



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, July 15, 2018

ON THIS DAY, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES the 630 Holy Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council in Chalcedon (+451); **WE ALSO COMMEMORATE** The Holy Martyrs Cyricus and His Mother Julitta (+304); Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles of Kiev (+1015); The Finding of the Head of St. Matrona of Chios; Donald and his Nine Daughters; and Swithun, Bishop of Winchester. *Through the intercessions of the Holy Fathers, O God, have mercy upon 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 (Plagal of the 2nd 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.

3. Hymn of the Holy Fathers – (Hymnal-pp.170-171):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: Unending glory be Yours, O Christ our God, for making our holy fathers radiant lights to all the world. Through them You led us to the true faith. Compassionate Savior, Glory to You.

4. 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.

5. Kontakion – (Hymnal-pp.224-227):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: O unfailing 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 20:1-10)

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that He must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Epistle Reading (Titus 3:8-15)

Titus 3:8 The saying is sure. I desire that you insist on these things, so that those who have come to believe in God may be careful to devote

themselves to good works; these things are excellent and profitable to everyone. 9 But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. 10 After a first and second admonition, have nothing more to do with anyone who causes divisions, 11 since you know that such a person is perverted and sinful, being self-condemned. 12 When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. 13 Make every effort to send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way, and see that they lack nothing. 14 And let people learn to devote themselves to good works in order to meet urgent needs, so that they may not be unproductive. 15 All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with all of you.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 5:14-19)

Matt. 5:14 “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 15 No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. 17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

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

“Ascribe to the LORD the glory of His name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.” (*Psalm 29:2*)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE

Each day, we have an opportunity to manage our *time* in a way that is either “task-oriented” or as “a gift from God.” Without realizing it, we daily confront exciting intersections of “holy” time and “work” time. Simply put, I challenge you to contrast “getting something done” versus “spending time with people.” Consider the wonderful opportunity we gain when we surrender and allow God to give us new and beneficial insights in our unique and unexpected daily experiences.

Much of our focus in the Church is oriented to offering our time and talents to God for the benefit of His Kingdom and sharing His salvation with all we encounter. While we seek to make the world a place where our children are safe and our neighbors have the dignity of human rights, we likewise strive to make our world peaceful and free of disease or hunger.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, we need to remember that before we can *act*, we must open ourselves *to be acted upon*. The God of our salvation is the God of the Exodus, the God of the Cross, and the God of the Resurrection – acting in unimaginable ways in creation for our benefit.

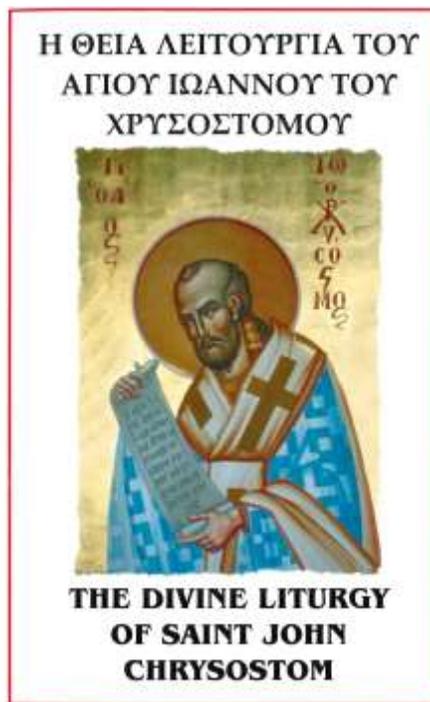
Let us identify with Jesus’ Disciples who needed to spend time with Him. We also can identify with the crowds coming to see Jesus the miracle worker. As Christians, we should realize that God gives us enough time to pray, enough time to work, enough time to play, enough time to reflect, and enough time to *just be*. In short, we all can claim the benefit of some “Jesus time.”

When we draw apart from the demands of the world and claim the time God gives us, then we begin to understand what the crowds sought in Jesus. When we serve in our Lord's Holy Church and when we claim and witness God's love and presence in our lives, then His blessings pour forth in miraculous ways. Let us learn to claim the blessings that God has given us . . . *in His time* and *not* simply in hours, minutes, and seconds.

“Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with all of you.” (2 Thess. 3:16)

New Divine Liturgy Translation In Use Today...

Now that our Bookstore is stocking the new English translation of the Divine Liturgy, Fr. George has begun using it for church services. This translation with its rubrics and notes seeks to bring more coherence to the liturgical life of our Archdiocese. It also contains the Hierarchical Liturgy and petitions and prayers that our monasteries regularly



use. May we accept it with the spirit of offering always our faithful and pleasing worship to our Lord and God.

The Four Crypto-Christian Neomartyrs *(continued from back cover)*

With the above decision they became Muslim in accordance with their desire according to the rule of Sacred Law, and the parents received their sacred names, and their children were named Mustafa and Hatizie, and the four lived as Muslims, being regarded by the faithful as true Muslims.

Their neighbor, Moura Aga, saw them a month ago in the village of Plakalona of Kissamos, in the afternoon as they sat to eat, and before they began they did the cross of Christians. After eating they and their children did their cross and were followed. He came immediately and told me to persuade me to follow them together with Galip, Bahrin and Hasan, and we saw them with our eyes, while they were preparing to sleep on the threshing floor, that all four did their cross.

I brought the above witnesses and the four Higianets in order to be punished as the Sacred Law dictates. There is no God but Allah!

I ordered for the three witnesses to appear with the four Higianet unbelievers shackled with 86 okas in the neck and waist, and having questioned the faithful before the accused they were asked to apologize. The parents were between the ages of 38 - 40 and the children between 16 - 18, and they replied: *"We were born Christians and we will die Christians."*

I asked them if they had become Turks, and they replied that they did only in their body and not in their soul, and they did not mean to deny Christ and venerate the prophet of



God Muhammad, who a few years ago before all they appeared to falsely venerate. They sinned by the phrase.

They received the decision of the Sacred Law, according to Decision No. 28 Fetfan of the glorious Moutfi Seiroullach efendi and the statements of the three faithful as well as the witness of the accused.

I condemn the four unbelievers Manolis of George age 40, George of Manolis age 18, Anezina of Constanti age 38, and Maria of Manoli age 16, to death by beheading, which will be conducted by the brave Corps of Jannisary of Hania above on the eastern side of the fortress Pehlivan within the week in the evening, and their stinking corpses are to be thrown outside the fortress in the dung heap (Hentek). Their property will go to Beitul Mal.

*God knows the good
The Sacred Judge of Hania
Ishmael Haki*

After the promulgation of the decision, and the accused having heard it, they were invited again before myself in shackles in order to repent and return to the religion of Islam, in order to save their present life and that of the future in heaven, and they replied again:
"We were born Christians and we will die Christians."

*Number 67 of the enforceable judgment.
27th of the Lunar month Tzemaziel Ahir 1092 of Egira.
To the Most-brave Commander of Hania,
Hussein Agan Tsaousin of the Corps of Jannisary 8 in Hania.*

**The carrying out of the above indictment took place,
and the stinking corpses were eaten by crows and dogs.**

July 14, 1861 - Christian chronology



HANDS OF LOVE

Hands of Love: July

"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 July: Monetary Donations for Soldiers' Angels



Soldiers' Angels is an organization serving **active duty military** and their **families**, as well as **veterans of all eras**.

This is one of the few charities approved to work in the **VA hospitals** and to provide direct support to veterans. In **Georgia**, there are two hospitals supported - the **Atlanta VA** and the **Dublin VA**.

Your **monetary donation** of:

- \$ 35** - can get a care package purchased, packed, and sent
- \$ 50** - can provide gas assistance for transportation to appointments at VA hospitals
- \$100** - can help a veteran put food on the table
- \$800** - can purchase a laptop for a wounded warrior with hand or arm injuries, burns, paralysis, loss of sight or voice, amputation, and help them maintain some independence, as well as stay connected with family, friends, and battle buddies.



More information at www.soldiersangels.org

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

Don't Knit or Crochet, but Want to Help?

The date for our next Prayer Shawl Blessing has been changed to Sunday, August 26th. The blessing will still be considered a part of the celebration the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos and the shawls and lap blankets will be shared with the patients at Cancer Treatment Center of America (CTCA) in Newnan. Hopefully this new schedule will be beneficial to all our ministry "specialists".

Just because you do not knit or crochet, that is no reason to feel you cannot participate. We are always appreciative when someone donates yarn for this ministry. Funds for yarn can be donated directly to our Philoptochos (please specify the donation is to buy yarn) or skeins of yarn can be donated. Each shawl or lap blanket takes approximately 4-5 large skeins of yarn. **SMOOTH YARN ONLY, PLEASE!!** Wool yarn would be of the greatest benefit.

Please contact Susan Kleto at (678) 877-9115 or sbkleto@gmail.com if you have any questions, would like to receive a Prayer Guide, or have any suggestions for improving this ministry.





Thank You!

Thanks to our parishioners and friends who have pledged in writing to support our Building Fund Campaign as of 7/11/18. If we inadvertently left your name off, please forgive us and bring to the attention of Tom Farmakis so we can correct. For those who have not yet submitted a written pledge, please consider doing so today. Pledge forms are in the Pangari and we welcome everyone's support – both within and outside our parish.

Lazo & Paula Papavassiliou-Bajic
Pat Bassett
Justin & Alexa Burley
Stephen & Becky Butler
Michael & Maria Cahill
Michael & Donna Chan
Charles Costas
Mahany & Cynthia Cromartie
Johnny & Jeanie Ellinas
Gail Ericsson
Tom & Ellen Farmakis
Andrew Farmakis
Faye Georgeo
Emmanuel & Kim Haldopoulos
Chris & Shannon Johns
Theo & Yoly Kazadzis
Dina Kearns
Thomas Kearns
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Georgia Lamas
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Paulette Malloy
Tony & Jeanie McGee
Evangelos & Emilia Moraitis

Kirk & DeDee Panayis
Randy & Anna Pelky
Peter & Julie Poulos
George & Helen Psihountas
Peggy Sagy
Fotis & Effie Sakkas
Steve & Jackie Sarantis
Eva Sarantis
George & Julie Skouteris
James & Claudia Sliwinski
Costas & Tammy Soulakos
Angelique Soulakos
John Soulakos
Alexandra Tagalos
Frank Tagalos
Marko & Milena Taylor
Steve & Pam Theodorakis
Victor & Julie Torres
Fr. George & Presbytera Marinda
Tsahakis
Yiannis & Sheryl Vasiliadis
Bill & Isabelle Wiley
Stephen & Katherine Wilson
George & Cathy Zavlanos

Special Request...

Please don't leave early today!

Instead, join us for today's **General Parish Assembly** (after a BRIEF coffee fellowship with snacks) for us to review for up to one hour the status of our fundraising success and building costs update.

Many of us have been working faithfully for 15 years to hear this news. Others, who joined us after we began, are just as committed and eager to move ahead.

Together, we make up the St. Christopher Church family, headed by our Lord Jesus Christ and led by His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios... *working together for His glory, and in thanksgiving for His countless blessings now and in the future, both for us and for those who will come after us.*



To justify asking you once more to join us, here is a preview of the great news and the opportunities ahead for us:

Our success to build Phase One depends on our firm resolve to move ahead together with faith in God and firm commitment, ... using a two-prong approach.



Continuous efforts to **INCREASE** pledge gifts and fundraise both within & outside of our parish

Continuous efforts to **REDUCE** construction costs as feasible

"God is a Busy Worker, but He Loves our Help."

Basque Proverb

On this *the 714th* 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!

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

COMMUNITY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 15 (Sunday of the Holy Fathers):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- 10:15 am One Year Memorial – Charles Anastasios Masterpolis
- 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship Reception (*Brief so we can begin GPA on time*)
- 10:45 am General Parish Assembly
- 11:45 am Philoptochos General Meeting

Thursday, July 19 (The Glorious Prophet Elias - Elijah):

- 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers Service
- 5:45 p.m. Divine Liturgy (Evening), followed by Community Dinner (fasting)
- 7:15 p.m. SCOM Meeting

Sunday, July 22 (8th Sunday of St. Matthew):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service; 9:00 am Divine Liturgy; 10:15 am Coffee Fellowship Reception
- Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!*



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