



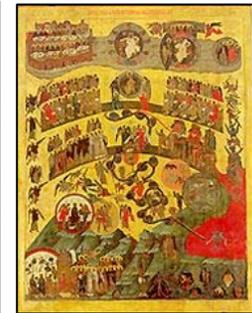
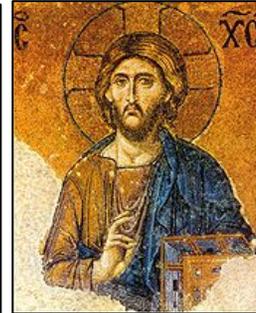
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: www.atlanta.goarch.org

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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 6, 2016

ON THIS DAY, THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE TRIODION PERIOD WHICH WE REFER TO AS MEAT FARE SUNDAY, WE CALL TO MIND THE SECOND, THE INESCAPABLE COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. WE ALSO COMMEMORATE the 42 Martyrs of Amorion in Phrygia martyred in Bagdad (+845); Holy Father Arcadios; the Finding of the Precious Cross and Nails by St. Helen (+326); Righteous Monk Hesychios the Wonderworker (+781); Righteous Maximos; St. Efrosinos; the Precious Nails; and Saints Julian and Evulus. *O Christ our God, through Your ineffable compassion, deem us worthy of the joys of Paradise, and have mercy on us, as the only Loving One. Amen. 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.

Please join us here this coming Saturday, March 12th,
as we commemorate
the Second Saturday of the Souls...
Orthros, 7:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 9:00 a.m.,
followed by Memorial Service for our departed brethren.
For those who are able, please bring Kolyva.

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER THE 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 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.

4. Kontakion for Meat Fare Sunday – (New Hymnal-pp.260-263):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: When You come to the earth, O God, in Your glory, all creation will tremble and a river of fire will flow before Your throne of judgment. The books will be opened and the secrets of all will be revealed. On that day, O just Judge, deliver me from eternal flames and make me worthy to stand at Your right.

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 (John 20:1-10)

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that He must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2)

"Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are

destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 25:31-46)

"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will put the sheep at His right hand and the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you gave Me clothing, I was sick and you took care of Me, I was in prison and you visited Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw You hungry and gave You food, or thirsty and gave You something to drink? And when was it that we saw You a stranger and welcomed You, or naked and gave You clothing? And when was it that we saw You sick or in prison and visited You?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of My family, you did it to Me.' Then He will say to those at His left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from Me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not give Me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of You?' Then He will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

He's The Clumsy One

Perhaps you have heard about the father who introduced his children in this manner:

"This is Pete. He's the clumsy one of the lot."

"That's Kathy coming in with mud on her shoes. She's the sloppy one."

"As always, Mike's last. He'll be late for his own funeral, I promise you."

That father did a thorough job of labeling his children with their faults and mistakes.

People do it to us and to those we love all the time. They remind us of our failures, our errors, our sins, and they won't let us live them down. Try as you may to free yourself from the past, there are people who will continue to remind you of it.

Next Sunday, you are invited to participate in our annual *Forgiveness Service* – a special tradition in our Holy Orthodox Church. Through this reconciliation to our brothers in sisters in Christ, and further, by exercising it with all our family and friends, our Lord enables us to have a chance to begin again.

When we don't let people forget their past, when we don't forgive, we label people with those mistakes. We refuse to see them as more than the sum total of their errors. On the other hand, when we forgive, we gently pry the doer of the hurtful deed away from the deed itself, and we say that

the past is just that – it's in the past . . . it's over and done with. *I hope you will join us!*

TODAY'S MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.”

(Ps. 25:17-18)

. PREVIEW...

Adult Religious Education Class – Fr. George Tsahakis

Sunday, March 6, 2016

*For today's lesson, Fr. George will review
and lead a discussion of Part 1 of our lenten study book:*

The Life of Elder Thaddeus



For all persons who wish to study about spiritual truths and insights from our Orthodox faith taught by Fr. George Tsahakis... *come join us every Wednesday beginning Wednesday, March 16th, for dinner at 7:15 p.m. and **discussion of our lenten book, "Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives"** (by Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica, one of the most renowned spiritual guides of Serbia in the 20th century).*

The first lesson, entitled "On Thoughts", begins with: *"Our life depends on the kind of thoughts we nurture. If our thoughts are peaceful, calm, meek and kind, then that is what our life is like. If our attention is turned to the circumstances in which we live, we are drawn into a whirlpool of thoughts and can have neither peace nor tranquility. Everything, both good and evil, comes*

from our thoughts. Our thoughts become reality."

(Come JOIN us to discuss the life of this inspiring saint of our time.)



HELPING HANDS,
LOVING HEARTS

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.

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, ramen 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.

One Roof is an alliance of churches of many different denominations, as well as community organizations and businesses. Through their joint effort 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.

Just as we "filled the table" for Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday and the Fayette Samaritans, let's "fill the table" again as we begin our journey through Great Lent to Holy and Great Pascha. Thank you for your generous support of all our endeavors.

Kim Haldopoulos, Hands of Love Coordinator



"Follow" & "Like" our Facebook page – St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church. Be sure to check our status for updates and photos.

And on this 598th 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

Today is the 3rd Sunday of the Triodion period – *Great and Holy Lent begins Monday, March 14th*

Sunday, March 6 (Judgment Sunday/Meatfare Sunday/Philoptochos Wear Red Sunday for both women and men/No meat after today for those seeking strict fast during Lent):

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*)

Thursday, March 10:

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

Saturday, March 12 (2nd Saturday of the Souls)

7:45 am Orthros Service

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

10:30 am Youth Music Camp

10:30 am – 3:00 pm Hands On Day (after community breakfast) - every parishioner encouraged to assist help clean up our parish facilities.

Sunday, March 13 (Forgiveness Sunday – Cheesefare Sunday – no cheese & dairy products after today for those seeking strict fast during Lent/OCMC

Mission Sunday): Daylight Savings Time Begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, 3/13

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy (Youth will assist choir)/Forgiveness Service

10:30 am Coffee Fellowship/Philoptochos Membership Drive

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

11:45 am Parish Council Meeting

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