



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



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Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tsahakis, *Chancellor*

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, October 22, 2017

ON THIS DAY, THE 6TH SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES Abercius, Equal-to-the-Apostles and Wonderworker of Hierapolis (+167); Seven Holy Martyred Youths of Ephesus (+250); and Cecilia the Martyr. *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 (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.

3. Hymn Commemorating St. Abercius – (see handout):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. The actual facts of your life manifested you to your flock as a rule of faith and an icon of gentleness and a teacher of self-control. By humility, therefore, you acquired the things on high, and riches through poverty. Father holy hierarch Abercius, intercede with Christ our God, entreating Him to save our souls.

4. Hymn Commemorating the 7 Holy Youths of Ephesus – (see handout):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, 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 – (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 (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 (Gal. 1:11-19)

¹¹For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; ¹²for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹³You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. ¹⁴I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. ¹⁵But when God, Who had set me apart before I was born and called me through His grace, was pleased ¹⁶to reveal His Son to me, so that I might proclaim Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being, ¹⁷nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus. ¹⁸Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days; ¹⁹but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord’s brother.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 8:26-39)

Luke 8:26 Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. Luke 8:27 As He stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met Him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. 28 When he saw Jesus, he fell down before Him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have You to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me” — 29 for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept

under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) 30 Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. 31 They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. 32 Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So He gave them permission. 33 Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. 34 When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. 35 Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. 36 Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. 37 Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So He got into the boat and returned. 38 The man from whom the demons had gone begged that He might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 39 “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

God equips us for His service through Holy Scripture. St. Paul wrote to young Timothy: ¹⁶*“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.”* (2 Tim. 3:16-17)

How does the Bible teach, reproof, correct, and train in righteousness? A modern parable wisely explains it:

An elderly man lived on a farm in the mountains of eastern Tennessee with his young grandson. Each morning, Grandpa was up early reading from his old worn-out Bible.

His grandson, who wanted to be just like him, tried to imitate him in any way he could. One day the grandson asked, “Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you, but I don’t understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?”

The grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said, “Take this coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water.”

The boy did as he was told, even though all the water leaked out before he could get back to the house.

The grandfather laughed and said, “You will have to move a little faster next time,” and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again.

This time the boy ran faster, but again the basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was “impossible to carry water in a basket,” and he went to get a bucket instead.

The grandfather said, “I don’t want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You can do this. You’re just not trying hard enough,” and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got far at all. The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty. Out of breath, he said, “See Papa, it’s useless!”

“So you think it is useless?” The old man said, “Look at the basket.”

The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked *different*. Instead of a dirty old coal basket, it was clean.

“Son, that’s what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out.”

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE

(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“²Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. ³At the same time pray for us as well that God will open to us a door for the word, that we may declare the mystery of Christ, for which I am in prison, ⁴so that I may reveal it clearly, as I should.” (Col. 4:2-4)



Hands of Love:
October

ST. JOHN THE
Eastern Orthodox



WONDERWORKER
Church in America

“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 October: Loaves and Fishes Program

The **Loaves and Fishes Program** is an important all-inclusive ministry of Saint John the Wonderworker Orthodox Church near Grant Park, in Atlanta. It is supported by all Orthodox churches of greater Atlanta with the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios. The program provides **two hot meals a day** to those in need, as well as a **monthly distribution of bags of groceries** to individuals and families. For more information: www.saintjohnwonderworker.org

Hands of Love, a ministry of our **Philoptochos Society** will be accepting **grocery store gift cards** and **non-perishable food items** for this cause.

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

“And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among them all. So they all ate and were filled. And they took up twelve baskets full of fragments and of the fish. Now those who had eaten the loaves were about five thousand men” Mark 6:41-44





SAINT CHRISTOPHER HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Philoptochos Society Fall Pastry / Appetizer Sale

"To promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach to preserve the sanctity of life and family and to perpetuate and promote our Orthodox faith and traditions."

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Order Deadline: November 10, 2017

Pickup Dates: Friday, November 17th – 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm @ Church Address

Saturday, November 18th – 9:00 am - 12:00 pm @ Church Address

On this *the 678th* 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 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 22nd (6th Sunday of St. Luke)

- 7:45 am Orthros Service**
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy**
- 10:45 am Religious Education Classes (for all ages)**

Wednesday, October 25th (Eve of the Feast of St. Demetrios the Myrrh-Streamer & Anniversary of the Founding of our Parish):

- 5:00 pm Great Vespers**
- 5:45 pm Divine Liturgy (Evening), followed by Community Dinner (n.f.)**

Thursday, October 26th:

- 6:00 pm Tiropita Batter Prep for Philoptochos Fall Pastry/Appetizer Sale**
- 6:30 pm Choir Practice**

Saturday, October 28th:

- 6:00 pm Tiropita Rolling for Philoptochos Fall Pastry/Appetizer Sale**

Sunday, October 29th (7th Sunday of St. Luke/Anniversary/Stewardship Sunday)

- 7:45 am Orthros Service**
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy**
- 10:15 am Religious Education Classes (for all ages)**
- 10:45 am 15th Anniversary of our Parish Founding Luncheon**

Visit <http://saintchristopherhoc.org/Calendar> to view additional dates...

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!