



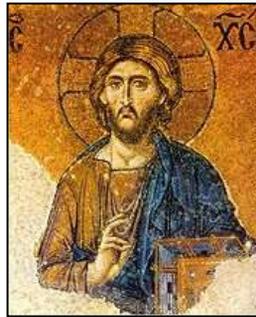
GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church

313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210
Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

Very Rev. Fr. George J. Tсахakis, *Chancellor*

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, August 12, 2018

ON THIS DAY, THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, THE SUNDAY FOLLOWING THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES The Holy Martyrs Photios and Aniketos of Nicomedia (+289); Soldier-martyrs of Crete; Sergios, Stephen and Kastor; and Palamon, Elder of Saint Pachomius the Great. *Through their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.*

Welcome, Visitors and Newcomers, to our Parish!

Welcome to Fr. Ken Anthony who is liturgizing today in Fr. George's absence.

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. Hymn for Second Antiphon – (pg. 28 of Hymnal):

On the occasion of today's feast, we sing the following hymn instead of the regular Soson imas, "Save us, O Son of God": "Save us, O Son of God, Who was transfigured on Mount Tabor, as we sing to You, Alleluia."

2./4. Hymn for Today's Feast of the Transfiguration–(Hymnal-pp.220-221):

It is sung before and after the Small Entrance. When You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, You showed Your disciples Your glory as far as they could bear. So now, for us sinners also, let this same eternal light shine forth through the prayers of the Theotokos. O Giver of light, glory to You.

3. Resurrectional Hymn (Second Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.102-105):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: When You descended into death, Life immortal, You vanquished the power of hell by your resplendent divinity, and when You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out triumphantly: O giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You.

5. 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.

6. Kontakion for Feast of Transfiguration – (Hymnal-pp.284-287):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God, showing Your disciples as much of Your glory as they could

bear, so that when they see You crucified they will know that You suffer freely, and they will tell all the world that You are truly the radiance of the Father.

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 21:15-25)

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time He said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to Him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know everything; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this He said to him, "Follow me." Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about him?" Jesus said to him, "If it is My will that he remain until I come, what is that to You? Follow me!" So the rumor spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to You?" This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (1 Cor. 9:2-12)

²If I am not an apostle to others, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. ³This is my defense to those who would examine me. ⁴Do we not have the right to our food and drink? ⁵Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a believing wife, as do the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? ⁶Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? ⁷Who at any time pays the expenses for doing military service? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat any of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not get any of its milk? ⁸Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law also say the same? ⁹For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? ¹⁰Or does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was indeed written for our sake, for whoever plows should plow in hope and whoever threshes should thresh in hope of a share in the crop. ¹¹If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? ¹²If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 18:23-35)

Matt. 18:23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison

until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (Hebr. 13:16)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

(The Orthodox Church uses Holy Scripture in many of its prayers and hymns offered to God. After reading St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy 3:14-16, I modeled the following prayer from its words, thereby asking for God's guidance in responding to St. Paul's counsel to his parishioners in early Christianity.)

Our Heavenly Father,

We ask you to provide us with a graciousness by which we shall know how to behave ourselves in Your household, the Church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. Help us to dedicate ourselves individually to the truth that the Church at large will be a bastion of truth, and will be known by the world to be what it claims to be.

Keep our focus of truth always on the central mystery of our religion: *that Christ was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, preached among the nations, believed on in the world, and taken up in glory!*

Nourish us with Your Holy Word and enable us to use our faith and Your teachings to do Your will. Guide our minds to stay away from silly and godless myths and dedicate our lives to Your service.

For to You we give glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, as we continue to reflect and celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ, may we thank Him for the strength that He gives us to share and minister to others. May we acknowledge His blessings in providing us the many talents by which we may help others.

In spite of our wrongdoings against Him and our neighbors, may He show us great mercy in overlooking our ignorance and unbelief. May our Transfigured Lord provide us with opportunities and encouragement to serve Him and His creation.

Through our faith and our response to the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ, may we beseech Him to overflow in each of us the faith and the love that are available in Him. And may we always proclaim the truth that our Lord Jesus Christ came into the world to save humankind. Glory to Him forever! Amen.



Hands of Love: August

"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 August: Cool Enough For School 2016

Each summer, One Roof provides Coweta County families in need with vouchers so their children can select clothing from their thrift store to prepare them to go back to school. They need our help!

Please donate your gently used children's clothing or new clothing so they can help families in Coweta County. They also need lots of new socks and underwear. One way to break the cycle of poverty is to help children have the best opportunities for a good education. If you would like, feel free to attach a sticker encouraging the recipient!

One Roof Ecumenical Alliance Outreach is a 501-3(c) non-profit organization located at 255 Temple Avenue Newman, GA 30263 (770) 683-7705. Federal Tax ID: 26-0157086. Donation receipts are available for donations made as individuals.

In June, we collected \$100 and \$175 worth of gift cards for Fayette County DFCs. Thank you for your donations!

We welcome Kim Poolos as our new Hands of Love Coordinator.



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Building Pledges Update:



Tom Farmakis, Building Fundraising Chairman, with great joy and excitement, announced we have surpassed the \$600,000 pledge mark! He feels this is excellent progress, but we're still not done. The fundraising process is ongoing and dynamic, so please reach out to family and friends to share the good news. Likewise, some parishioners have already indicated they are increasing their current giving amount. This is a great way to build and keep the momentum going. *Now is the time to make this happen so please prayerfully consider your blessings and help us achieve our goal.*

On this *the 718th* 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

Fast of the Dormition of the Theotokos continues through August 15th

Sunday, August 12 (11th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

10:15 am Coffee Fellowship

10:45 am Religious Education Classes – 1st Day of New Year of Classes

11:45 am Parish Council Meeting

1:30 pm SCOM Meeting

Thursday, August 16:

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, August 19 (12th Sunday of St. Matthew):

7:45 am Orthros Service

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

10:15 am Coffee Fellowship

10:45 am Religious Education Classes for all ages

11:30 am Philoptochos Board Meeting

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