



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

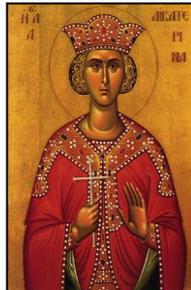
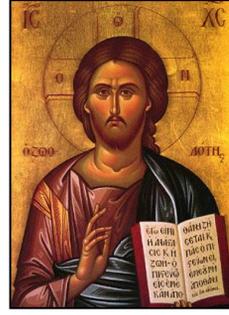
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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. Tshakis, *Chancellor*

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, November 25, 2018

ON THIS DAY, THE LEAVE-TAKING OF THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE THEOTOKOS IN THE TEMPLE, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES Holy Great Martyr Katherine (+311); the Holy 50 orators who through St. Katherine believed in Christ and perished by fire; the Holy Queen, wife of Maxentios, who died by the sword; St. Porphyrios the Commander, along with 200 soldiers who were put to the sword; and Holy Great Martyr Mercurios (+249-251). *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./3. Hymn for the Feast of the Theotokos – (Hymnal-pp.182-185):

It is sung *before* the Great Doxology and *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: Today is the prelude of God's generosity, the herald of the coming of salvation for all mankind. In the temple of God the Virgin is revealed to all, her presence foretelling the coming of Christ. With all our hearts let us, therefore, cry out to her: Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's plan.

2. Resurrectional Hymn (First Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.98-101):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: Although Your tomb was sealed with a stone, O Savior, and Your most pure body was guarded by the soldiers, You rose on the third day giving life to all the world. Therefore, O giver of life, the powers of heaven praise You: Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Your kingdom. Glory to Your saving wisdom, O only lover of mankind.

4. Hymn for Great Martyr Katherine– (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: Let us praise and extol the all-lauded Bride of Christ, the Protectress of Sinai, divine Saint Catherine, as the one who gives aid and her assistance to us; for she brilliantly suppressed the impious orators, with the sword of the Spirit. And being crowned as a martyr, she asks that all receive the great mercy.

5. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (not in Hymnal):

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 Feast of the Theotokos (11/21) – (Hymnal-pp.236-239):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: Behold the temple of the Savior, His precious bridal chamber. Behold the virginal and sacred vessel of God's glory. Today she enters into the house of the Lord, bearing within her the grace of the Holy Spirit. For this, the angels exclaim: She is indeed the heavenly tabernacle.

7. Megalynarion (Hymn to the Theotokos) – (not in Hymnal):

On the occasion of the feast of the Theotokos, the following hymn is sung instead of "Axion Estin" or "Truly it is proper to call you blessed..." When they saw the Entry of the Virgin Maiden, the Angels were astonished, at how she entered with glory into the Holy of Holies. Now let no uninitiated hand approach the living Ark of God to touch it. Rather let believers' lips sing out in exultation the Angel's salutation unceasingly to the Theotokos and cry out: You, O pure and virgin Maiden, are truly superior to all.

8. Communion Hymn – (Hymnal-pp.324):

On the occasion of the feast of the Theotokos, the following hymn is sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord": "I will lift the cup of salvation, and call on the Name of the Lord. (Ps. 115[116]). Alleluia."

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY

<p><i>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.</i></p>	<p>– St. John Chrysostom</p>
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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 (Gal. 3:23-4:5)

Gal. 3:23 Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. 27 As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There 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. 29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise. Gal. 4:1 My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; 2 but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. 3 So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. 4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 18:18-27)

A certain ruler asked Him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but God

alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honor your father and mother.'” He replied, “I have kept all these since my youth.” When Jesus heard this, He said to him, “There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow Me.” But when he heard this, he became sad; for he was very rich. Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” He replied, “What is impossible for mortals is possible for God.”

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

*This Thanksgiving, as Christians, let us see God especially in our heart. We are created in His image, and in a pure heart one can see the image of the invisible God. Our heart is the altar where God meets humankind and enters a dialogue with us. God speaks to our heart and our heart answers back to God. True faith is *not* the knowledge and the confession of certain religious thoughts. God is not a subject to be studied and to be known by our mind. We need to speak to Him as “Our Father,” and to listen to Him as His children. God desires a personal father-child relationship.*

With our families, we thank God for bringing us together in His Body as a community, not as individuals, but as members of the one Church, the one people of God, the one Body of Christ. In this community of faith, as brothers and sisters in God, we help each other, and together draw strength and grace from God to continue the struggles of our daily life. In our worship, and particularly in the Divine Liturgy, we live together with the saints, with our family and friends who have preceded us, and with Christ. We partake of His heavenly gifts of divine grace. Thus, we experience the Kingdom of God upon

earth, and we anticipate its fulfillment at the Second Coming of the Lord. *This is the reason why Christ came into the world to call us back to God, to His eternal Kingdom. On this Thanksgiving Day, may we join together and praise and thank God for His precious gifts. And I thank you for your support, encouragement, and commitment to serving in God's Holy Vineyard.*



Hands of Love: November

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.^a (Deut. 15:11)



All Sundays in November: Ecumenical Patriarchate Charities

Hands of Love, a ministry of our Philoptochos Society, will be accepting monetary donations to support the charities of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

The Ecumenical Patriarchate in Istanbul, Turkey is the seat of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, *primus inter pares* or “first among equals” with the other leaders of the various Orthodox Churches.



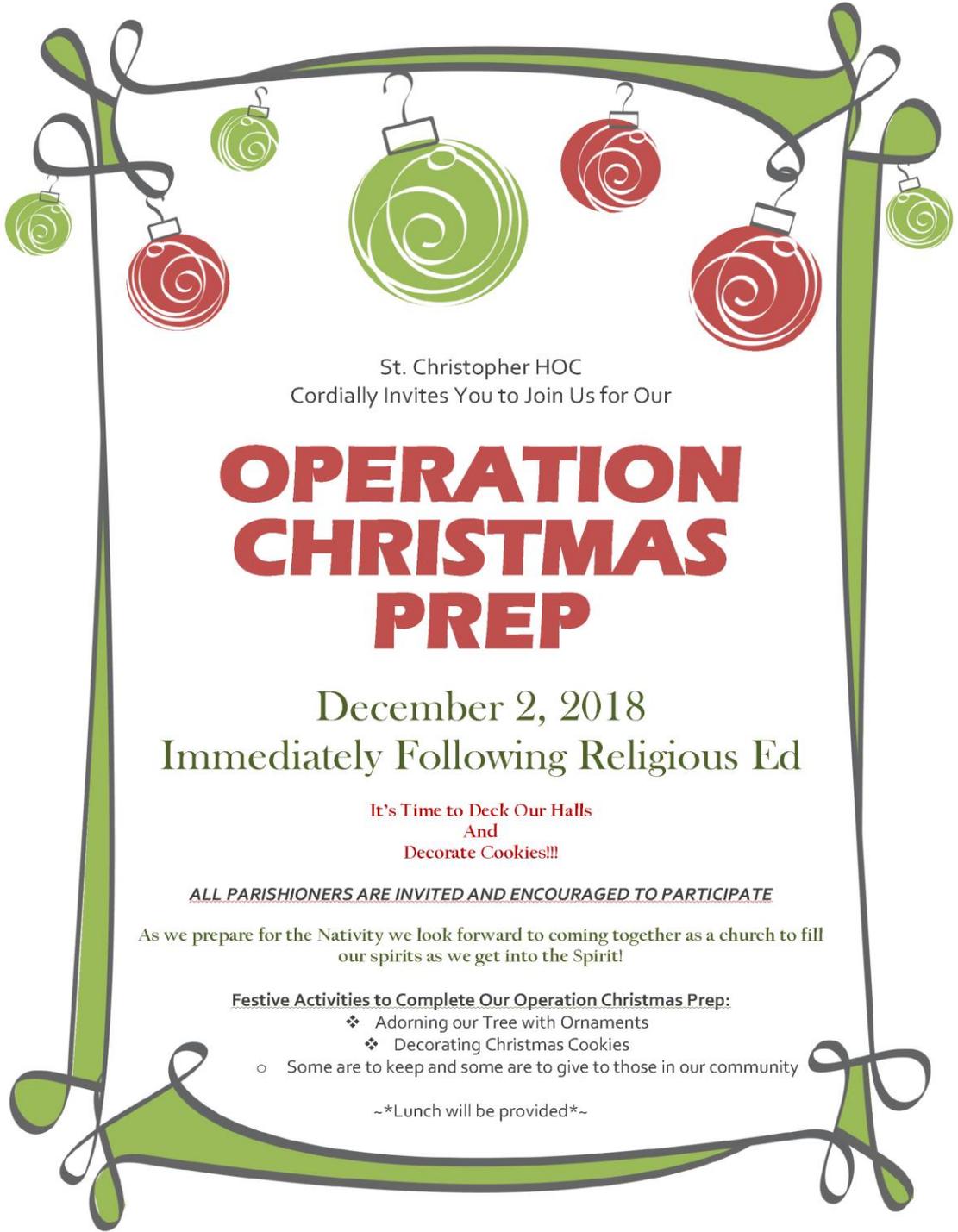
His All Holiness is the direct administrative superior of dioceses and archdioceses serving believers in modern day Turkey, South and North America, West Europe, Australia and New Zealand as well as Mount Athos. For more information about the Ecumenical Patriarchate please visit:

<https://www.patriarchate.org>

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



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St. Christopher HOC
Cordially Invites You to Join Us for Our

OPERATION CHRISTMAS PREP

December 2, 2018
Immediately Following Religious Ed

**It's Time to Deck Our Halls
And
Decorate Cookies!!!**

ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE

As we prepare for the Nativity we look forward to coming together as a church to fill our spirits as we get into the Spirit!

Festive Activities to Complete Our Operation Christmas Prep:

- ❖ Adorning our Tree with Ornaments
- ❖ Decorating Christmas Cookies
- Some are to keep and some are to give to those in our community

~*Lunch will be provided*~

On this the 731st 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!

Philoptochos Coffee Fellowship Today

Honors

Christina Psihountas & Andrew Eisenhart

who will be married on Saturday, December 29th

We pray God blesses your upcoming marriage with many years of good health, joy, and Spirit-filled life. We are very proud of you.



Christina & Andrew

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Nativity Fast continues through December 24

Sunday, November 25 (13th Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/40 Day Memorial – Fr. Petros Kopsahilis, Former Chancellor of Metropolis of Atlanta
- 10:30 a.m. Philoptochos Coffee Fellowship Honoring Christina Psihountas & Andrew Eisenhart
- 10:30 a.m. Deadline for Board of Elections to Receive P.C. Election Nominations
- 11:00 a.m. Let's EAT!

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!