



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

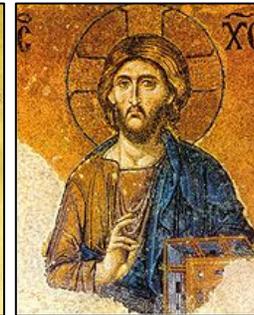
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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 21, 2016

ON THIS DAY, THE NINTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES the Holy Apostle Thaddeus of the 70; Holy Martyr Vassi of Odessa & Her Sons Theognios, Agapios & Pistos; and Athanasios Patelaros, Patriarch of Constantinople. *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./3. 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 (Plagal of the 4th Tone) – (Hymnal-pp. 126-7):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: From on high You descended, O merciful Lord. You accepted the cross and three days in the tomb to free us from the bondage of sin, O our life and resurrection. Glory to You, O Lord.

4. 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.

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.

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 20:19-31)

“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.’ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in His hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in His side, I will not believe.’ A week later His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then He said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see My hands. Reach out your hand and put it in My side. Do not doubt but believe.’ Thomas answered Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in His name.”

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (I Cor. 3:9-17)

For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no

one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw — the work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. If what has been built on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a reward. If the work is burned up, the builder will suffer loss; the builder will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 14:22-34)

Immediately He made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning He came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

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

“Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy that person. For God’s temple is holy, and you are that temple.”

(1 Cor. 3:16-17)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Luke 12:33-34)

What are your primary investment strategies?" This is a logical question for a financial planner to his client. Perhaps it is not his first or second, but ultimately, he will ask it. Likewise, in the Scriptural passage above, our Lord is challenging us to face that same question. In the cycles of our national and world economies, there are “lean” times and there are times of “plenty.”

No *earthly* investment strategy is foolproof. Only when we invest in things that are *eternal* can we invest in things that are truly *guaranteed* – things that cannot be stolen, destroyed, or ruined.

As Christians, we are confronted each day with lots of choices to invest in our eternal future. Indeed, what we value as our true treasure will be the focus of our hearts.

May we pray each day for God's help to build a portfolio of God's blessings, marked by generosity to others and a commitment to things that are eternal. Amen.



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TIROPITA
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GYROS
GREEK POTATOES
SOUVLAKI
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Via Via makes!*

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*Includes
BEER & WINE!*

**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2016**
AT DIXIE WING COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE HANGAR
FALCON FIELD AIRPORT • PEACHTREE CITY, GA

**6:00 PM APPETIZERS
7:00 PM DINNER**

**INDIVIDUAL TICKETS
\$60.00**

INDIVIDUAL TICKET ORDER FORM
Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
Number of Tickets: _____ x \$60 = _____

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313 Dividend Dr. Suite 210 - Peachtree City, GA 30269

OR ORDER YOUR TICKETS ONLINE AT:
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PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT
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Religious Education Classes for 2016-2017

Religious Education Director – Becky Butler
Religious Education Liaison – Katie Wilson

- I. **Preschoolers Class (ages 3-5 years)** meets in the classroom next to the restrooms, and is taught by [Danielle Dawkins & Jackie Sarantis](#).
- II. **Grades K-2 Class** meets in the classroom in the back of the Nave, and is taught by [Sheryl Vasiliadis & Pat Bassett](#).
- III. **Grades 3-5 Class** meets in the Bookstore, and is taught by [Becky Butler, Misty Gianopoulos, & Emilia Moraitis](#).
- IV. **Grades 6-10 Class** meets in the upstairs classroom and is taught by [Presbytera Marinda Tsahakis & Lydia McGee](#).
- V. **Adult Class (includes College-aged & above)** meets in the Nave, and is taught by [Fr. George, assisted by Katie Wilson, Kirk Panayis, & Johnnie Ellinas](#).

Parents, please bring your students to church so that together, we may worship and learn our Orthodox faith. *You hold the lifeline of your children's religious development and our teachers are here to assist and support you! God bless our efforts and each of you.*



["Follow" & "Like" our Facebook page.](#) *Be sure to check our status for updates and photos.*

And on this 620th 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 SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 21 (9th Sunday of St. Matthew):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30 am G.O.Y.A. Meeting
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes (*for all ages*)
- 11:30 am Hellenic Dance Practice

Thursday, August 25:

- 6:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, August 28 (10th 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*)
- 11:45 a.m. Let's EAT™ Join us at Broadway Diner, 535 S. Glynn St., Fayetteville



Hands of Love: August

"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 August: Cool Enough For School 2016

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

Please donate your gently used children's clothing or new clothing so they can help families in Coweta County. They also need lots of new socks and underwear. One way to break the cycle of poverty is to help children have the best opportunities for a good education. If you would like, feel free to attach a sticker encouraging the recipient!

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

In June, we collected \$100 and \$175 worth of gift cards for Fayette County DFCS. Thank you for your donations!

We welcome Kim Poolos as our new Hands of Love Coordinator.



Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!