



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

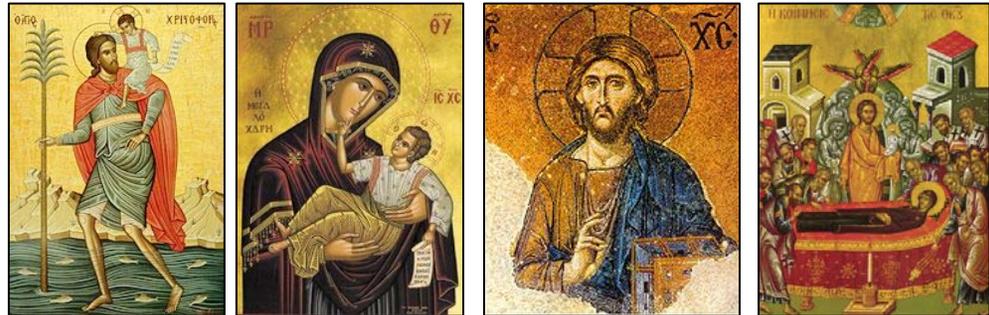
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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 23, 2015

ON THIS DAY, THE TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES THE LEAVE-TAKING OF THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY. THE CHURCH ALSO COMMEMORATES our Holy Priest-Martyr Ireneaus, Bishop of Lyons (+202); Holy Priest-Martyr Ireneaus, Bishop of Sirmios; Holy Father Kallinikos, Patriarch of Constantinople; Lupus the Martyr & Slave of St. Demetrios of Thessaloniki (+303-305); Righteous Father Nicholas of Sikelion; Righteous Father Dionysios of Olympus; and the 38 Martyrs of Thrace. *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 (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.

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.

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 bless you, the only Mother of God. All human generations bless you, the only Mother of God. All laws of nature were bypassed in you o spotless Virgin. Virgin after giving birth, and heralding your life by your death; Virgin after giving birth, alive after having died. Save always, Theotokos, your inheritance.

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 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 (Matthew 28:16-20)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Amen.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 15:1-11)

1Cor. 15:1 Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, 2 through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you — unless you have come to believe in vain. 3 For I

handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5 and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. 7 Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them — though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11 Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 19:16-26)

Matt. 19:16 Then someone came to Him and said, “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” 17 And He said to him, “Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only One Who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.” 18 He said to him, “Which ones?” And Jesus said, “You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; 19 Honor your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 20 The young man said to Him, “I have kept all these; what do I still lack?” 21 Jesus said to him, “If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow Me.” 22 When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions. 23 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. 24 Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” 25 When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, “Then who can be saved?” 26 But Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible.”

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“I treasure Your word in my heart, so that I may not
sin against You.” *(Psalm 119:11)*

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Someone once shared: I feel as though I live in a plastic bubble. It surrounds me, but it cannot be seen. I see everyone around me, I hear them speak. Behind their words, they hide from me. They look at me and think they know me. But they don't see my bubble, they don't look long enough to see it. I try to talk with them, to share myself, but my words return, unlistened to. And nobody hears.

I move through the days insulated in my protective bubble. I reach out to ones that I love, but they don't notice. They don't feel my need. When I extend my hand, no one takes it. Heavy hearted, I withdraw it, vowing never to offer it again. I call to those around, I beg, “Please, help me. Please touch me. Please love me.” And nobody hears.

Though not made of plastic, my bubble is real. It is comprised of many things. The sting of harsh words, spoken thoughtlessly. The heartache of love unrequited. The disappointment of a trust broken. The guilt of past mistakes. The terror of, again, being rejected. These things envelop me, isolate me; in my torment I scream, but it is silent. And nobody hears.

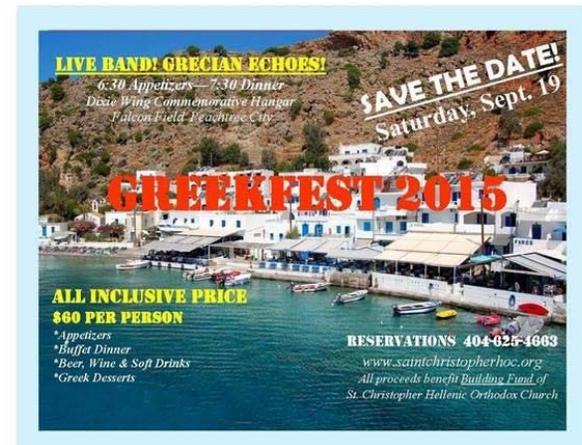
I sought escape from my invisible prison. I looked for someone, some person who would see my bubble and free me of it. I searched for years, to naught. *And then, when all seemed hopeless, I turned my eyes in a new direction. There He stood, arms outstretched, beckoning me. He spoke to me. He touched me.*

Then I understood what I should have always known. Through all the empty years and broken dreams, I never had been alone. He was always there, just waiting for me to call. I closed my eyes and whispered, “God, please help me. Please touch me. Please love me.”

And He heard.

Reprinted from God and You: Person to Person

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





HANDS OF LOVE

*Hands of Love:
August 2015*



**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)

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

And on this 571st 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!



St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

Adult Religious Education Class – Fr. George Tсахakis
Sunday, August 23, 2015

St Paisios the New of Mt Athos

St Paisios the New of Mt Athos (1924 – 1994) was canonized on 13 January 2015 by the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. The Church commemorates Saint Paisios on July 12.



He was one of the greatest and most revered Elders of the Orthodox Church of our time and he was known by his visitors for his gentle manner and acceptance of those who came to receive his advice, counsel, and blessing. He committed himself entirely into the hands of God and God in turn gave him as a light and guide to all who seek the Truth and salvation. His life, miracles, and teachings continue to touch the hearts of people throughout the world to this day. His words of counsel continue to be published in many books.

On July the 12th St Paisios gave his soul into God's keeping. He was buried, according to his wishes, at the Monastery of St. John the Theologian in Souroti where thousands of pilgrims visit his tomb each year.

Adults...

Join us today for our first Religious Education Class for the new year. We will study the life of one of our newest saints!

Classes continue for all our grades! Please join us!

COMMUNITY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Thursday, August 27:

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

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

Saturday, August 29 (Beheading of St. John the Baptist – Strict Fast Day):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

10:30 a.m. Philoptochos Fall Bake Sale – Prepare Tiropites

Sunday, August 30 (13th 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 am Let's EAT!

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!