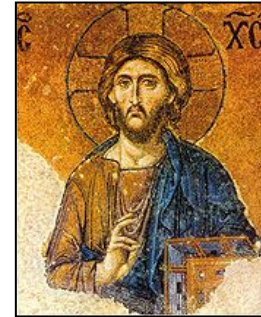




GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

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, January 13, 2019

ON THIS DAY, THE SUNDAY AFTER THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST, WE COMMEMORATE The Holy Martyrs Hermylus and Stratonicus; Maximos the Righteous of Kapsokalyvia, Mount Athos; Hilary of Poitiers; Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos – Mediatress; and Kentigern, Bishop of Glasgow. *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. Hymn for Second Antiphon – (Hymnal-p.28):

On the occasion of Theophany 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 baptized in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist, as we sing to You, Alleluia."

2./4. Hymn of the Theophany of our Lord – (Hymnal-pp.208-211):

This hymn is sung before and after the Small Entrance: "At Your baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest, for the Father's voice bore You witness, by calling You His beloved Son, and the Spirit in the form of a dove, confirmed the truth of the Father's Word. O Christ our God, You have appeared to us and enlightened the world. Glory to You."

3. Resurrectional Hymn (Plagal of the 4th Tone) – (Hymnal-pp. 126-7):

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.

5. Hymn Commemorating St. Christopher – (see music distributed):

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 of the Holy Theophany of our Lord – (Hymnal-p.-248-249):

This hymn is sung after the Small Entrance: “You have revealed Yourself to the world today, and Your light shines forth on us, who sing Your praise with full knowledge: You have come to us, O Lord; You are made manifest, O inaccessible Light.

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 (Eph. 4:7-13)

⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it is said, "When He ascended on high He made captivity itself a captive; He gave gifts to His people." ⁹(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He Who descended is the same one Who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts He gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith

and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 4:12-17)

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made His home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— ¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” ¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

TODAY’S MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”
(Hebrews 13:8)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Back when the telegraph was the fastest means of long-distance communication, there was a story, perhaps just a legend, about a young man who applied for a job as a Morse code operator. Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, noisy office. In the background a telegraph clacked away. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed

job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office. The young man completed his form and sat down with seven other waiting applicants. After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in. Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. Why had this man been so bold? They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet. They took more than a little satisfaction in assuming the young man who went into the office would be reprimanded for his presumption and summarily disqualified for the job.

Within a few minutes the young man emerged from the inner office escorted by the interviewer, who announced to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job has been filled by this young man."

The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and then one spoke up, "Wait a minute – I don't understand. He was the last one to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair."

The employer responded, "All the time you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse code: 'If

you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.' None of you heard it or understood it. This young man did. So the job is his."

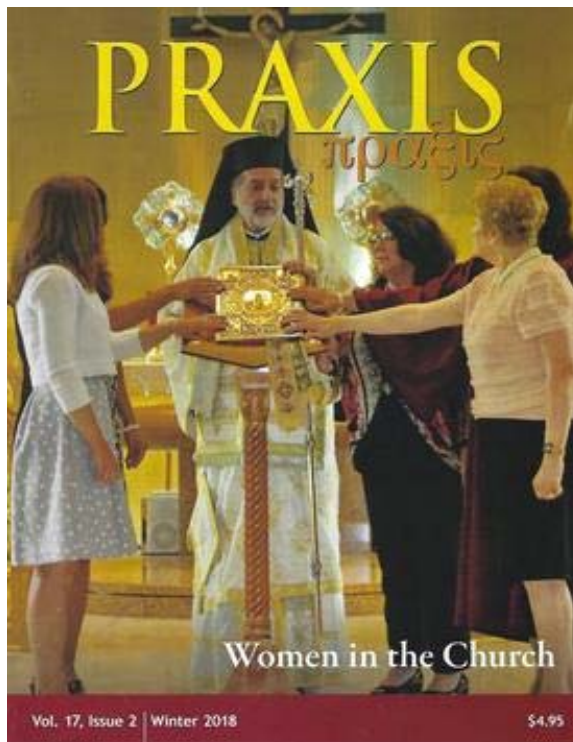
This past week we observed a vigil and commemoration for Holy Theophany, one of the three greatest Feast Days of the Orthodox Church. The next day we remembered St. John the Baptist. Each day, we heard the words of our Heavenly Father proclaim at Jesus Christ's baptism (Mark 1:11): *"You are My Son, the Beloved; with You I am well pleased."*

My brothers and sisters in Christ, our livelihood, indeed our life, depends upon our ability to discern the meaning of these words directed continually to us from our Heavenly Father: "You are My child, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."



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On this *the 738th* 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!



Adult Religious Education Classes from January 13 – March 10, 2019

January 13, 2019 “Prologue” to “Women in the Church Series”

January 20, 2019 “The Place of the Woman in the Orthodox Church and the Question of the Ordination of Women” (pp. 6-9)

January 27, 2019 “Landmark Survey: Women’s Ministry, Service & Leadership” (pp. 10-12)

February 3, 2019 No class – GPA

February 10, 2019 “A Relationship to be Emulated: The maternal Kinship Between the Mother of God and Her Cousin Elizabeth” (pp. 13 – 14)

February 17, 2019 “Singing Praises:

Music to Deepen Our Prayers” (pp. 17 – 19)

February 24, 2019 “‘Do More Doing’: The National Philoptochos Society’s Hands-On Philanthropy” (pp. 20 – 22)

March 3, 2019 “Sibling Magic: A Golden Key” & “Made for One Another” (pp. 23 - 27)

March 10, 2019 “Family Connection: Strength Through Faith” & “Parent to Parent: What’s My Job?” (pp. 28 – 31)

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE (CHECK WEB CALENDAR FOR MORE...)

Sunday, January 13 ():

7:45 a.m. Orthros Service

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Special Prayer Services

10:30 a.m. Parish Council Oath of Office

10:45 a.m. Philoptochos Coffee Fellowship Honoring Elena Naydenova/Bobby Graham

11:00 a.m. Religious Education Classes (*for all ages*)

12:00 p.m. Parish Council Meeting 1:45 p.m. SCOM Meeting

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!