



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

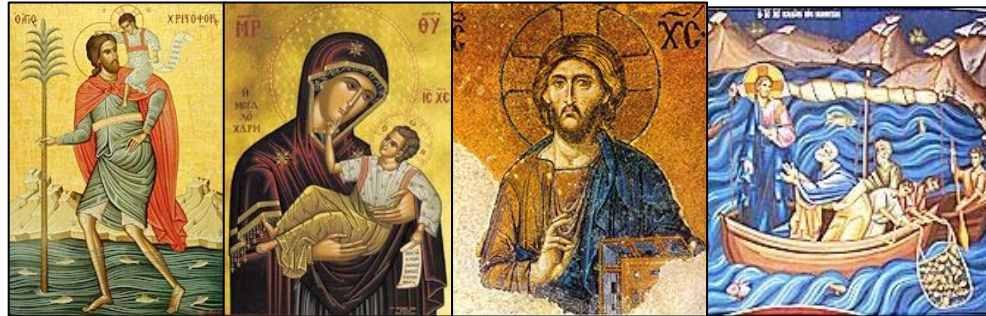
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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, September 25, 2016

ON THIS DAY, THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES Euphrosyne of Alexandria (+536); Paphnoutios the Martyr & his 546 Companions in Egypt (+546); Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos of Evangelistria, Mochos; Our Righteous Father Sergius of Radonezh; Finbar the Confessor, First Bishop of Cork. *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./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the First Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.114-117):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

3. Hymn for Holy Martyr Euphrosyne – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. In you, O Mother, is preserved undistorted what was made in the image of God; for taking up the cross, you followed Christ and by example taught, that we should overlook the flesh, since it passes away, and instead look after the soul, since it is immortal. And therefore, O devout Euphrosyne your spirit rejoices with the angels.

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 – (Hymnal-pp.224-227):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: O unfailling 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 (Mark 16:9-20)

Now after He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons. She went out and told those who had been with Him, while they were mourning and weeping. But when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it. After this He appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them. Later He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and He upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw Him after He had risen. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using My name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover." So then the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it. Amen.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (2 Cor. 1:21-2:4)

²¹But it is God Who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us, ²²by putting His seal on us and giving us His Spirit in our hearts as a first installment. ²³But I call on God as witness against me: it was to spare you that I did not come again to Corinth. ²⁴I do not mean to imply that we lord it over your faith; rather, we are workers with you for your joy, because you stand firm in the faith. ²So I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. ²For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? ³And I wrote as I did, so that when I came, I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice; for I am confident about all of you, that my joy would be the joy of all of you. ⁴For I wrote you out of much distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain, but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 5:1-11)

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on Him to hear the word of God, He saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then He sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if You say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with Him were amazed at the

catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.” When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed Him.

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:

A family brought in two cocoons that were about to hatch. They watched as the first one began to open and the butterfly inside squeezed very slowly and painfully through a tiny hole that it chewed in one end of the cocoon. After lying exhausted for about ten minutes following its agonizing emergence, the butterfly finally flew out the open window on its beautiful new wings.

The family decided to help the second butterfly so that it would not have to go through such an excruciating ordeal. So, as it began to emerge, they carefully sliced open the cocoon with a razor blade, doing the equivalent of a Caesarean section. The second butterfly never did sprout wings, and in about ten minutes, instead of flying away, it quietly died.

The family asked a biologist friend to explain what had happened. The scientist said that the difficult struggle to emerge from the small hole actually pushes liquids from deep inside the butterfly's body cavity into tiny capillaries in the wings where they hardened to complete the healthy and beautiful adult butterfly. *The lesson?* WITHOUT THE STRUGGLE, THERE ARE NO WINGS.

Our Lord Jesus Christ teaches us to love our enemies, do good, and be merciful, just as our Father is merciful. (Luke 6:35-36) *What response do we offer in our day-to-day journey as Christians? Are we willing to struggle to love our enemies and show them mercy?* If so, we join God's Heavenly Hosts, and through His grace, we reach the heights of His Kingdom with the spiritual wings we will have grown in the process. ***Glory to God!***



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

And on this 625th 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!



Hands of Love: September

"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)



Collecting monetary donations to benefit Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology



Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology offers graduate programs of study leading to the degrees of Master of Divinity (M.Div.), Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.), and Master of Theology (Th.M.). It is an accredited graduate school of theology, and as such has become one of the most important institutions of the Orthodox Church in the Western hemisphere. At Holy Cross, education is viewed as an integration of learning and faith. While committed to providing excellence in teaching, learning, and scholarship, the Holy Cross programs also reflect the religious and cultural values of the Greek Orthodox tradition. Holy Cross strives to fulfill the need of the Church to educate each generation of leaders, clergy, and laypersons who, in their chosen professions, will exemplify the values and spirit of Orthodox Christianity. The institution is engaged in a variety of teaching, scholarship, service, and worship activities directed toward developing the intellectual and spiritual potential of students, as well as enabling the faculty to pursue teaching and scholarship in their various disciplines with academic freedom. Thus, it constitutes a unique environment of personal growth and intellectual maturity for those who provide the priestly and lay witness and leadership of Orthodox Christianity in the Western world. Holy Cross is located in the Greater Boston area, the "Athens of America," notable for its numerous colleges and universities. The city is student-oriented and rich in cultural, educational, and athletic opportunities. Our own campus offers a variety of cultural activities and intramural sports. The underlying source of all of our experiences is our deep commitment to our faith and heritage, which allows us to blend a unified vision of the past, present, and future in all that we do.

In July, we collected \$105 for Soldiers Angels. Thank you for your continued support of this program.
Kim Poolos (coordinator)

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 25th (1st Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 am Orthros
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/One Year Memorial – Penelope Spetsios/Memorial Service (7 yrs.) - Kostas Kalloniatis
- 10:30 am GOYA Meeting
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes (for all ages)
- 11:30 am Philoptochos General Meeting
- 1:00 pm Let's EAT™ Join us at Broadway Diner, 535 S. Glynn St., Suite 1009, Fayetteville, GA 30214. Dutch Treat and open to all!

Tuesday, September 27th – Wednesday, September 28th:

Family Meetings with Jerry Minetos – to be scheduled by families

Wednesday, September 28th:

Fr. George will offer Orthros at 8:00 a.m. and Divine Liturgy at 9:00 a.m. at the Archangel Michael Chapel at the Metropolis of Atlanta –please join him!

Thursday, September 29th:

- 6:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, October 2 (2nd Sunday of St. Luke – National Church Musicians Sunday)

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes (*for all ages*)
- 11:00 am GreekFest Meeting for ALL - suggestions to improve for next year! Join us!

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!



***There's still time to support
GreekFest!!***

This Sunday during coffee fellowship, we will be accepting donations for leftover donated beverages. All funds raised will be added to our GreekFest total and go to our Building Fund! Thank you for your support!!