



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

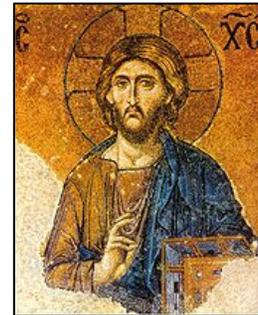
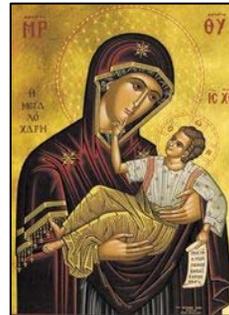
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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 3, 2017

ON THIS DAY, THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES *Holy Martyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedeia (+307); Holy Father Theoctistus and his fellow struggler Euthymius the Great (+467); Polydorus the New-Martyr of New Ephesus (+1794); Translation of the relics of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker, Bishop of Pentopolis; Chariton the Martyr; and Phoebe the Deaconess (1st cent.). 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 (Fourth Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.110-113):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: The joyful news of Your resurrection was proclaimed by the angel to the women disciples. Having thrown off the curse that fell on Adam, they ran elatedly to tell the apostles: Death has been vanquished; Christ our God is risen from the dead, blessing all the world with His great mercy.

3. Hymn for St. Anthimus – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. Becoming a partner with the Apostles in way of life and successor to their thrones, O God-inspired Saint, in the active life you found an entrance to contemplation. Hence you rightly expounded the word of truth, and you shed your blood in struggling for the faith, O Hieromartyr Anthimos. Intercede with Christ our God, beseeching Him to save our souls.

4. Hymn for St. Theoctistus – (Hymnal-pp.136-139):

This hymn is sung after the Small Entrance: Like warm and gentle rain, your tears of compunction made the desert burst forth in bloom. Your patient endurance made your sufferings bear fruit one hundredfold and your wondrous deeds have filled all the world with light. O holy father Theoctistus, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

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 Nativity of the Theotokos – (Hymnal-pp.228-231):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. Your holy birth delivered Joachim and Anna from the reproach of childlessness and liberated Adam and Eve from death's corruption, O Pure One. Thus free from the stain of sin, we, your people, honor your birth, crying out to you: A woman thought barren brings forth the Theotokos who nourishes Christ our life.

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 16:1-8)

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; He is not here. Look, there is the place they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 16:13-24)

1Cor. 16:13 Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. 14 Let all that you do be done in love. 15 Now, brothers and sisters, you know that members of the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; 16 I urge you to put yourselves at the service of such people, and of everyone who works and toils with them. 17 I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; 18 for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. So give recognition to such persons. 19 The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, greet you warmly in the Lord. 20 All the brothers and sisters send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. 21 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. 22 Let anyone be accursed who has no love for the Lord. Our Lord, come! 23 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. 24 My love be with all of you in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 21:33-42)

Matt. 21:33 “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. 34 When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. 35 But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. 37 Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ 38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ 39 So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. 40 Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” 41 They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the

harvest time.” 42 Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?’”

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE

(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“Let the beauty of the LORD our GOD be upon us,
and establish the work of our hands for us.”

(Psalm 90:17)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

In ancient Greece it was customary for peddlers who walked the streets with their wares to cry out, “What do you lack?” The idea was to let people know they were in the vicinity, and also rouse the curiosity of the people. Coming out of their houses they would want to know what the peddler was selling. It might be something they lacked and needed, or simply something they desired.

What do you lack? We may have sight and hearing, but what do we lack? Take an honest inventory of yourself. Have you found contentment? Are you close enough to God to receive His guidance and strength? Have you secured peace of heart and peace of mind, invaluable assets in life? Deciding what we lack is the first step in

securing it. Christ can fulfill our needs – needs that are to some extent physical, but, more so, the deepest needs of heart, mind, and soul.

Our Lord Jesus Christ encountered those who were deaf. They lacked the physical ability to hear. But many of us lack the spiritual ability to hear. We suffer a kind of a spiritual deafness. The affliction of not listening to people, or, to put it another way, the affliction of physically listening to people, yet failing to comprehend, to understand, and come to grips with what they are saying, is a plague upon the Church. For, you see, it is possible to listen to a person, yet fail to really hear them.

To carry this notion of proper spiritual understanding further, I encourage you to reflect on the question, “Who Is Our True Leader?” Amidst so much international, national, and local debate about whom to follow and whom to select as our leaders, I hope you will consider reflecting upon what our world truly lacks . . . the acknowledgment and faithful response to our one true leader – our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ.



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Tickets and Sponsorships Needed

Purchase online at:

www.PeachtreeCityGreekFest.org



Online Volunteer Sign-Ups now available. Please visit:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0C49A8AB2AA AFC1-greekfest1,

Access Code is GF2017



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)



All Sundays in September: Holy Cross School of Theology

Hands of Love, a ministry of our Philoptochos Society will be accepting monetary donations to benefit the School.



Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts offers graduate programs leading to advanced degrees in Divinity and Theology.

At Holy Cross, the only Greek Orthodox School of Theology in the United States, education is an **integration of learning and faith**. Its programs reflect the religious and cultural values of the **Hellenic Orthodox tradition**.

Holy Cross strives to fulfill the need to educate the **next generation of leaders, clergy, and laypersons** who will exemplify the values and spirit of Orthodox Christianity in their chosen professions. Learning, teaching, service, and worship activities develop the intellectual and spiritual potential of students. The School affords the faculty with **academic freedom** to pursue teaching and scholarship.

"For as rain comes down, or snow from heaven, and does not return until it saturates the earth, and it brings forth and produces, and gives seed to the sower and bread for food, so shall My word be, whatever proceeds from My mouth. It shall not return until it accomplishes whatever I willed, and I shall prosper your ways and My commandments." (Isaiah 55:10-11)

Yours in Christ,
Anna Andreeva Naydenova, Hands of Love Coordinator

On this the 671st 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, September 3rd (13th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship (*Holiday Weekend - no Religious Education Classes today due to holiday weekend*)

Monday, September 4th – Labor Day Holiday

Thursday, September 7th (Eve of Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos):

5:00 pm Great Vespers Service

5:45 pm Divine Liturgy (Evening), followed by Community Dinner
(*fasting food please*)

Friday, September 8th (Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos):

(*Church services offered on the Eve of the Feast – September 7th*)

6:30 pm Fundraising/Building Committee Meeting

Saturday, September 9th:

9:00 am PTC GreekFest Baking of Kourambiedes, Koulourakia, Baklava, & Melomakarona (*come join us and help*)

9:00 am Fundraising/Building Committee Meeting (Tentative)

Sunday, September 10th (Sunday Before Exaltation of the Holy Cross):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

10:45 am Religious Education Classes (*for all grades*)

11:30 am Parish Council Special Presentation to Parish, with Parish Council Meeting to follow

12:30 pm PTC GreekFest Baking of Kourambiedes, Koulourakia, Baklava, & Melomakarona (*if needed*)

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!