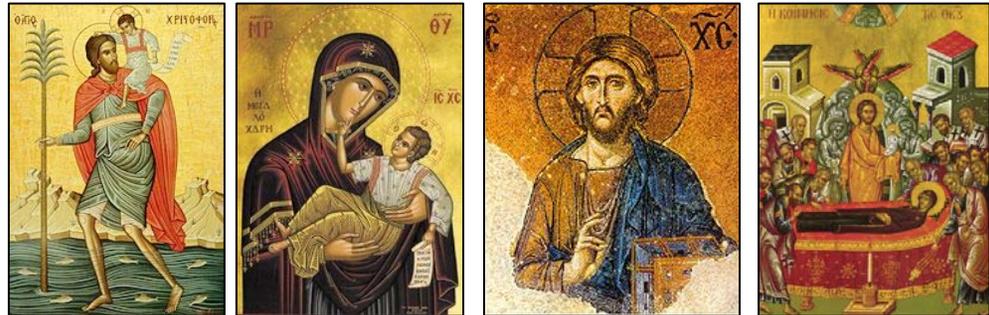




GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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



313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210
Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

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

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, August 16, 2015

ON THIS DAY, THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE SUNDAY AFTER THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES the Recovery at Edessa of the not-human created portrait of Jesus Christ known as the Sacred Veil (The Holy Mandelion, +944); Diomedes the Physician & Martyr of Tarsus (+298) and Alkiviades; Righteous Herimon; Holy 33 Martyrs of Palestine; the depletion of the Holy Water in the Church of the Life-Giving Spring, and its immediate replenishment; Righteous Father Timothy, Archbishop of Euripus, founder of the Holy Monastery of Pentele (+1578); Nicodemus the New Martyr of Meteora and Apostolos the Younger of Pelion; Righteous Martyr Gerasimos the Wonderworker of Cephalonia; and Holy New-Martyr Stamatios of Volos (+1688). 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./4. Hymn for the Falling Asleep of the Theotokos – (Hymnal-pp.222-223):

It is sung 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. Resurrectional Hymn (Second Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.102-105):

It is sung before and after the Small Entrance: When You descended into death, Life immortal, You vanquished the power of hell by your resplendent divinity, and when You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out triumphantly: O giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You.

3. Hymn of the Sacred Veil/The Holy Mandelion– (Hymnal-p. 128-131):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: Before Your most pure image we bow down, O Good One, entreating You to forgive our sins, Christ our God. For You willingly ascended the cross in the flesh to deliver from the enemy those whom You had made. For this we thank You and we cry to You, O Savior: By coming to save the world, You have filled all things with joy.

5. 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.

6. 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.

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY

<p><i>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</i></p>

Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (John 21:15-25)

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time He said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to Him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know everything; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this He said to him, "Follow me." Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about him?" Jesus said to him, "If it is My will that he remain until I come, what is that to You? Follow me!" So the rumor spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did

not say to him that he would not die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to You?" This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 9:2-12)

²If I am not an apostle to others, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. ³This is my defense to those who would examine me. ⁴Do we not have the right to our food and drink? ⁵Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a believing wife, as do the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? ⁶Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? ⁷Who at any time pays the expenses for doing military service? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat any of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not get any of its milk? ⁸Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law also say the same? ⁹For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? ¹⁰Or does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was indeed written for our sake, for whoever plows should plow in hope and whoever threshes should thresh in hope of a share in the crop. ¹¹If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? ¹²If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 18:23-35)

Matt. 18:23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 25 and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. 26 So

the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

"Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your Name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for Your Name's sake." (Psalm 79:9)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Last Sunday, we were blessed to have many of our youth and a large number of our adults present as I offered the Annual Blessing of the new education year 2015 - 2016 for our parish. With the petitions to God which I offered on everyone's behalf and with your affirming responses for our Lord to have mercy on our efforts, we received our Lord's blessings upon our ongoing Religious Education program as well as our HOPE, JOY, GOYA, and Hellenic Language and Dance programs the next twelve months. By implicit reference, ALL the ministries of our parish were blessed last Sunday, since through our Parish Council, Chantors, Choir, Altar Boys, Myrrh Bearers, Philoptochos, Bookstore, Newsletter, Outreach, GreekFest and many other indispensable ministries not noted here, **we are educating all of our youth and all of our adults on the "ways of the Lord" and encouraging one**

another to follow His teachings and commandments. *“Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your Name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for Your Name’s sake.” (Psalm 79:9)*

As your Priest and as one of the members of our Parish Council, I feel very fortunate and blessed that the officers and members of our Parish Council, as well as the ministry leaders of our Religious Education, Youth, and Hellenic Culture diakonias, and in fact, ALL of our ministry leaders, support and participate fully with the programs noted above. On behalf of you and myself, I commend each of them for sacrificing their personal time and offering their talents and blessings to support these essential ministries of our parish. Finally, I thank *each of you* for your ongoing participation, ideas, and encouragement as we share together the ministry of our Lord’s Church of St. Christopher in Peachtree City, GA with one another and all those God sends our way! **Glory to God always!**

Our Prayer Shawls Will Wrap Up Cancer Patients

Following church services, Fr. George will offer the special blessing of the prayer shawls. They will be given to the counseling staff at the Cancer

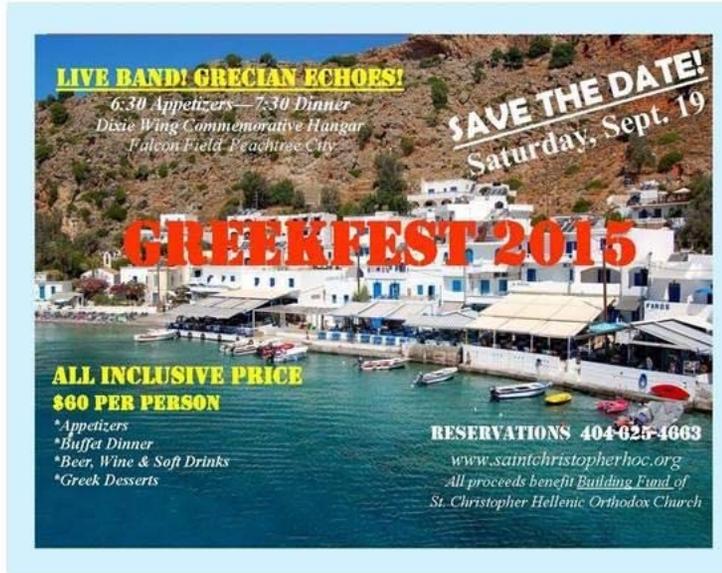


Treatment Center of America (CTCA) in Newnan. *We welcome their representative(s) to our parish for this blessing.* Please contact Susan Kleto at 770.253.8469 or sbkleto@gmail.com to either become a participant in this

ministry, to receive yarn, to receive sew-in labels, to receive a Prayer Guide, or if you have any questions. We have some beautiful skeins of yarn available to those who need some yarn.



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



NEW:
PURCHASE
TICKETS &
SPONSORSHIPS
ONLINE
AT OUR PARISH
WEBSITE...

Open House TODAY

for Religious Education Classes – 1st Day of Classes

Please join us as we begin our new Religious Education Classes TODAY with our Open House following the Divine Liturgy. Our classrooms will be open for parents to visit and get a taste of what we will be studying this year. Our classes are grouped by school grades, so you can find us easily in these locations:

Preschoolers (ages 4-5 years) –classroom next to the restrooms – Teachers: Danielle Dawkins & Jackie Sarantis

Grades K-2 –classroom in the back of the Sanctuary – Teacher: Sheryl Vasiliadis

Grades 3-5 – Bookstore – Teachers: Becky Butler & Misty Gianopoulos

Grades 6-12 – upstairs classroom – Teacher: Helen Psihountas

***Adults** – Nave of church (pew area) – Teachers: Fr. George Tsahakis, Katie Wilson, & Johnnie Ellinas

EVERYONE is welcome to visit ALL the classrooms, even if you don't have children.

***Adults** – Our First Class will be next Sunday, August 23rd.

Today's assignment – visit each of our Youth Open House classrooms!



HANDS OF LOVE

Hands of Love:
August 2015



ONE ROOF
ECUMENICAL ALLIANCE OUTREACH

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

Cool Enough For School

Each summer, One Roof provides families in need with vouchers so their children can select clothing from our thrift store to prepare them to go back to school. We need your help!

Consider donating your gently used children's clothing to us as we help families in Coweta County. One way to break the cycle of poverty is to help children have the best opportunities for a good education. We would love to be able to provide new socks and underwear. If you find it in your heart to donate, feel free to attach a sticker encouraging the recipient!



One Roof Ecumenical Alliance Outreach is a 501-3(c) non-profit organization. Federal Tax ID: 26-0157086. *Donation receipts are available.* 255 Temple Avenue Newnan, GA 30263 (770) 683-7705.

In June, we collected \$100 and \$175 worth of gift cards for DFCS. Thank you for your donations!
Kim Haldopoulos (Ministry Coordinator)

And on this 570th 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 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 16 (11th 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 – 1st Day of Classes

Thursday, August 20:

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

6:30 p.m. Philoptochos Fall Bake Sale – Prepare Spanakopites Batter

Saturday, August 22:

9:00 a.m. Philoptochos Fall Bake Sale – Prepare Spanakopites

Sunday, August 23 (12th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship

10:45 am Religious Education Classes (for all ages) 11:30 am GOYA Meeting

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!