



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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



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

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, June 28, 2015

ON THIS DAY, THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, WE COMMEMORATE the Finding of the Relics of Cyrus and John the Unmercenaries; Pappias the Martyr; Righteous Fathers Sergius and Herman, Founders of Valaam Monastery; Synaxis of the Icon of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos; and Paul the Physician of Corinth. 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.



**Tomorrow, please join us for the
Feast of the 12 Holy Apostles
(celebrated on Eve of Feast, 6/29)
Great Vespers, 5:00 p.m., Divine Liturgy,
5:45 p.m., followed by Community Dinner
(non-fasting) and Book Study (Being Bread)**

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER SMALL ENTRANCE

1./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Third Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.106-109):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the mighty power of His arm. He has trampled down death by death, becoming the firstborn of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell and has granted to all the world His great mercy.

3. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (see handout):

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 – (Hymnal-pp.224-227):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: O unflinching protection of Christians, and our faithful advocate before the Creator: though we are sinners, do not ignore our entreaty; but in your goodness, grant your timely help to us who appeal to you

in faith. Quickly make intercession; on our behalf make speedy supplication, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

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 (Luke 5:14-19)

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 (Rom. 6:18-23)

¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. ²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then

get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 8:5-13)

⁵When He entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, appealing to Him ⁶and saying, “Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress.” ⁷And He said to him, “I will come and cure him.” ⁸The centurion answered, “Lord, I am not worthy to have You come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and the slave does it.” ¹⁰When Jesus heard him, He was amazed and said to those who followed Him, “Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. ¹¹I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, ¹²while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” ¹³And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; let it be done for you according to your faith.” And the servant was healed in that hour.

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

“Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive.” (Mt. 21:22)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

“People were bringing little children to Him in order that He might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant

and said to them, 'Let the little children come to Me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.'"



As sons and daughters of our Lord, Jesus Christ instructs us not to do anything to prevent our children – whether our babies or young children – from knowing the grace and power of Jesus! Even more than that, we must actively encourage and help the Lord's “little children” to find their place in Jesus’ family, have their needs fulfilled by Jesus' grace, and use their gifts as part of Jesus' Body.

Prayer for Our Parish Families in Support of Our Youth:

O Heavenly Father, thank You for our precious children. Please help me to never put off a child who needs to know Your love. Help me and use me, O Lord, to show all our youth Your love and help them grow in Your image and likeness to serve for your glory. May Your Holy Spirit guide me in my responsibilities with a spirit of love and mercy.

May all children live a life of love and share that love with those around them. May they always be strong and courageous in their character and in their actions. Help them to do what is right and just and fair. Grant that they will learn responsibility, and help them to live a life of thankfulness. Give them health and strength and show them Your path. Take them into Your arms and bless them as You embraced children when You visited us on earth. Hear their prayers each day, and ever remind them that You are always with them. Make them sleep in peace and awaken in the morning to love You and serve You. For to You we give glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

And on this 563rd 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!

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COMMUNITY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Fast of the Apostles continues through June 28th

Sunday, June 28: (4th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 a.m. Orthros

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

11:15 a.m. Let's EAT™ Join us at Broadway Diner, 535 S. Glynn St., Fayetteville, GA

1:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting/Building Planning Meeting

Monday, June 29 (Eve of Feast of the 12 Holy Apostles):

5:00 p.m. Great Vespers Service (Evening)

5:45 p.m. Divine Liturgy (Evening), followed by Community Dinner (please bring non-fasting food, and Book Study – *Being Bread*)

Thursday, July 2:

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, July 5: (5th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 a.m. Orthros

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship

Hands of Love: June, 2015



**Georgia Division of Family and
Children Services**

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