



Sunday, July 17, 2022



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

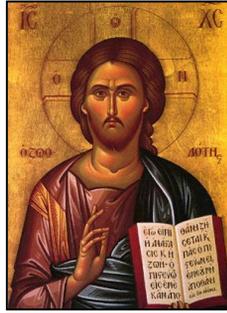
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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

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

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St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church



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Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

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

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, July 17, 2022

ON THIS DAY, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES the 630 Holy Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council in Chalcedon (+451); **WE ALSO COMMEMORATE** the Holy Great Martyr Marina (Margaret); Veronika & Speratos the Martyrs; Holy Royal Martyrs of Russia; and Kenelm, Prince of Mercia. *Through the intercessions of the Holy Fathers, O God, have mercy upon 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 (Fourth Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.110-113):

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: The joyful news of Your resurrection was proclaimed by the angel to the women disciples. Having thrown off the curse that fell on Adam, they ran elatedly to tell the apostles: Death has been vanquished; Christ our God is risen from the dead, blessing all the world with His great mercy.

3. Hymn of the Holy Fathers – (Hymnal-pp.170-171):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: Unending glory be Yours, O Christ our God, for making our holy fathers radiant lights to all the world. Through them You led us to the true faith. Compassionate Savior, Glory to You.

4. Hymn Commemorating St. Marina – (see handout):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance. Your maiden Martyr, like a lamb, cries out, "O Jesus, for You, my pure Bridegroom, I long; and seeking You I compete; and I am crucified and buried with You in Your baptism. I suffer for Your sake, that I may reign with You. I die for You that I may also live in You. Accept me as an unblemished sacrifice as I offer myself to You with love." At her entreaties and intercessions, save our souls, O Merciful Lord.

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 – (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
ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY

<p><i>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.</i> – St. John Chrysostom</p>

Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (Luke 24:12-35)

But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened. Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing Him. And He said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered Him, "Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed Him over

to be condemned to death and crucified Him. But we had hoped that He was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find His body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Him." Then He said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into His glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, He interpreted to them the things about Himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, He walked ahead as if He were going on. But they urged Him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So He went in to stay with them. When He was at the table with them, He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was talking to us on the road, while He was opening the Scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and He has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how He had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Epistle Reading (Titus 3:8-15)

Titus 3:8 The saying is sure. I desire that you insist on these things, so that those who have come to believe in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works; these things are excellent and profitable to everyone. 9 But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. 10

After a first and second admonition, have nothing more to do with anyone who causes divisions, 11 since you know that such a person is perverted and sinful, being self-condemned. 12 When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. 13 Make every effort to send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way, and see that they lack nothing. 14 And let people learn to devote themselves to good works in order to meet urgent needs, so that they may not be unproductive. 15 All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with all of you.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 5:14-19)

Matt. 5:14 “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 15 No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. 17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

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

“Ascribe to the LORD the glory of His name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.” (*Psalm 29:2*)

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE

A speaker once started off his seminar by holding up a \$20 bill. In the room of two hundred, he asked, “Who would like this \$20 bill?” Hands started going up. He said, “I am going to give this \$20 bill to one of you but first, let me do this.” He proceeded to crumple the \$20 bill up. He then asked, “Who still wants it?” Still the hands were up in the air. “Well,” he replied, “What if I do this?” And he dropped it on the ground and started to grind it into the floor with his shoe. He picked it up, now all crumpled and dirty. “Now who still wants it?” Still the hands went into the air.

This exercise offers a valuable lesson to us. No matter what the seminar speaker did to the money, the participants still wanted it, because it did not decrease in value. It was still worth \$20. Many times in our lives, we are dropped, crumpled, and ground into the dirt by the decisions we make and the circumstances that come our way. We feel as though we are worthless. But no matter what has happened or what will happen, none of us will ever lose our value in God's eyes. To God, whether we are dirty or clean, crumpled or finely creased, *we are always precious . . . and priceless.*”



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





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.⁷¹*

Faithfully,

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

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

On this the 914th 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 17 (Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council:

7:45 a.m. Orthros Service

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Trisagion, & Golf Classic Presentation

11:00 a.m. Parish Council Meeting 12:40 p.m. SCOM Meeting

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!

Holy Martyr Aimilianos of Silistria in Bulgaria (+362)

On the 18th of July, we commemorate Holy Martyr Aimilianos. *The following account of his life is reprinted from www.johnsanidopoulos.com. +Fr. George Tsahakis*



Theodoret of Cyrus, in his *Ecclesiastical History* (Bk. 3, Ch. 6), records the following about Saint Aimilianos: “At Dorostolon, a famous city of Thrace, the victorious athlete Aimilianos was thrown upon a flaming pyre, by Capitolinus, governor of all Thrace.”

This took place during the reign of Julian the Apostate in the year 362. In the Thracian town of Dorostolon, later known as Silistria, lived a young man, Aimilianos, a servant of a fanatical pagan, who lived a secret Christian life. When the apostate emperor began his attempt to eradicate Christianity throughout the realm of the Roman Empire by fire and sword and, when the emperor's representative came to Dorostolon to kill the Christians, he did not find a single one. Rejoicing at this, he sponsored a great banquet for the citizens of Dorostolon and ordered sacrifices to be offered to the idols and rejoicing ensued throughout the entire town, day and night.

That night, Aimilianos entered the pagan temples, markets and the streets of the town and smashed all of the idols with a sledgehammer. The next day there was terror in the city. Everyone sought the destroyer of their gods. A peasant was passing by the temple that morning and was seized. Aimilianos, seeing that an innocent man would suffer, said to himself: “If I conceal my works, what benefit would I receive from that which I did? Before God, will I not be found as the murderer of this innocent man?”

Therefore, he appeared before the emperor’s legate and admitted all. The enraged legate asked Aimilianos, “Who prompted you to do this?” The Martyr of Christ replied: “God and my soul ordered me to destroy those lifeless pillars which you call gods.” The judge then ordered that Aimilianos be flogged and, after flogging with a raw hide and other tortures, ordered him to be burned alive. Though the fire did not consume him, the blessed one delivered his soul into the hands of God and received from Him the unfading crown of martyrdom.

The wife of the pagan ruler was also a secret Christian, and she gathered up the Saint’s relics and buried them. Afterward, a church dedicated to the Holy Martyr Aimilianos was built at Constantinople, where his relics were transferred, and his feast was celebrated annually.