



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

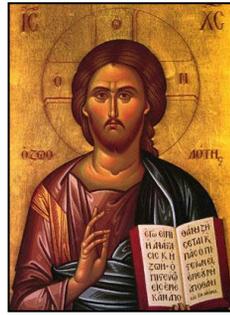
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: [www.patriarchate.org](http://www.patriarchate.org)

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: [www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: [www.atlanta.goarch.org](http://www.atlanta.goarch.org)

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: [www.saintchristopherhoc.org](http://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 Friday, May 21, 2021

**ON THIS DAY, THE EVE OF THE 21<sup>ST</sup> OF MAY, WE COMMEMORATE** *the glorious, holy, God-crowned Great Kings Constantine and Helen, Equal to the Apostles; Pachomios the Righteous New Martyr (+1730); Basil, Bishop of Ryazan; Hospicios of Gaul; Helen of Dechani; Cassian the Greek of Uglich; and Agapitus of Vologda.* Through their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

### Thank You for Your Understanding

We welcome our parishioners who are attending services in person today and we also welcome those who are viewing our online video streaming at home. Let us comply with the guidelines we have provided everyone. We appreciate your kind understanding in following them. Fr. George is deeply appreciative to you and all who are assisting during worship services.

*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.*

**Wisdom Offered from an Early Saint of the Orthodox Church:**

“Remember how none of the saints of old won their crowns of patient endurance by living luxuriously and being courted; but all were tested by being put through the fire of great afflictions. ‘For some had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, and others were sawn asunder and were slain with the sword.’ These are the glories of saint.” – *Saint Basil the Great*

**SPECIAL HYMNS SUNG BEFORE/AFTER SMALL ENTRANCE**

**1./7. Hymn of Saints Constantine & Helen – (not in Hymnal):**

*Sung at the end of Orthros and after the Small Entrance: Your Apostle among the Rulers, St. Constantine, who once beheld in the sky the image of Your Cross, and who like Paul received his calling not from man, once entrusted the Ruling City into Your hand. We entreat You to restore it in peace forever, at the intercession of the Theotokos, O Lord Who loves humanity.*

**2./3./11. Hymn for the Feast of Pascha – (see music distributed):**

*Sung three times after the opening of the Divine Liturgy, before the Small Entrance, and after the distribution of Holy Communion: Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.*

**4. Small Entrance Exclamation of the Priest:**

*On the occasion of today's feast, the Priest intones the following at the Small Entrance: “In your choirs, bless the Lord, you of Israel's wellspring. Save us, O Son of God, who did rise from the dead, we sing to You: Alleluia!”*

**5. Resurrectional Hymn - (Hymnal-pp.102-105):**

*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.*

**6. Another Hymn for Myrrh Bearers– (Hymnal-pp.162-165):**

*Sung after the Small Entrance:* The Angel stood by the tomb and cried out to the myrrh-bearing women: Myrrh would be fitting to anoint the dead, but Christ has shown Himself to be free from corruption. Therefore, proclaim that the Lord is risen, bestowing on all the world His great mercy.

**8. 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.

**9. Kontakion of Pascha – (Hymnal-pp.274-277):**

*Sung after the Small Entrance:* Into the grave You descended, Immortal One, yet You destroyed the power of Hades, and as victor You arose, O Christ our God; You proclaimed to the Myrrh Bearing Women a greeting of joy, You brought peace to Your Holy Apostles, and to the fallen You granted resurrection.

**10. Communion Hymn – (not in Hymnal):**

*On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord": Their proclamation has gone out to all the earth, their words to the limits of the universe. Alleluia. (Psalm 18[19])*

## **SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S 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*

**Epistle Reading (Acts 26:1, 12-20)**

*Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and began to defend himself: "With this in mind, I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads (sharp pointed sticks used to prod oxen or donkeys).' I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The Lord answered, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and*

*to those in which I will appear to you. I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles — to whom I am sending you to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’ “After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance.*

### **Gospel Reading (John 10:1-9)**

*10“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. 2The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” 6Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. 7So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. 9I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.*



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On this our eighteenth Feast of Saints Constantine and Helen at our St. Christopher parish, 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!

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

### **Friday, May 21 (Feast of Ss. Constantine & Helen):**

7:45 a.m. Orthros Service

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

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