



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 Wednesday, May 9, 2018

ON THIS DAY, WE COMMEMORATE the Holy and Glorious Prophet Isaiah; the Holy Martyr Christopher of Lycia, who is the Patron Saint of our Parish; the Holy Martyrs Epimachos and Gordian of Rome; the Holy Martyrs Callinica and Aquilina, who believed in Christ through St. Christopher and were perfected in martyrdom, the first being pierced with a long spit from foot to shoulder and the second being hanged by the hair of her head with a heavy stone tied to her feet. *Through their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.*

Welcome, Visitors and Newcomers, to our Parish!

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./9. Hymn for the Feast of Pascha (our Lord's passover from death to life):

Sung three times after the opening of the Divine Liturgy, before the Small Entrance, and after the distribution of Holy Communion: Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

3. Small Entrance Exclamation of the Priest:

On the occasion of today's feast, the Priest intones the following at the Small Entrance: "In your choirs, bless the Lord, you of Israel's wellspring. Save us, O Son of God, who did rise from the dead, we sing to You: Alleluia!"

4. Hymn for Mid-Pentecost – (Hymnal-pp.166-167):

Sung at the end of Great Vespers and after the Small Entrance: In the midst of this Paschal season, Savior, let my thirsty soul partake of the waters of true worship; for You call out inviting all: Let those who thirst come to me and drink. O Fountain of Life, Christ our God, glory to You.

5. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (see music distributed):

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 of Pascha – (not in Hymnal):

Sung after the Small Entrance: The feast according to the Law at its midpoint, O Christ our God, as the Creator and Master of everything, You said to all those who were present there, "Come that you might draw from Me the water of immortality." Hence with faith we cry to You as we prostrate before You. Your tender mercies grant to us, we pray. You are the fountain and source of our life, O Lord.

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

Today, the following hymn is sung instead of "Axion Estin" or "Truly it is proper to call you blessed...": Virginité is a state alien to mothers, and childbirth is foreign to those who are virgins. But in you, Theotokos, have both of these been accomplished. And therefore we of every race on earth unceasingly pronounce you blest.

8. Communion Hymn – (not in Hymnal):

On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord": He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. So said the Lord.

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S 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

Epistle Reading (Acts 13:13-24)

¹³Then Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. John, however, left them and returned to Jerusalem; ¹⁴but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. ¹⁵After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it." ¹⁶So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak: "You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. ¹⁷The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm He led them out of it. ¹⁸For about forty years He put up with them in the wilderness. ¹⁹After He had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He gave them their land as an inheritance ²⁰for about four hundred fifty years. After that He gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. ²¹Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. ²²When He had removed him, He made David their king. In His testimony about him He said, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after My heart, who will carry out all My wishes.' ²³Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as He promised; ²⁴before His coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel.

Gospel Reading (John 6:5-14)

⁵When He looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward Him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for He Himself knew what He was going to do. ⁷Philip answered Him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and

two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks, He distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, He told His disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that He had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the Prophet Who is to come into the world."

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On this the 15th Feast of St. Christopher the Martyr in our 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

Wednesday, May 9: (Patronal Feast Day Celebration):

5:30 p.m. Great Vespers (note later starting time)

6:15 p.m. Evening Divine Liturgy (note later starting time)

7:15 p.m. Community Fellowship Dinner (fasting food, oil/wine permitted)

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!



All women of our parish
will be honored on
Mother's Day,
Sunday, May 13, 2018

Our men will offer a hearty luncheon
in their honor after church services...

We hope you and your family will join us for
this special occasion.



RSVP ONLY if you CANNOT come by emailing Kirk Parson,
kparson@caliso.com, or telephone, 347-289-8124.