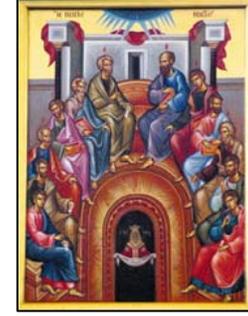
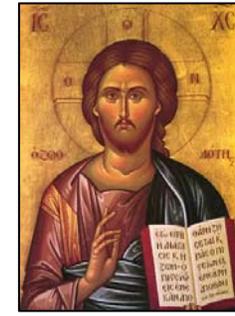




GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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, June 19, 2016

ON THIS DAY, THE EIGHTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA, THE CHURCH REMEMBERS PENTECOST, THE FIFTIETH DAY *AFTER* PASCHA. TODAY WE COMMEMORATE THE EVENTS DESCRIBED IN THE EPISTLE FOR THE FEAST. “THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT”, THE COMFORTER, THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, WHO IS EVERYWHERE PRESENT AND FILLS ALL THINGS, AS THE BEAUTIFUL PRAYER OF THE CHURCH TO THE HOLY SPIRIT STATES. WE ALSO COMMEMORATE Thaddeus (Jude) the Apostle & Brother of Our Lord of the 12 Apostles (+70); Holy Martyr Zosima (+116); Our Righteous Father Zenonus; and Paisius the Great of Egypt (+400). *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.

From the Pentecostarion

Pentecost is the Greek word for "fifty," and it names today's Feast falling on the fiftieth day after Pascha. The day commemorates the events described in the Epistle for today's Feast, the descent of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who is everywhere present and fills all things, as the beautiful prayer of the Church to the Holy Spirit states.

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER SMALL ENTRANCE

1./3./5./10. Special Hymn Commemorating Pentecost – (Hymnal-pp.172-173):

It is sung *after* the Doxology, *before* and *after* the Small Entrance, and *following the distribution of Holy Communion*. Blessed are You, O Christ our God. You made wise men of poor fishermen by sending down upon them Your Holy Spirit, and through them You caught the whole world. O Lover of mankind, glory to You.

2. Second Antiphon Today – (Hymnal-pp.28-29):

Today, the following hymn is sung instead of the normal "Soson Imas": Save us, O Son of God, O Holy Counselor. We sing to You: Alleluia!"

4. Small Entrance Exclamation of the Priest:

On the occasion of today's feast, the Priest intones the following at the Small Entrance: "Be exalted, O Lord, in Your strength! We will sing and chant the praise of Your might. O Holy Counselor, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!"

6. Kontakion for the Feast of Pentecost – (Hymnal-pp.280-281):

When He came down and confused the tongues of men, the Most High divided the nations. But in sending forth parted tongues of flame, He called all mankind to unity, that with one accord we might glorify His all Holy Spirit.

7. Special Hymn instead of Trisagion Hymn – (Hymnal-pp.292-293):

On the occasion of today's feast, we sing the following hymn instead of the Trisagion hymn: "As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves in Christ. Alleluia. (3)"

8. Megalynarion (Hymn to the Theotokos) – (Hymnal-pp.310-311):

Today, the following hymn is usually sung instead of "Axion Estin" or "Truly it is proper to call you blessed...": You conceived and gave birth in virginity; the Word Who created all, through you became incarnate. O Mother who knew not man, Virgin Theotokos, the boundless One was held by you, the dwelling of your infinite Creator; we magnify you.

9. Communion Hymn for Feast of Pentecost – (Hymnal-pp.322):

On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is usually sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord": Let Your Good Spirit lead me along a path that is sure and straight. Alleluia. (Psalm 142[143]:10)

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 20:19-23)

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After He said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so I send you." When He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Epistle Reading (Acts 2:1-11)

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs — in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."

Gospel Reading (John 7:37-52, 8:12)

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, He cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to Me, and let the one who believes in Me drink. As the Scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now He said this about the Spirit, which believers in Him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Messiah." But some asked, "Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does He? Has not the Scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?" So there was a division in the crowd because of Him. Some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on Him. Then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why did you not arrest Him?" The police answered, "Never has anyone spoken like this!" Then the Pharisees replied, "Surely you have not been deceived too, have you? Has any one of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd, which does

not know the law — they are accursed.” Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus before, and who was one of them, asked, “Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing, does it?” They replied, “Surely you are not also from Galilee, are you? Search and you will see that no prophet is to arise from Galilee.” Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

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

“God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.” (Romans 5:5)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

On this Father's Day weekend, let me suggest three truths that may help parents focus on healthy priorities.

1. A PARENT IS A ROLE MODEL 24 HOURS PER DAY.

Parents communicate values by what they say, what they praise, what they condemn, what they ignore, but even more powerfully by the way they live. Our children listen to our every word, watch our every deed, and draw their own conclusions.

Consider a mother named who picked up her five-year-old son from kindergarten and then hastened to run five errands on the way home. She was in a big hurry and driving too fast. When she saw the policeman’s blue light flashing behind her, she was totally frustrated.

He pulled her over and asked to see her license. There was a long silence while she searched for it. Suddenly her son’s little voice was heard from the backseat saying, “Mama, he doesn't look like a turkey to me.” Our children hear everything we say.

We are role models for them constantly.

If you mutter racial slurs as you listen to the evening news, your child will form conclusions about people of other races.

If your child hears you use God's name carelessly or profanely, the child will draw conclusions both about God and your relationship with God.

None of us is perfect. We sometimes show our worst sides before our children. *How important it is at such times to acknowledge our failings honestly and ask forgiveness.*

2. NOTHING CAN SUBSTITUTE FOR YOUR PRESENCE.

Many parents rationalize by saying, *"I don't spend much time with my kids, but what we have is quality time."*

A first-grader asked his mother why his Dad brought home a briefcase full of material each night. She explained that he had so much work to do that he couldn't get it all done at the office. The youngster pondered this soberly, and then asked, *"Well, why don't they put him in a slower group."*

Parents, remember this. If you *can't* say "no" to some claims, your life will drip away like a leaky faucet. You won't make much of a splash anywhere.

In a late afternoon meeting, a man in the business group raised his hand and said, *"I know what we are doing is important. But I must leave at 5:00 p.m. sharp. My son's Little League game starts at 5:30 and I promised him I would be there."* Everybody around the table beamed with admiration. Here was a man who could say "no" when something more important required a "yes."

3. NO ONE CAN LEAD A CHILD TO GOD AS WELL AS A PARENT.

If the parents fail, chances are small that the Church or a grandparent or a friend can make up that deficit.

Children are so bright. If they sense that the Bible is not a vitally important book in your life, chances are that it won't be in theirs. If they seldom see you pray, except a perfunctory prayer at meal-time, they will not take prayer seriously. If children sense that Sunday worship is a grim duty rather than a treasured privilege, they will stop attending as soon as they get a chance. Consider the mother who took her poodle dog to obedience class each week without fail, and paid considerable money for it. But she failed to bring her little daughter to Sunday School, even though it was free. One day God may ask her, *"Why did you care more about your dog's obedience than about your precious daughter's relationship with Me?"*

Consider the following story of two paddleboat steamers. They left Memphis about the same time, traveling down the River to New Orleans. As they traveled side by side, crew members made disparaging remarks about the slowness of the other boat. Words were exchanged. Challenges were made.

And the race began. The competition was keen as the boats roared down the Mississippi. One boat began falling behind. Not enough fuel. There had been plenty of coal for the trip, but not enough for a race. As the boat dropped back, an enterprising crew member took some of the ship's cargo and tossed it into the ovens. Their boat began to catch up, so they made fuel out of more and more cargo. They finally won the race, but in the process they burned their cargo, the very material they had been hired to transport.

Parents, our primary mission is *not* to win a rat race, but to ***faithfully care for those persons entrusted to us, especially our children***. Blessed are the focused... those who know their priorities and honor them.

And on this 611th 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!



"Follow" & "Like" our Facebook page. *Be sure to check our status for updates and photos.*

WORSHIP & COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

Today is the 8th Sunday of Pascha
The week following the Sunday of Pentecost is FAST-Free (until 6/25)

Sunday, June 19 (Feast of Pentecost – Trinity Sunday; Father’s Day):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service**
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy**
- 10:15 am Vespers – the Feast of the Holy Spirit (Kneeling Service)**
- 11:00 am Father’s Day Luncheon**
- 11:30 am GOYA Meeting**
- 12:30 pm Philoptochos Baking – Koulourakia for Clergy Laity Congress**

Thursday, June 23:

- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice**

Sunday, June 26 (Sunday of All Saints):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros**
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship**
- 11:15 am Let’s EAT™** Join us at Broadway Diner, 535 S. Glynn St., Fayetteville, GA

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated.



Hands of Love: June

“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 June : Fayette County DFCS

Throughout the month of June, we will be collecting gift cards (for Target, Walmart, T.J. Maxx) and monetary donations for Fayette County *Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS)*.

The **Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS)** is the part of the Department of Human Services (DHS) that investigates child abuse; finds foster homes for abused and neglected children; helps low income, out-of-work parents get back on their feet; assists with childcare costs for low income parents who are working or in job training; and provides numerous support services and innovative programs to help troubled families.

For more information about DFCS, please visit: <http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/>