



Liturgical Guide for July 3, 2022



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

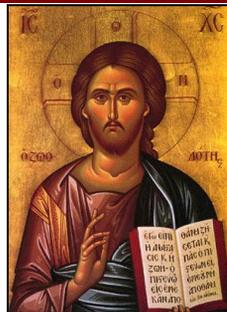
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: www.atlmetropolis.org

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

St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church



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

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, July 3, 2022

ON THIS DAY, THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ST. MATTHEW, WE COMMEMORATE Thomas the Righteous of Malea; Kyriaki the Great Martyr; Akakios of Sinai; and Willibald, Bishop of Eichstatt. *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. According to new CDC guidelines, indoor mask mandates are being relaxed for those areas of the US where hospitals are not greatly impacted by COVID-19 cases. In response, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios on March 2nd wrote to the Metropolis of Atlanta faithful offering His guidance. [Please read it by clicking here.](#)

As before, those who continue to wear masks have every right to do so, whether or not our parish falls into a low or medium risk area. Whether others continue to wear masks for the sake of their friends or family, or even out of caution for their own health, their decisions should be respected as demonstrations of Christ-like love. May our collective intercessions to our Creator help to bring a spirit of healing and peace to our world.

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 (Second Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.102-105):

It is sung *before* and *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.

3. 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.

4. 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 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 (Romans 5:1-10)

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves His love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by His blood, will we be saved through Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by His life.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 6:22-33)

²²“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; ²³but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! ²⁴“No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth. ⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is

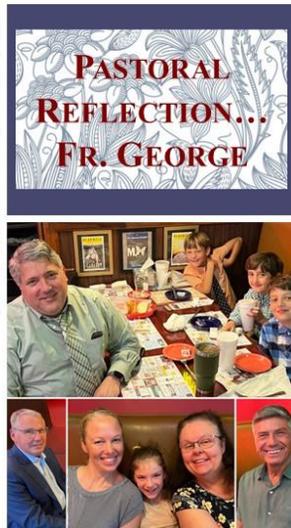
alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed, your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

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

“Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.” (Matthew 9:13)



Let's EAT!
Sunday, June 26



As sons and daughters of our Lord, Jesus Christ instructs us not to do anything to prevent our children – whether our babies or young children – from knowing the grace and power of Jesus! Even more than that, we must actively encourage and help the Lord's "little children" to find their place in Jesus' family, have their needs fulfilled by Jesus' grace, and use their gifts as part of Jesus' Body.



In July 2022: Soldiers' Angels



Soldiers' Angels serves **active-duty military their families, and veterans**. In 2021 **538,355 veterans and active-duty members** were served in 2021. Soldiers' Angels is one of the few charities approved to work in the Atlanta and Dublin VA hospitals.

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

\$500 - can purchase a laptop for a wounded warrior with injuries, paralysis, loss of sight or voice to help them be independent and connect with family, friends, and battle buddies. **For more**

opportunities to volunteer virtually and in person, visit www.SoldiersAngels.org

*May No Soldier Go Unloved,
May No Soldier Walk Alone,
May No Soldier Be Forgotten,
Until They All Come Home.™*

Faithfully,

Anna Andreeva Naydenova, "Hands of Love" Philoptochos Ministry Chair

JULY 4TH BBQ



THE
LAMBROS FIRM
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



KARV
KITCHEN

HELLENIC CAPITAL
INVESTMENTS

**THE ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL'S JULY 4TH TRADITION | GREEK BBQ AND HOMEMADE SIDES
DOORS OPEN 11:30 AM | FREE TO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY**



Benefiting:



FOLDS of HONOR




August 23, 2022

Eagles Landing Country Club

Tee-Off at 9AM

Saint Christopher Outreach Ministry is a Non-Profit 501(c)(3) whose mission provides Christian based charitable giving with educational, cultural and spiritual enrichment to Orthodox Parishes, to those in need and for the youth in the communities we serve in South Metro Atlanta and beyond.

Helicopter Ball Drop

\$1,000 to ball closest to the marker

SouthAtlantaGolfClassBallDrop

Confirm your registration or corporate sponsorship
TODAY online at: SouthAtlantaGolfClassic.com



"Follow" & Like" **our Facebook page.** *Check for updates and photos.*

On this the 912th 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!

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

(CHECK WEB CALENDAR FOR MORE...)

Sunday, July 3 (Third Sunday of St. Matthew):

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy *(Fr. George must depart church at 9:30 a.m.)*

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!

The following reflection, “St. Kyriaki as a Model for Our Lives” was written by Protopresbyter Fr. George Papavarnavas and is reprinted from www.johnsanidopoulos.com. Her Feast Day is July 7. +Fr. George Tsahakis

The reign of Diocletian (3rd century A.D.) revealed many Martyrs, who shine like multi-luminous stars in the noetic firmament of the Church of Christ. One of them is Saint Kyriaki. Raised in an environment of reverence and love for the true God, she was raised in the admonition of the life of the gospel and became, according to the sacred hymnographer, a spring with much water that watered the Church and made her bear fruit. "Like a spring of much flowing water, Virgin Martyr of Christ, you watered His Church, Wise One, and contested excellently...."

Having been born on the first day of the week, which is dedicated to the Lord (*Kyrio*), she was named Kyriaki. She was the fruit of prayer, a gift of God to Dorotheos and Eusebia, her parents who were barren and prayed to God one night with much faith and love to be given a child. "The just cried, and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of all their troubles", the sacred Psalmist tells us. According to their promise they raised her in the education and admonition of the Lord, according to the Apostle Paul, and offered her as a return gift to God. This dedication and offering, however, was not against her will. Her parents inspired her with love for God and helped her live that way of life which is hidden from the eyes of most. Beyond the phenomena which often deceive and disappoint there are the non-phenomena, the inner life of the soul, which has another purpose and another perspective. It aims for high things, "in another galaxy", as the poet says, and causes other joys and thrills. Besides, the Martyrdom to which she went willingly was not the result of a strong will or strong character, but the fruit of a life "hidden with Christ in God". It is the fruit of the gift of the Holy Spirit who dwells in the pure hearts of the saints.

The carnal life has as a paramount purpose the life of pleasure, but it is intertwined with bitterness and suffering. Modern man is tired and disappointed with his way of life, but also with the harsh social conditions, not always finding the right way to the true manner and purpose of life, and so he turns towards pleasure. But this causes more pain and suffering, thus creating a vicious circle. The only way out of this modern maze is the discovery and experience of another life, a new life, which is lived with labor and pain, and causes inner fulfillment and true joy which are fruits of the Holy Spirit. "The fruits of the Holy Spirit are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance" (Gal. 5:22-23). The spiritual life is difficult, which is why it is beautiful. It gives life to the soul and subdues the flesh, that is, the mind of the flesh becomes subject to the spirit. In theological language, we say that it rescues that which is "according to the image". "In you, O mother was carefully preserved what is according to the image. For you took up the Cross and followed Christ. By so doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh for it passes away, but to care instead for the soul since it is immortal. Therefore, O Venerable..., your spirit rejoices with the Angels""(Apolytikion for a Monastic Saint). Conversely the sensual life makes the flesh animalistic and deadens the soul, with the result that it does not have the ability to aim for a higher target and experience a higher life, which gives value to man as a psychosomatic being. The Witness and Martyrdom of Saint Kyriaki was the seal of this true life and the achievement of the purpose of life, which is theosis, a living communion with the Triune God.

The people of God love the saints very much, the true friends of God, and they honor them in any way, with various events and especially festivities on the day of their commemoration. In mountainous Nafpaktos, in an idyllic location at 1200 meters, among the firs, there is a true Romaic celebration. After gathering for worship in the beautiful Church of Saint Kyriaki, there follows a gathering with traditional music and songs. The eucharistic table is followed by the material table, since man is a psychosomatic being. In a wondrous way balance and unity are experienced in the Orthodox Church.