



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 17, 2017

ON THIS DAY, THE SUNDAY AFTER THE FEAST OF THE UNIVERSAL CELEBRATION OF THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY, PRECIOUS, AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST, we commemorate Saint Sophia, and her three daughters, Faith, Hope & Love (+137) and Herakleides & Myron, Bishops of Crete. *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. 2nd Antiphon Hymn Commemorating the Holy Cross – (Hymnal-p. 28):

This hymn replaces hymn on pgs. 28-29. Save us, O Son of God, Who was crucified in the flesh, as we sing to you, Alleluia.

2./4. Hymn for Feast of the Holy Cross – (Hymnal-pp.180-181):

This hymn, "Save, O Lord" – is sung before and after the Small Entrance. It is sung during the festal commemoration of the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross and also on the occasion of the Veneration of the Holy Cross on the Third Sunday of Great Lent. Save, O Lord Your people and bless Your inheritance. Give victory to those who battle evil and protect us all by Your Holy Cross.

3. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the Second Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.118-121):

It is sung before and after the Small Entrance: The angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it became as dead men, and Mary stood at Your grave seeking Your most pure body. But You made hell a captive; You were untouched by its might. You came to the Virgin and granted life. O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

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 Feast of the Holy Cross – (Hymnal-pp.232-235):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. Bestow Your mercies on the people called by Your Name, Christ God, Who freely let Yourself be raised on the Cross. To all who battle evil give joy in Your power, by gracing them with victory over every foe, for having You as their ally they possess a weapon of peace, an invincible trophy of victory.

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 (Luke 24:1-12)

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how He told you, while He was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” Then they remembered His words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Galatians 2:16-20)

...yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is

Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Mark 8:34-9:1)

He called the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become My followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

*"Educate your children in the way in which they should go, and when they are grown, they will not depart from it."
(Proverbs 22:6)*

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Thank you, God, that I can see. There are thousands who cannot see. For them, there is no sunrise or sunset; no autumn colors, no rainbow-tinted flowers, no movies, no delights of the eye.

Thank you, God, that I can hear. There are thousands who cannot hear the voice of their own mother, nor the singing of the birds, nor the radio, nor the laughter of children.

Thank you, God, that I can walk. How brave are those who live life without the use of their legs and are confined to a wheel chair, or even paralyzed from the waist down.

Thank you, God, that I can work. Look at the many who can do nothing with “brain or brawn or hands.” There are so many who have been laid off due to the economy and the fear of uncertain times.

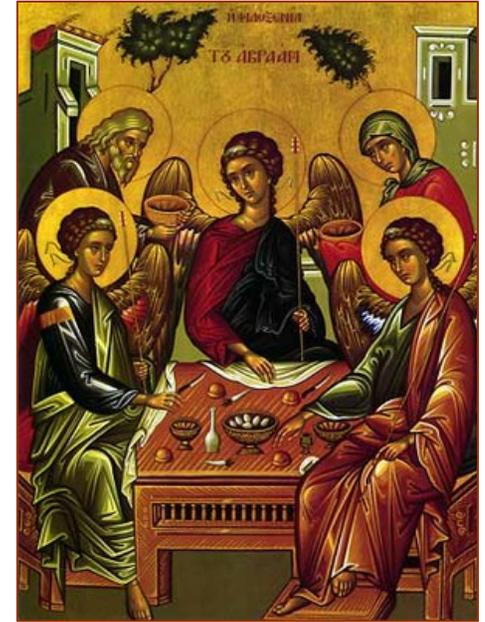
Thank you, God, that I have something to eat. Millions as good as I, maybe even better, have little or nothing to eat. Thousands are dying of hunger, while I never miss a meal and enjoy the comforts of my home and family.

Thank you, God, for my Orthodox Faith, which teaches me to be thankful and to seek Your will in all that I do each day.

Thank you, God, for the freedom to worship You as You wish to be worshipped.

Thank you, God, for our beautiful Church and our comfortable home.

Thank you, God, for the privilege of attending the Divine Liturgy every Sunday and on special Feast Days.



Thank you, God, for permitting me to confess my sins and receive Your Divine Gifts, the Body and Blood of Your only Begotten Son and our Lord Jesus Christ.

For all these and more, O Lord, I thank You!

Special Petition for College Students

Again we pray, for the hearts, the minds, and the lips of our college students, that they may receive the power of Your law and successfully comprehend the useful things which will be taught them, and so they will understand Your perfect will and contribute to the building up of Your Holy Church. Deliver them from every snare of the enemy, preserve them in the true faith in righteousness and purity all the days of their lives, that they may grow in wisdom and in the observance of Your commandments, and may be revealed as worshipers of Your name and heirs of Your Kingdom. Bless also their teachers, O Lord, bless the Orthodox Christian Fellowship, its chaplains, student leaders and beneficiaries; and may they always proclaim the word of Your truth.



Thanks to our parishioners for coming together in Christian fellowship to offer our friends and neighbors this important event.

Our special thanks to our GreekFest Tri-Chairs, Dina Tagalos Kearns, Julie Skouteris, & Tammy Soulakos. We appreciate your great efforts.



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


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On this *the 673rd* 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 17th (Sunday after Exaltation of Holy Cross):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

10:30 am PTC GreekFest Clean up and Lunch at Falcon Field Hangar

Tuesday, September 19th:

6:00 pm Paraklesis Service at church (We will pray for the health
And welfare of all)

7:15 pm Dinner after Paraklesis Service at Zoe's Restaurant ("Dutch Treat")

Wednesday, September 20th:

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. Address is 2480 Clairmont Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329. Everyone welcome.

Thursday, September 21st:

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, September 24th (1st Sunday of St. Luke):

7:45 am Orthros

9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Two Years Memorial – Penelope Spetsios/
Memorial Service (8 yrs.) - Kostas Kalloniatis

10:45 am Religious Education Classes (for all ages)

12:00 pm Let's EAT™ Join us at Broadway Diner, 535 S. Glynn St., Suite
1009, Fayetteville, GA 30214. Dutch Treat and open to all!

*Your continued support
and mutual encouragement
are essential and appreciated!*