



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org

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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, July 22, 2018

ON THIS DAY, THE EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES Mary Magdalene, the Holy Myrrh-bearer and Equal to the Apostles and Markella, the Virgin-martyr of Chios (16th 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 (Grave Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.122-125):

It is sung *before and after* the Small Entrance: By Your Cross, O Lord, You destroyed death; to the thief You opened paradise. The myrrhbearers' sorrow You transformed into joy, and You sent Your apostles forth to proclaim that You had risen from the dead, Christ our God, bestowing on all the world Your great mercy.

3. Hymn of Mary Magdalene – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: You followed Christ the Lord, who was born of the Virgin for us, and kept His laws, and you lived by His statutes; and thus as we celebrate your all-holy memorial, Mary Magdalene, today with faith we extol you, O most blessed Saint, and with divine love and longing we honor your memory.

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 unfailing 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 (1 Cor. 1:10-17)

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Gal. 3:23-4:5)

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise. ⁴My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; ²but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. ³So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a

woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

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

¹⁴When He went ashore, He saw a great crowd; and He had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸And He said, “Bring them here to Me.” ¹⁹Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. ²²Immediately He made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

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:

Amidst our daily life, I encourage us to “praise” God for being a part of the majesty of His Kingdom, and glorify Him for His countless blessings that we often take for granted and perhaps which we are even unaware. Indeed, our LORD loves it when we praise Him.

In Psalm 22:3 (KJV), we read: “*But Thou art holy, O Thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.*” In this verse, we see a picture of “God inhabiting the praises of His people”. The Hebrew meaning of “inhabitest” is a depiction of the Lord *sitting down and dwelling*. This notion is even clearer in the contemporary *New King James translation* for this same verse: “*But You are holy, enthroned in the praises of Israel.*” Think about that – our Lord fully embraces and willingly

unites with our voices of praise – an awesome privilege for us His servants . . . beyond compare more valuable than having an audience with any famous world leader or popular Hollywood star of today.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, the word “praise” occurs nearly 300 times in Holy Scripture. Interestingly, a vast majority of those references are in the *Old Testament Book of Psalms*, including:

“I will be glad and exult in You; I will sing praise to Your Name, O Most High.” (Psalm 9:2 NRSV)

“I will tell of Your Name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.” (Psalm 22:22 NRSV)

“You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him; stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel!” (Psalm 22:23 NRSV)

“Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright.” Psalm 33:1 NRSV)

“He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.” (Psalm 40:3 NRSV)

“Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD; praise the Name of the LORD.” (Psalm 113:1 NRSV)

Today’s news reports, daily communications, and conversations with our friends and family often seem to emphasize catastrophic and evil events that paint the world as a hopeless place to live. *Think about your own experience . . . Are the waters too deep for you? Are you lonely? Discouraged? Do you find yourself even doubting whether or not God hears your prayers or cares about your troubles?* Every time you try to “look on the bright side,” is a dark future all you see? Maybe it is time to *praise* God and ask Him to *come and dwell in your life*. How about taking this step right here, right now, and yes, committing to it forever?

My friends, when it begins to rain in your life, *praise* God. When you feel like giving up, *praise* Him. I assure you that He is always in the midst of it all;

indeed, God is always with us! In any storm that occurs in our life, **God is still God**, no matter where we find ourselves or how much we may fear, doubt, or worry. By praising God in the midst of our struggles, we will encounter the presence of the One Who fully embraces and unites with us through our voices of praise to Him.

Someone once observed: *“The ornaments of your house will be the guests who frequent it.”* I promise you that when God *“inhabits your praise”* (Psalm 22:3 KJV), He will turn your life around. Amen!



PLAYGROUND WORKDAY

Saturday, July 28th

9:00 AM

First Class Workers Needed for a Real Hands-On Experience (Construction of the mulch retaining structure, mulching to create a “safety surface” for the playground, and installation of the Playground fence). The children cannot use the playground until this “checklist” is completed.



Please RSVP: George Psihountas,
george.psihountas@gapac.com, or Susan Kleto,
sbkleto@gmail.com, to join the fun!

Thank You!



Thanks to our parishioners and friends who have pledged in writing to support our Building Fund Campaign as of 7/20/18. If we inadvertently left your name off, please forgive us and bring to the attention of Tom Farmakis so we can correct. For those who have not yet submitted a written pledge, please consider doing so today. Pledge forms are in the Pangari and we welcome everyone's support – both within and outside our parish.

Lazo & Pauline Papavassiliou-Bajic
Pat Bassett
Justin & Alexa Burley
Stephen & Becky Butler
Michael & Maria Cahill
Michael & Donna Chan
Athanasios & Mildred
Christodoulou
Charles Costas
Mahany & Cynthia Cromartie
Matina Cummings
Johnny & Jeanie Ellinas
Gail Ericsson
Tom & Ellen Farmakis
Andrew Farmakis
Faye Georgeo
Mary Ann Gonis
Emmanuel & Kim Haldopoulos
Chris & Shannon Johns
Theo & Yoly Kazadzis
Dina Kearns
Thomas Kearns
Peter & Susan Kleto
Georgia Lamas
Charlie & Georgia Lungaro
Alec & Pat MacDougall
Paulette Malloy
Tony & Jeanie McGee

Evangelos & Emilia Moraitis
Maria Panagi
Kirk & Dedee Panayis
Randy & Anna Pelky
Peter & Julie Poulos
George & Helen Psihountas
Mary Ramsaier
Peggy Sagy
Fotis & Effie Sakkas
Steve & Jackie Sarantis
Eva Sarantis
George & Julie Skouteris
James & Claudia Sliwinski
Costas & Tammy Soulakos
Angelique Soulakos
John Soulakos
Robert & Lia Spezzano
Alexandra Tagalos
Frank Tagalos
Marko & Milena Taylor
Steve & Pam Theodorakis
Victor & Julie Torres
Fr. George & Presbyteria Marinda
Tсахakis
Yiannis & Sheryl Vasiliadis
Bill & Isabelle Wiley
Steven & Katherine Wilson
George & Cathy Zavlanos

To facilitate the installation of a **new air conditioner**, volunteers are needed today after the Divine Liturgy to move the items out of the upstairs storage space and Thursday (7/26) at 6:00 pm to move the items back to storage. There isn't an overwhelming amount of "stuff" to move, so please stay to help Sunday and come Thursday to help. A HUGE THANK YOU! to Stephen Sarantis for overseeing this effort!



On this the 715th 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!

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

COMMUNITY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 22 (8th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

10:15 am Coffee Fellowship Reception

10:45 am Volunteers Help Prepare for AC Repair (*see above*)

Thursday, July 26:

6:00 pm Volunteers Help Restore Items to Storage after AC Repair (*see above*)

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Saturday, July 28:

9:00 am Playground Workday (*see inside bulletin*)

Sunday, July 29 (9th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

10:15 am Coffee Fellowship Reception

10:45 am GreekFest Meeting

Noon Let's EAT! Join us at Broadway Diner, 535 S. Glynn St., Fayetteville

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!