



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

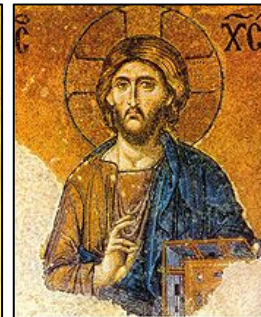
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St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org

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 8, 2018

ON THIS DAY, THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES the Holy Great Martyr Prokopios (+303); Theophilos the Myrrhbearer of Pantokrator Monastery (+1548); and the Appearance of the Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos of Kazan. *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.

Take this Sunday Bulletin with you to *SHARE* with someone who is *not* here today.

SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER SMALL ENTRANCE

1./2. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the 1st Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.114-117):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

3. Hymn Commemorating St. Prokopios – (not in Hymnal):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. Your Martyr, O Lord, was worthily awarded by You the crown of incorruption, in that he contested for You our immortal God. Since he possessed Your power, he defeated the tyrants, dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. O Christ God, at his fervent entreaties, save our souls.

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 (Luke 24:36-53)

While they were talking about this, Jesus Himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at My hands and My feet; see that it is I Myself. Touch Me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, and He took it and ate in their presence. Then He said to them, "These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about Me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up His hands, He blessed them. While He was blessing

them, He withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Epistle Reading (Romans 12:6-14)

⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. ⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 9:1-8)

¹And after getting into a boat He crossed the sea and came to His own town. ²And just then some people were carrying a paralyzed man lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.” ³Then some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” ⁴But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? ⁵For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and walk’? ⁶But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” —He then said to the paralytic—‘stand up, take your bed and go to your home.’” ⁷And he stood up and went to his home. ⁸When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.

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

“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.”

(1 Cor. 10:31)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

There is a story from the Desert Fathers about a young monk who asked one of the old men of the desert why it is that so many people came out to the desert to seek God and yet most of them gave up after a short time and returned to their lives in the city.

The old monk told him, “Last evening my dog saw a rabbit running for cover among the bushes of the desert and he began to chase the rabbit, barking loudly. Soon other dogs joined in the chase, barking and running. They ran a great distance and alerted many other dogs. In no time, the wilderness was echoing the sounds of their pursuit but the chase went on into the night.”

After a little while, many of the dogs grew tired and dropped out. A few chased the rabbit until the night was nearly spent. By morning, only my dog continued the hunt. “Do you understand,” the old man said, “what I have told you?”

“No,” replied the young monk, “please tell me father.”

“It is simple,” said the desert father, “my dog saw the rabbit.”


In Matthew 13:45-46, Jesus said “the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.” The merchant understood at once the value of the commodity before him, and he sacrificed everything to obtain it. *What about us? Are we willing to do the same?*

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On this *the 713th* 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.



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.



St. Prokopios the Great Martyr *(continued from back cover)*



When St. Prokopios was led to the scaffold, he raised his hands toward the east and prayed to God for all the poor and misfortunate, orphans and widows and especially for the Holy Church that it may grow and spread and that Orthodoxy shine to the end of time. And to Prokopios there was a reply from heaven that his prayers were heard after which he joyfully laid his head under the sword and went to his Lord in eternal joy. St. Prokopios honorably suffered in Caesarea in Palestine and was crowned with the glorious wreath of immortality on July 8, 303 A.D.

COMMUNITY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 8 (6th Sunday of St. Matthew):

- 7:45 a.m. Orthros Service
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship Reception
- 10:45 a.m. Parish Council Meeting

Thursday, July 12:

- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

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
- 10:45 am General Parish Assembly
- 11:45 am Philoptochos General Meeting

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