



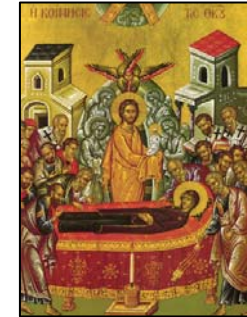
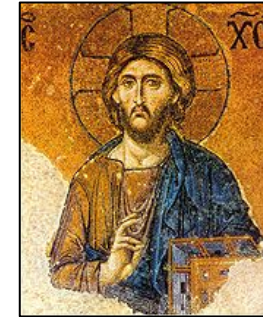
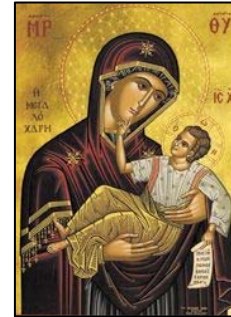
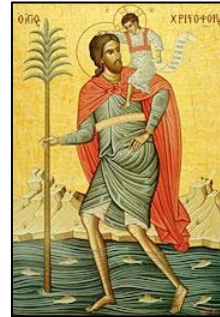
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

*Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople:* [www.patriarchate.org](http://www.patriarchate.org)

*Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website:* [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)

*Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website:* [www.atlanta.goarch.org](http://www.atlanta.goarch.org)

*St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website:* [www.saintchristopherhoc.org](http://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 Saturday, August 15, 2015**

#### **Feast of the Dormition of our Most Holy, Glorious Lady and Blessed Theotokos & Ever Virgin Mary**

*Today, we remember the “falling asleep” (koimissis/dormition) – the death of the Virgin Mary. We will continue to sing the hymns for this Feast Day through August 23<sup>rd</sup>. May the prayers of the Theotokos to her Son and our Lord for us bring peace, unity, and love in every aspect of our lives. Through her intercessions O Good and Loving 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./3./4. Hymn for the Falling Asleep of the Theotokos – (Hymnal-pp.222-223):**

*It is sung after Orthros, and before and after the Small Entrance. In giving birth you remained a virgin, and in your dormition you did not forsake this world, O Theotokos. For as the Mother of Life, you have yourself passed into life. And by your prayers, you deliver our souls from death.*

#### **2. Hymn for Second Antiphon – (pg. 28 of Hymnal):**

*On the occasion of today's feast, we sing the following hymn instead of the regular Soson imas, "Save us, O Son of God": "Save us, O Son of God, among the saints glorified, we sing to You, Alleluia."*

#### **5. Kontakion for the Falling Asleep of the Theotokos – (Hymnal-pp.288-289):**

*It is sung after the Small Entrance. She is our vigilant intercessor, the Theotokos, our sure hope and protection. Neither death nor tomb held any power over her, for as the Mother of Life, she was taken into life by that very one who deigned to dwell in her ever virgin womb.*

#### **6. Megalynarion (Hymn to the Theotokos) – (not in New Hymnal):**

*On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Axion Estin" or "Truly it is proper to call you blessed..." All the generations, we praise you, the only Theotokos. The laws of nature have been overcome in you, O pure Virgin, for virginity remains after childbirth, and life becomes betrothed to death. You are a virgin after giving birth and alive after death, O Theotokos. You save your inheritance forever.*

**7. Communion Hymn – (Hymnal-pp.324):**

*On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord": "I will lift the cup of salvation, and call on the Name of the Lord. (Ps. 115[116]). Alleluia."*

**SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S 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

**Epistle Reading (Philippians 2:5-11)**

*Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, Who, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

**Gospel Reading (Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28)**

*Now as they went on their way, He entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what He was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to Him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her." While He was saying this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You and the breasts that nursed You!"*

*But He said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!”*

**MEMORY VERSES (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):**

“And Mary said, ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has looked with favor on the lowliness of His servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and Holy is His Name. His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation. ’”

*(Luke 1:46-50)*

And on this *the twelfth* Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos 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**

**Saturday, August 15 (Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos):**

**7:45 am Orthros Service**

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Blessing of Five Loaves/Name Day Breakfast**

**Sunday, August 16 (11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Matthew):**

**7:45 am Orthros Service**

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Blessing of Prayer Shawls**

**11:00 am Open House for Religious Education Classes – 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Classes**

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