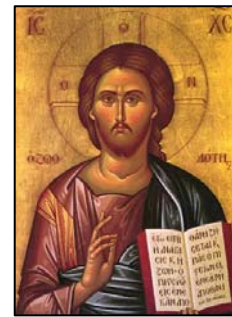




Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: www.atlanta.goarch.org
St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org

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, March 8, 2009

ON THIS DAY, THE FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT AND HOLY LENT WHICH WE REFER TO AS *THE SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY*, WE CALL TO MIND THE RESTORATION OF THE BLESSED AND VENERABLE ICONS BY THE BLESSED EMPEROR OF CONSTANTINOPLE, MICHAEL, AND HIS MOTHER THEODORA, DURING THE REIGN OF THE PATRIARCH, ST. METHODIOS, THE CONFESSOR (*SEE TRIODION INSERT ON NEXT PAGE*). WE ALSO COMMEMORATE Conon the Gardener; Theodore the Recruit; Mark the Ascetic; Righteous Father Mark of Athens; John the Bulgarian; Mark the Faster; Parthenios the New Martyr who contested in Didymoteichos; George the New-Martyr of Rapsani; Eulogios the Martyr; Eulabios the Martyr; Conon the Isaurian; and Archelaos the Martyr of Egypt. *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.

TODAY'S Spiritual Theme From the Triodion:

On the **first Sunday of Great and Holy Lent** we celebrate the Triumph of Orthodoxy by commemorating the end of the iconoclastic controversy and the restoration of the icons to our Church by the Empress Theodora in 843, on the first Sunday of Lent that year. It is also the celebration in honor of the martyrs and confessors who struggled for the faith, appropriate for Lent when we are striving to imitate the martyrs by means of our self-denial through fasting.

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER SMALL ENTRANCE

1./3. Hymn Commemorating the Sunday of Orthodoxy – (Hymnal-pp.128-131):

It is sung before and after the Small Entrance. Before Your most pure image we bow down, O Good One, entreating You to forgive our sins, Christ our God. For You willingly ascended the cross in the flesh to deliver from the enemy those whom You had made. For this we thank You and we cry to You, O Savior: By coming to save the world, You have filled all things with joy.

2. Resurrectional Hymn (Fourth Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.110-113):

It is sung before and after the Small Entrance: The joyful news of Your resurrection was proclaimed by the angel to the women disciples. Having thrown off the curse that fell on Adam, they ran elatedly to tell the apostles: Death has been vanquished; Christ our God is risen from the dead, blessing all the world with His great mercy.

4. 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.

5. Kontakion sung for Sunday of Orthodoxy – (Hymnal-pp. 268-271):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: Victorious Lady, mighty champion, defending us, we your servants now inscribe to you this hymn of thanks, for you rescued us from suffering and tribulation. Theotokos, with your power that can never fail, keep us safe from every danger our whole life long that we may cry to you: Rejoice, O Bride unwedded.

6. Megalynarion (Hymn to the Theotokos) – (Hymnal-pp. 298-301)::

On the first five Sundays of Great Lent when we use the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil, a different hymn is sung instead of “Axion Estin” or “Truly it is proper to call you blessed...”: In you, O woman full of grace, all creation rejoices, the orders of angels and the race of mankind. O hallowed temple and spiritual paradise, glory of virginal souls, from you our God was incarnate and became a child, He who is God from all ages. By making your womb His throne He made you more spacious than all the heavens. In you, O woman full of grace all creation rejoices. Glory to you.

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY

<p>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.</p>	<p>– St. John Chrysostom</p>
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Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (Luke 24:1-12)

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their

faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how He told you, while He was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” Then they remembered His words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40)

By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called a son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of god than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered abuse suffered for the Christ to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to the reward. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did

not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (John 1:43-51)

The next day, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him about Whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, He said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked Him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Liturgy of St. Basil Used Every Sunday during Great and Holy Lent:

The Liturgy of St. Basil was, until the twelfth century, the chief Liturgy of Constantinople. Its 'Prayer of Consecration' or *Anaphora* is probably the most eloquent of all liturgies, east and west. Powerful in its unity of thought, theological depth and rich biblical imagery, it was celebrated every Sunday and Great Feast Days. Now it is used only ten times during the year: on the five Sundays of Great and Holy Lent; on the Vigils of Pascha, Christmas and Epiphany; on Holy Thursday and on the Feast of St. Basil, January 1.



Icons Distributed for TODAY'S Celebration of the Sunday of Orthodoxy:

In commemoration of today's celebration of the Sunday of Orthodoxy and the restoration of the use of icons in our worship services, *Fr. George* will distribute to every parishioner present pocket-sized laminated icons at the end of church services. *May the strength of the Holy Spirit guide us in all that we do, and may these icons serve to remind us to reflect the image and likeness of God in which we were created to everyone we encounter.*

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

"... follow Me."

(John 1:43)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

During Great Lent, we are encouraged to seek to grow closer to God. During this period, there are many opportunities to do so, albeit they involve making personal sacrifices that makes a difference. When we focus on the Cross of our Lord and remind ourselves of His victory and what our Savior gave up for us, how might we in turn, respond? Perhaps, we could consider voluntarily "giving up" a few things in anticipation of the joy of His Kingdom. *Let us consider . . . :*

GIVING UP grumbling! Instead, "In everything give thanks." Constructive criticism is OK, but "moaning, groaning, and complaining" are not Christian disciplines.

GIVING UP 10 to 15 minutes in bed each morning! Instead, use that time in prayer, Bible study and personal devotion. A few minutes in prayer WILL keep you focused.

GIVING UP looking at other people's worst attributes. Instead concentrate on their best points. We all have faults. It is a lot easier to have people overlook our shortcomings when we overlook theirs first.

GIVING UP speaking unkindly. Instead, let your speech be generous and understanding. It costs so little to say something kind and uplifting or to offer a smile. Why not check that sharp tongue at the door?

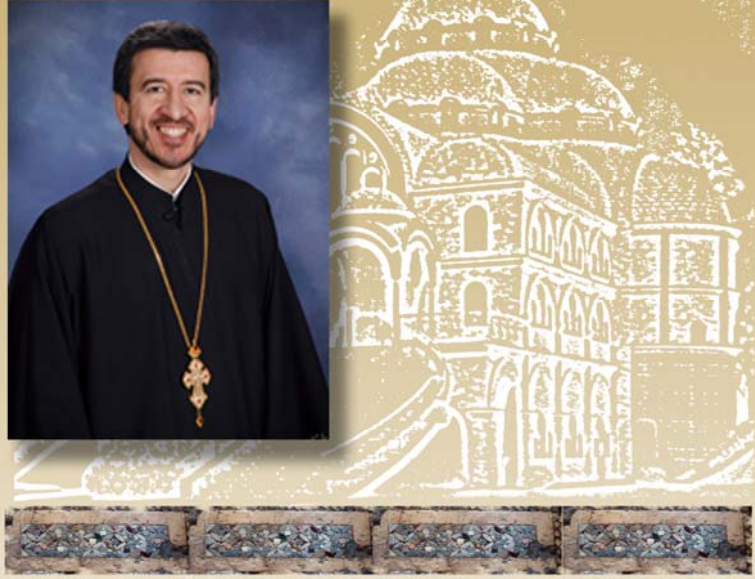
GIVING UP your hatred of anyone or anything! Instead, learn the discipline of love. "Love covers a multitude of sins."

GIVING UP your worries and anxieties! They're too heavy for you to carry anyway. Instead, trust God with them. Anxiety is spending emotional energy on something we can do nothing about: like tomorrow! Live today and let God's grace be sufficient.

GIVING UP TV one evening a week! Instead, visit someone who's lonely or sick. There are those who are isolated by illness or age. Why isolate yourself in front of the "tube?" Give someone a precious gift: your time!

GIVING UP buying anything but essentials for yourself! Instead, give the money to God. The money you would spend on the luxuries could help someone meet basic needs. We're called to be stewards of God's riches, not consumers.

GIVING UP judging others by appearances and by the standard of the world! Instead, learn to give up yourself to God. There is only one Who has the right to judge, and it is our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.




SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL
2500 CLAIRMONT ROAD N.E., ATLANTA, GA

GUEST SPEAKER
FR. JOHN TOULOUMES,
PRESIDENT OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESAN PRESBYTERS COUNCIL

SUNDAY MARCH 5, VESPERS AT 6:00 PM-RECEPTION TO FOLLOW





SOWING THE SEEDS OF HOPE

THE PLIGHT OF REFUGEES & MIGRANTS

CATHOLIC-ORTHODOX ECUMENICAL GATHERING
MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017, 7:00 P.M.



CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE KING
2699 PEACHTREE ROAD, NE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30305
(404) 233-2145



OFFICIANTS & SPEAKERS

HIS EXCELLENCY, MOST REVEREND WILTON D. GREGORY
CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF ATLANTA

HIS IMMINENCE, METROPOLITAN ALEXIOS
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA



Guest Speaker: Deacon Steve Swope, Catholic Relief Services

Followed by a Meet & Greet in the Foyer. This is in lieu of a reception because of the Lenten Season for both Churches.

Those attending are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to be distributed to the poor.



www.archatl.com



www.atlmetropolis.org

"In the face of the tragedy of tens of thousands of refugees fleeing death in war or hunger, and who are on the road to hope of life, the Gospel calls us, asks us to be near, the littlest and the abandoned." - Pope Francis



Hands of Love: March

"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)



All Sundays in March: One Roof Outreach Ministry
of Coweta County

*(People serving the Lord in a unified way to meet the spiritual
and physical needs in our community.)*

We will be collecting **personal hygiene items** and **non-perishable foods**. For the thrift store, they will accept any gently used items that someone can wear or use to make a home.

One Roof is an alliance of churches of many different denominations, as well as community organizations and businesses. Through their joint efforts, they hope to improve the goodwill of the community. This ministry offers help in emergency financial situations, runs a food pantry, and a thrift store. One Roof's goal is to bring community resources together to meet the financial and spiritual needs of those struggling in our community.

Needs:

Cereal, Grits, Oatmeal, Jiffy cornbread mix, peanut butter, jelly, canned spaghetti sauce, spaghetti pasta, rice, mac & cheese, instant potatoes, evaporated milk, juice, tea, sugar, corn, green beans, sweet peas, beans, peas, white potatoes, yams/ sweet potatoes, tomatoes, tomato sauce, greens (collards/turnip/spinach), mixed vegetables, fruit, soup, ramien noodles, tuna, salmon, canned meat

Requested Items:

Toilet tissue, paper towels, bar soap, toothpaste, shaving cream, disposable razors, lotion, shampoo, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, feminine products, disposable diapers, wet wipes, and trash bags. We are accepting anything; the requested items are things that cannot be bought with Food Stamps.

Through your generosity, the Fayette Samaritans have an overflowing "stock pot" from Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday. As we begin our journey through Great Lent to Holy and Great Pascha, let's open our hearts, and kitchen cabinets, to share as generously with One Roof. Thank you for your support of all our Hands of Love endeavors.


Kim Poolos, Hands of Love Coordinator



 ["Follow" & "Like" our Facebook page.](#) Check for updates and photos.

On this the two hundred and sixty-second 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!

**Philoptochos "Wear Red" Day
Sunday, March 5th**





HEART DISEASE *doesn't* CARE WHAT YOU WEAR


IT'S THE #1 KILLER OF WOMEN

Being a woman doesn't protect you from heart disease. Try these risk factors on for size: Do you have high blood pressure? High blood cholesterol? Diabetes? Are you inactive? Are you a smoker? Overweight? If so, this could damage your heart and lead to disability, heart attack, or both.

Talk to your doctor to get answers that may save your life. The truth is, it's best to know your risks and to take action now. www.hearttruth.gov

 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

 National Heart
Lung and Blood Institute
Public Health

 THE
heart
TRUTH™

* "Be Heart True, Be Safe, Be Red Dress, and Heart Disease Doesn't Care What You Wear—It's the #1 Killer of Women on Inherents of 2010."

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 5 (1st Sunday of Great Lent – Sunday of Orthodoxy):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service**
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/ followed by Procession of Holy Icons
in commemoration of Sunday of Orthodoxy (bring icons)**
- 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship/ Philoptochos Membership Drive**
- 11:00 am Religious Education Classes (for all ages)**
- 6:00 pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers (Annunciation Cathedral – see flyer)**

Monday, March 6:

- 7:00 pm Catholic Orthodox Ecumenical Gathering at Christ the
King Catholic Cathedral in Atlanta (see flyer inside bulletin)**

Wednesday, March 8 (2nd Wednesday of Great Lent):

- 6:00 pm Service of the 9th Hour & Presanctified Liturgy**
- 7:15 pm Community Family Dinner & Lenten Program (*Please
Bring fasting food to share and join us for our Lenten
Program series that concludes each Wednesday by 9:00 p.m.*)**

Thursday, March 9:

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

Friday, March 10 (2nd Friday of Great Lent):

- 6:00 p.m. Salutations to the Theotokos Service**

Daylight Savings Time Begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, 3/12

Sunday, March 12 (2nd Sunday of Great Lent – Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service**
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/ Coffee Fellowship/ Philoptochos
Membership Drive**
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes**
- 11:30 am Philoptochos General Meeting**

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!