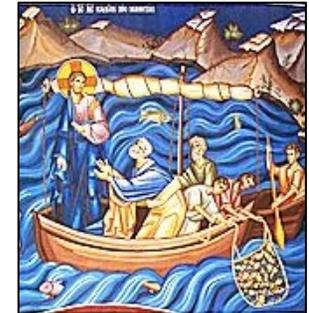




GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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, June 10, 2018

ON THIS DAY, THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, WE COMMEMORATE Alexander and Antonina the Martyrs; Timothy, Bishop of Proussa; Theophanes & Pansemne of Antioch; our Holy Father Gregory, Bishop of Assos; and the Holy Martyrs of China. *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 (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.

3. 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.

4. Kontakion – (Hymnal-pp.224-227):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: O unflinching 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

<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> – St. John Chrysostom</p>

Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (Mark 16:1-8)

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the

entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; He is not here. Look, there is the place they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Epistle Reading (Romans 2:10-16)

¹⁰but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. ¹¹For God shows no partiality. ¹²All who have sinned apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. ¹³For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous in God's sight, but the doers of the law who will be justified. ¹⁴When Gentiles, who do not possess the law, do instinctively what the law requires, these, though not having the law, are a law to themselves. ¹⁵They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, to which their own conscience also bears witness; and their conflicting thoughts will accuse or perhaps excuse them ¹⁶on the day when, according to my gospel, God, through Jesus Christ, will judge the secret thoughts of all.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 4:18-23)

¹⁸As He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fish for people." ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. ²¹As He went from there, He saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and He called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. ²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“The Lord is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed. O save Your people, and bless Your heritage; be their shepherd, and carry them forever.” (*Psalm 28:8-9*)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

“People were bringing little children to Him in order that He might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to Me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.’”

As sons and daughters of our Lord, Jesus Christ instructs us not to do anything to prevent our children – whether our babies or young children – from knowing the grace and power of Jesus! Even more than that, we must actively encourage and help the Lord's “little children” to find their place in Jesus' family, have their needs fulfilled by Jesus' grace, and use their gifts as part of Jesus' Body.



Prayer for Our Parish Families in Support of Our Youth:

O Heavenly Father, thank You for our precious children. Please help me to never put off a child who needs to know Your love. Help me and use me, O Lord, to show all our youth Your love and help them grow in Your image and likeness to serve for your glory. May Your Holy Spirit guide me in my responsibilities with a spirit of love and mercy.

May all children live a life of love and share that love with those around them. May they always be strong and courageous in their character and in their actions. Help them to do what is right and just and fair. Grant that they will learn responsibility,

and help them to live a life of thankfulness. Give them health and strength and show them Your path. Take them into Your arms and bless them as You embraced children when You visited us on earth. Hear their prayers each day, and ever remind them that You are always with them. Make them sleep in peace and awaken in the morning to love You and serve You. For to You we give glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Synaxis of the Saints of North America - June 10, 2018

(continued from back cover)

Missionary efforts continued in the nineteenth century, with outreach to the native peoples of Alaska. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were Saint Innocent Veniaminov (March 31 and October 6) and Saint Jacob Netsvetov (July 26), who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Father Jacob Netsvetev died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Father John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow.

As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, an event of enormous significance for the North American Church took place. On March 25, 1891, Bishop Vladimir went to Minneapolis to receive Saint Alexis Toth (May 7) and 361 of his parishioners into the Orthodox Church. This was the beginning of the return of many Uniates to Orthodoxy.

Saint Tikhon (Belavin), the future Patriarch of Moscow (April 7, October 9), came to America as Bishop of the Diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. As the only Orthodox bishop on the continent, Saint Tikhon traveled extensively throughout North America in order to minister to his widely scattered and diverse flock. He realized that the local church here could not be a permanent extension of the Russian Church. Therefore, he focused his efforts on giving the American Church a diocesan and parish structure which would help it mature and grow.

Saint Tikhon returned to Russia in 1907, and was elected as Patriarch of Moscow ten years later. He died in 1925, and for many years his exact burial place remained unknown. Saint Tikhon's grave was discovered on February 22, 1992 in the smaller Cathedral of Our Lady of the Don in the Don Monastery when a fire made renovation of the church necessary.

Saint Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27) was the first Orthodox Bishop to be consecrated in North America. Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny was consecrated by Bishop Tikhon and Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) at Saint Nicholas Cathedral in New York on March 13,

1904. As Bishop of Brooklyn, Saint Raphael was a trusted and capable assistant to Saint Tikhon in his archpastoral ministry. Saint Raphael reposed on February 27, 1915.

The first All American Council took place March 5-7, 1907 at Mayfield, PA, and the main topic was "How to expand the mission." Guidelines and directions for missionary activity and statutes for the administrative structure of parishes were also set forth.

In the twentieth century, in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution, countless men, women, and children received the crown of martyrdom rather than renounce Christ. Saints John Kochurov (October 31) and Alexander Hotovitzky (December 4 and August 7) both served the Church in North America before going back to Russia. Saint John became the first clergyman to be martyred in Russia on October 31, 1917 in Saint Petersburg. Saint Alexander Hotovitzky, who served in America until 1914, was killed in 1937.

In addition to the saints listed above, we also honor those saints who are known only to God, and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that we are also called by God to a life of holiness.



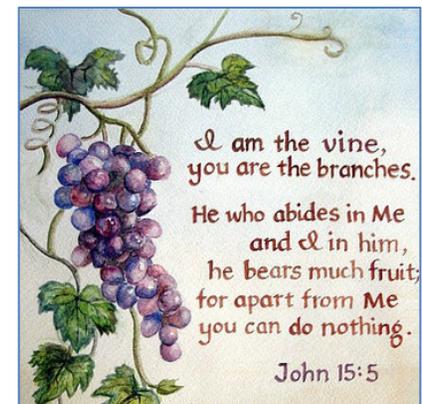
["Follow" & "Like" our Facebook page.](#) *Be sure to check our status for updates and photos.*

Join us for Family Vacation Church School

Saturday, June 16, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

All of us are God's children and part of the Church - the Family of Faith - passed down through the ages. We have the potential to grow through the grace of God.

It is our calling to grow and cultivate God's love and salvation. This VCS program seeks to provide opportunities to grow closer to Christ and His Church while having some summer fun. Its focus is to deepen the knowledge and experience of the Orthodox faithful in a fun learning environment for children, adults, and teachers.





Why adults are included this year? Both a mother's and father's love are important to a child's development. We invite our parents to bring their children and join us as a parish family during our day-long Vacation Church School program aimed at helping our families realize that our body is a temple where Christ lives. We need to continually clean it, so God can shine through us in all that we do.

We are capable of doing good to others... God calls us to love Him through loving others, and we can do this in small ways every day. As God's children, we are called as Christians to use our talents and let them shine and reflect the light of Christ.

All parish family members, including single adults or couples who do not have children, are invited to join us for a fun and Spirit-filled day of Bible lessons, crafts, activities, games, lunch, snacks, music, and fellowship. *We welcome non-Orthodox families to join us.*

REGISTER NOW by visiting our website homepage and scrolling down to bottom right link. Our website address is www.saintchristopherhoc.org.

(Registration closes at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 10th.)



Hands of Love: June



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 June: Monetary Donations for the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry

Throughout the month of June, we will be collecting monetary donations for the **Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry**. OCPM is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization. It was chartered in 2005 and is one of the ministries of the **Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America**.

The **mission** of this ministry is to bring **hope and healing through the Love of Christ** to incarcerated men and women, living in distress, to lessen the impact to their families, and to help them re-integrate and live a productive life. Some of the activities of OCPM are:

- makes available Orthodox publications, study bibles, prayer books, icon prayer cards, and catechism courses to those in prison and to prison chapel libraries,
- links prisoners to Orthodox priests, who provide them with a sacramental life,
- offers spiritual guidance and publications to families of people in prison,
- educates clergy and future clergy at targeted seminaries,
- trains clergy and laity for prison ministry and correspondence ministry,
- links people coming out of prison with Orthodox churches in their area, and
- provides guidance to clergy and laity in churches receiving people from prison.

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



Father's Day Luncheon



Sunday, June 17th, 10:30 am

All Dad's, Father's, Pop's, Daddy O's, Papou's,
Godfather's, Uncle's ... AND their Families

are invited to join us to Celebrate!!!

Philoptochos will provide the main course.

Please RSVP to Gail Ericsson, (770) 251-3728) or
gaileric1@gmail.com, how many will be in your party!

Contact Gail Ericsson, (770) 251-3728, or
Susan Kleto, (678) 877-9115 to let us know the favorite
Lenten dish (fish and oil allowed)
you want to provide.




On this *the 709th* 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

Fast of the Apostles Continues through June 28th

Sunday, June 10 (Second Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy/General Parish Assembly/Coffee Fellowship

Thursday, June 14:

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Saturday, June 16:

**9:30 am Family Vacation Church School – for those who registered by
3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 10th**

Sunday, June 17 (Third Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Memorial Service for Emanuel & Mary Ellinas,
Theodoros Sarantis & Departed Fathers/Philoptochos Father's
Day Luncheon**

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!