



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



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Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

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

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, September 23, 2018

ON THIS DAY, THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES The Conception of St. John the Baptist; Xanthippe & Polyxene the Righteous; Nicholas the New Martyr; and John the New Martyr of Epiros. *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 (Plagal of the 4th Tone) – (Hymnal-pp126-7):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: From on high You descended, O merciful Lord. You accepted the cross and three days in the tomb to free us from the bondage of sin, O our life and resurrection. Glory to You, O Lord.

3. Hymn for Conception of St. John (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. Sing now, O barren one who did not bear before, for you have indeed conceived the burning lamp of the Sun; and he will illuminate all the world afflicted with spiritual blindness. Dance, O Zacharias, and now openly cry out: "The one who is to be born is a Prophet of the Most High God."

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 unfailling 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 worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Gal. 4:22-27)

For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and the other by a free woman. One, the child of the slave, was born according to the flesh; the other, the child of the free woman, was born through the promise. Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One woman, in fact,

is Hagar, from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the other woman corresponds to the Jerusalem above; she is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, “Rejoice, you childless one, you who bear no children, burst into song and shout, you who endure no birthpangs; for the children of the desolate woman are more numerous than the children of the one who is married.”

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 5:1-11)

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on Him to hear the word of God, He saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then He sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.” Simon answered, “Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if You say so, I will let down the nets.” When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!” For he and all who were with Him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.” When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed Him.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE

(TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your Name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for Your Name’s sake.”
(Psalm 79:9)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

The following story is about a mother confronting her quarrelsome child:

“Phillip, why are you sitting there all alone?”

“Nobody wants to play with me. They always fight with me.”

“Why don’t you go over and see Jeremy?”

“No, he always wants his own way.”

“You could play with Ian,” suggested his mother.

“No, we had a fight this morning. I punched him in the nose and his mother sent me home.”

“How about Jimmy?”

“We had an argument in the school yard.”

“If everyone fights with you, maybe it’s you,” said the mother.

“See, you’re picking on me, too. Everybody picks on me!”

“It is natural to disagree once in a while with people, but, if everybody quarrels with you and it takes two to quarrel, you must be looking for trouble.”

“I don’t care. I don’t like any of them.”

The adjective “quarrelsome” in describing the child in this story suggests someone who is disposed to quarrel, often in a petty manner. Synonyms for “quarrelsome” include argumentative, · confrontational, · pugnacious, · combative, · antagonistic, · contentious, · bellicose, · belligerent, · and cantankerous.

Someone who is regularly at odds with others could benefit from some self-examination. Certainly there are principles worth fighting for, but individuals that are constantly quarrelsome risk further hurt, as well as destroying beneficial relationships with those God places in our midst. Their misery is not authentic living. Love and respect for one another brings understanding, patience, and promotes peace. It seeks the highest goals for the well-being and happiness of all. St. Paul shared:

“For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Gal. 5:13-14)

Thus, to sit in a corner all alone, day after day, at odds with others is a cruel existence. Our Lord shared in His Sermon on the Mount: *“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”* (Mt. 5:9) This teaching of Christ brings about human happiness. St. Paul reminded us of our freedom to choose to love others. *As God’s children, what other choice is there?*





Hands of Love: September

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 September: Holy Cross School of Theology

"For as rain comes down, or snow from heaven, and does not return until it saturates the earth, and it brings forth and produces, and gives seed to the sower and bread for food, so shall My word be, whatever proceeds from My mouth. It shall not return until it accomplishes whatever I willed, and I shall prosper your ways and My commandments." (Isaiah 55:10-11)

Hands of Love, a ministry of our **Philoptochos Society** will be accepting **monetary donations** to benefit the School.



Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts offers graduate programs leading to advanced degrees in Divinity and Theology.

At Holy Cross, the only Greek Orthodox School of Theology in the United States, education is an **integration of learning and faith**. Its programs reflect the religious and cultural values of the **Hellenic Orthodox tradition**.

Holy Cross strives to fulfill the need to educate the **next generation of leaders, clergy, and laypersons** who will exemplify the values and spirit of Orthodox Christianity in their chosen professions. Learning, teaching, service, and worship activities develop the intellectual and spiritual potential of students. The School affords the faculty with **academic freedom** to pursue teaching and scholarship.

Yours in Christ,
Anna Andreeva Naydenova, Hands of Love Coordinator



September Prosfora Baking Schedule



The following families are scheduled to prepare Prosfora this month:

Sunday, Sept. 2 (due Fri, Aug. 31 by 4:00 pm)	Pat MacDougall/Stella Christodopoulos
Saturday, Sept. 8 (due Fri., Sept. 7 by 4:00 pm)	Costa & Tammy Soulakos/Lydia McGee
Sunday, Sept. 9 (due Sat., Sept. 8 by 9:00 am)	Georgia Lungaro/Claudia Sliwinski
Thursday, Sept. 13 (due Wed., Sept. 12 by 4:00 pm)	Helen Psihountas/Julie Skouteris
Sunday, Sept. 16 (due Fri., Sept. 14 by 4:00 pm)	Dedee Panayis/Milena Taylor
Sunday, Sept. 23 (due by Fri., Sept. 21 by 4:00 pm)	Effie Sakkas/Susan Kleto
Sunday, Sept. 30 (due Fri., Sept. 28 by 4:00 pm)	Becky Butler/Presbyteria Marinda Tzahakis

PROSFORA BAKERS: PLEASE BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
Presbyteria Marinda appreciates everyone's help and if needs arise, please contact her at mtsahakis@comcast.net or (770) 381-1842.

On this *the 724th* 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 SCHEDULE

COMMUNITY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 23 (First Sunday of St. Luke):

- 9:30 am** Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship Reception
- 11:00 am** Religious Education Classes (*for all ages*)
- 11:45 am** Philoptochos General Meeting

Thursday, September 27:

- 6:30 pm** Choir Practice

Friday, September 28:

- 4:00 pm** Arrival of Panagia Vimatarissa Icon to the Cathedral with Doxology & Paraklesis Service (*all invited*)

Saturday, September 29:

- 11:00 am** Arrival of Panagia Vimatarissa Icon to Panagia Chapel at Diakonia Retreat Center (*Join us for this special opportunity to view and venerate the miraculous icon of Panagia Vimatarissa as it is brought from Mt. Athos in Greece to our Panagia Chapel in Salem, SC.*)

Sunday, September 30 (Second Sunday of St. Luke):

- 7:45 am** Orthros Service
- 9:00 am** Divine Liturgy/Memorial Service - (9 years) - Kostas Kalioniatis/Coffee Fellowship Meeting
- 10:45 am** Religious Education Classes (*for all ages*)
- 12:00 pm** Let's EAT!

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!