure from generation to generation. Alleluia.

**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

**Epistle Reading (1 Thess. 4:13-17):**

*1Ths. 4:13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord Himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever.*

**Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 35-36):**

*Luke 21:8 And He said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in My name and say, 'I am He!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. 9 "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." 25 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. 26 People will faint from fear and foreboding of*

*what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. 35 ... For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 36 Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."*

On this the thirteenth year of celebrating the Saturday of the Souls together at St. Christopher's, 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**

### **Saturday, March 5 (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Souls)**

**7:45 am Orthros Service**

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Memorial Service (Bring Kolyva if you can)**

### **Sunday, March 6 (Judgment Sunday/Meatfare Sunday/Philoptochos**

**Wear Red Sunday for both women and men):**

**7:45 am Orthros Service**

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy/General Parish Assembly (one item)**

**10:30 am Coffee Fellowship/Philoptochos Membership Drive**

**11:00 am Religious Education Classes (for all ages)**

**Noon GOYA Lunch and Outing (see newsletter for details)**

**No Meat after Sunday - Dairy Allowed Monday, 3/7- Sunday, 3/13**

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

“Why do we pray for the dead? It is true that the dead are judged by how they lived. Generally, the Church teaches our future in eternity is based on our faith, life, deed, virtues, love, compassion, goodness, (or their absence) in this life, before our death. Yet, since we are never fully sure of the place of each soul before God, and because God Himself is merciful and loving, we pray for any help which might come to the soul of the deceased.”

Fr. Stanley S. Harakas from *The Orthodox Church: 455 Questions and Answers*