



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

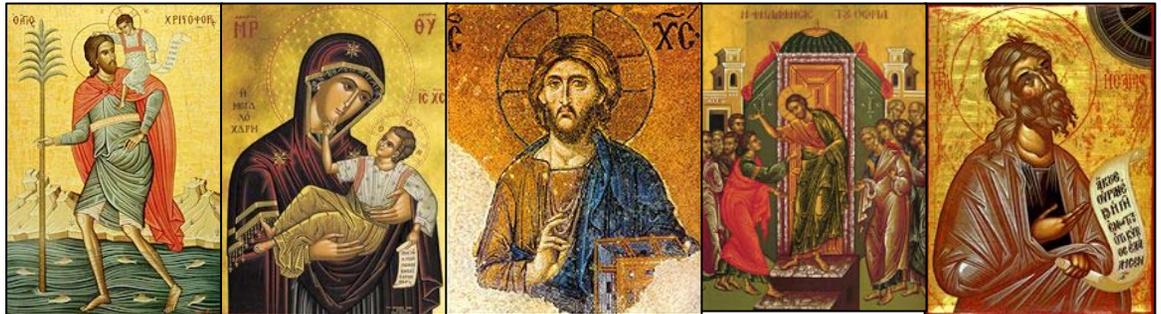
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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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Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, *Chancellor*

Liturgical Guide for Saturday, May 9, 2016

ON THIS DAY, WE COMMEMORATE the Holy and Glorious Prophet Isaiah; the Holy Martyr Christopher of Lycia, who is the Patron Saint of our Parish; the Holy Martyrs Epimachos and Gordian of Rome; the Holy Martyrs Callinica and Aquilina, who believed in Christ through St. Christopher and were perfected in martyrdom, the first being pierced with a long spit from foot to shoulder and the second being hanged by the hair of her head with a heavy stone tied to her feet. *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./8. Special Hymn for the Feast of Pascha (our Lord's passover from death to life):

Sung three times after the opening of the Divine Liturgy, before the Small Entrance, and after the distribution of Holy Communion: Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

2. Small Entrance Exclamation of the Priest:

On the occasion of the Feast of Pascha, the Priest intones the following at the Small Entrance: "In your choirs, bless the Lord, you of Israel's wellspring. Save us, O Son of God, who did rise from the dead, we sing to You: Alleluia!"

3. Hymn for Sunday of St. Thomas – (Hymnal-pp.154-157):

Sung after the Small Entrance: While the tomb was sealed, You shone forth from it as light, O our life, Christ our God. And though the doors were closed, You appeared in the midst of Your disciples. O Resurrection of all, through them restore in us a new spirit in Your 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 for Pascha – (Hymnal-pp.274-277):

Sung after the Small Entrance: Into the grave You descended, Immortal One, yet You destroyed the power of Hades, and as victor You arose, O Christ our God; You proclaimed to the myrrh-bearing women a greeting of joy, You brought peace to Your holy apostles, and to the fallen You granted resurrection.

6. Megalynarion (Hymn to the Theotokos) – (Hymnal-pp.308-309):

Today, the following hymn is sung instead of "Axion Estin" or "Truly it is proper to call you blessed...": “You are the shining light and the Mother of God, of incomparable glory and higher in dignity than all creatures; with songs of praise we magnify you.”

7. Communion Hymn – (Hymnal-pp.320):

On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord...": “Exalt in the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. Alleluia.” (Ps. 147[147B])

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. – St. John Chrysostom</p>
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Epistle Reading (Acts 3:19-16)

Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send the Messiah appointed for you, that is, Jesus, Who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through His holy prophets. Moses said, ‘The Lord your God will raise up for you from your own people a prophet like me. You must listen to whatever he tells you. And it will be that everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly rooted out of the people.’ And all the prophets, as many as have spoken, from Samuel and those after him, also predicted these days. You are the descendants of the prophets and of the covenant that God gave to your ancestors, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your descendants all the families of the

earth shall be blessed.' When God raised up His servant, he sent him first to you, to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

Gospel Reading (John 2:1-11)

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and His disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to Me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever He tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of His signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.



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And on this the thirteenth anniversary of the Feast of our Patron Saint, St. Christopher, 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!

WORSHIP & COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

Monday, May 9 (Feast of St. Christopher the Great Martyr):

6:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy (Evening)/Community Dinner

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!