



*Today is the beginning of the Triodion Period when we prepare for Great Lent and then proceed through its 40 days leading to Holy Week and Great & Holy Pascha, when the Pentecostarion begins. Since our Risen Lord, whose return we await, is the focus of our life and worship, I chose to use this extraordinary icon as our focus today and throughout this week which is fast-free. Let us reflect on The Good Shepherd (Greek: ὁ καλός ποιμήν) as an image used in the passage of John 10:1–21, in which Jesus Christ is depicted as the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. Similar imagery is used in Psalm 23 and Ezekiel 34:11–16. The Good Shepherd is also discussed in the other gospels, the Epistle to the Hebrews, the First Epistle of Peter and the Book of Revelation. The image of the Good Shepherd is the most common of the symbolic representations of Christ found in early Christian art in the Catacombs of Rome, before Christian imagery could be made explicit. We are grateful to the former St. George Church in Port Arthur, Texas, for gifting us this magnificent icon that Fr. George will share at the end of today's Divine Liturgy.*



## GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

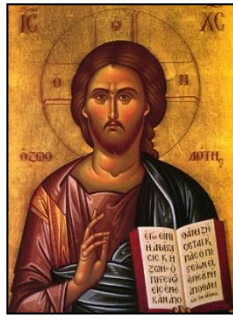
*Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople:* [www.patriarchate.org](http://www.patriarchate.org)

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

*Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website:* [www.atlmetropolis.org](http://www.atlmetropolis.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 Sunday, February 25, 2024**

ON THIS DAY, THE 16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ST. LUKE, THE PERIOD KNOWN AS TRIODION BEGINS, WITH THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE PARABLE OF THE PUBLICAN (TAX COLLECTOR) AND THE PHARISEE TAKEN FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL OF SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST. ON THIS DAY, WE ALSO COMMEMORATE Tarasius, Patriarch of Constantinople (+806); Reginos, Bishop of Skopelos (+355); Holy Martyr Alexander of Thrace (+305); and Markellos, Bishop of Apamea. *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 First Tone) – (Hymnal-pp.114-117):**

It is sung *before* and *after* the Small Entrance: To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

### **3. 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.

### **4. Kontakion for Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee– (not in Hymnal):**

*It is sung after the Small Entrance:* Let us flee the Pharisee's exalted parlance; let us learn the Publican's humble demeanor, and with sighs unto the Savior cry out and say, To us be gracious, O only forgiving Lord.

## **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 24:12-35)**

*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 During Divine Liturgy (2 Tim. 3:10-15)**

*Now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions and suffering the things that happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. What persecutions I endured! Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. Indeed, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But wicked people and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving others and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.*

### **Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Luke 18:10-14)**

*"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."*

### **MEMORY VERSE** (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

"Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To Him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 4:11)



# Family Get-Together Menu

Vegetable Beef Soup with  
Cheese Tortellini

*Presbytera Marinda Tsahakis*

Guinness Shepherd's Pie  
with Beef

*Fr. George Tsahakis*

Tuna Sandwiches

*Dedee Panayis*

Lamb Roast, Orzo, &  
Garlic Bread

*Faye Georgeo*

Beef Brisket

*Steve Theodorakis*

Dolmades

*Becky Butler*

Ham & Cheese Sammies

*Helen Psihountas*

Enchiladas

*Julie Torres*

Taco Salad

*Julie Skouteris*

Stefatho

*Susan Kleto*

Romanian Chicken  
Dumpling Soup  
(Supa cu Galushte)

*Claudia Sliwinski*





Pop's Chili with Toppings

*Jackie Sarantis*

Hash Brown Casserole

*Ellen Farmakis*

Maroulosalata (Greek  
Lettuce Salad)

*Tammy Soulakos*

Brownies

*Rita Tsahakis*

Jello Cloud

*Gail Ericsson*

Cream Puffs

*Jeanie Ellinas*

Angel Food Cake with  
Strawberries & Cool Whip

*Lydia McGee*

Texas Sheet Cake

*Georgia Lungaro*

Lemon Poppy Seed Cake

*Julie Skouteris*

Lemon Cake with Whipped  
Cream Mousse

*Maria Cahill*

Butter Braids (Puff Pastries:  
Four Cheese & Herb, Apple,  
Cinnamon, Cream Cheese,  
Strawberry & Cream Cheese)

*Kirk Panayis*

We thank all who offered food today.

**February 25, Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee (Triodion Begins)**

7:45 Orthros

9:00 Divine Liturgy

10:30 Family Get-Together Luncheon for everyone

**March 4, Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

7:30 Orthros

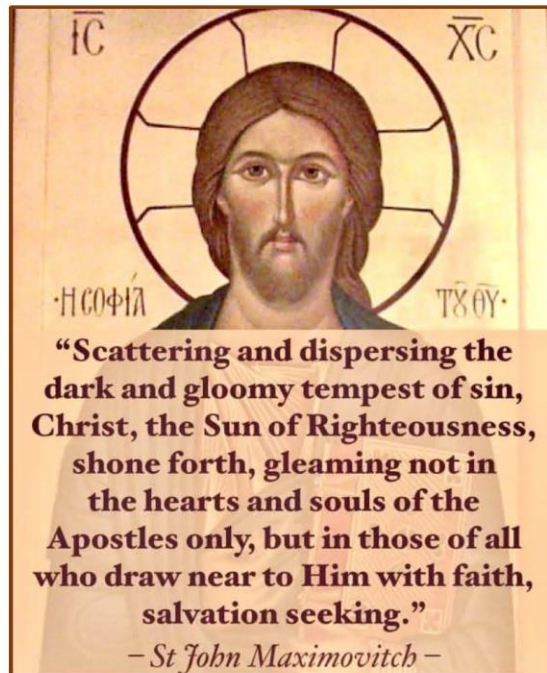
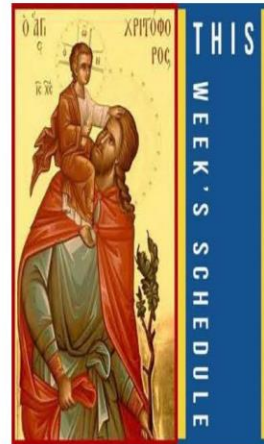
8:45 40-Day Churching of Mother & Baby

9:00 Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Five Loaves,

March Commemoration, & Philoptochos

Membership Drive

11:00 Religious Education Classes





## Video Message from Fr. George to our Faithful Parishioners as we Enter Holy Triodion Today















[click QR code below to view video message]



# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS		THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week <b>FEBRUARY 25th</b>		<i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> <b>Publican and the Pharisee</b> Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week <b>MARCH 3rd</b>		<b>The Prodigal Son Returns!</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare <b>MARCH 10th</b> FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY		<b>The Last Judgement</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare <b>MARCH 17th</b> FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY		<b>Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!</b> <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 24th</b>		<i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> <b>SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY</b> Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 31st</b>		<b>ST GREGORY PALAMAS</b> Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 7th</b>		<b>VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</b> <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHAI</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 14th</b>		<b>ST JOHN of the LADDER</b> Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 21st</b>		<b>ST MARY of EGYPT</b> Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! <b>APRIL 28th</b> GREAT WEEK BEGINS		<i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> <b>ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM</b> Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <b>MAY 3rd</b>		<b>GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY</b> <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! <b>MAY 5th</b> NO FASTING!		<i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> <b>HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)</b> Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!



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On this the 993<sup>rd</sup> 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! ***Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!***



[\*\*Click QR code  
to view\*\*](#)



**Support Our Efforts to  
Build Our Church Complex**



Just like the sheep gathered by the Good Shepherd on today's bulletin cover, we are with Him for today's Parish Family Get-Together. I thank you for bringing your loved ones and friends to join us so that we can...

**1. Pray, Sing, & Worship Together as the Body of Christ**

*"Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens! Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His excellent greatness!" — Psalm 150:1-6*

**2. Enjoy Lunch with Foods that Reflect our Heritage and Family Traditions**

*The families who brought food are recognized in today's Bulletin who responded before today. A special display board lists all those who brought added dishes today so we can thank them. Everyone is invited to join us.*

**3. Bear Testimony On How Our Parish Has Helped Us Grow Closer to God**

*Selected Parishioners will offer brief remarks about how our parish has made a difference in their lives.*

**4. Record This Moment in our Parish History with a Group Photo of our Parish Family and Our Relatives Who Are Joining Us for This Special Sunday**

*Our goal is to acknowledge and record the extraordinary people who are related to our parishioners and their special friends they've invited.*

**5. Unveil an Added Feature to our Parish**

*God has blessed our parish with so many beautiful gifts... a very special one will be unveiled today that witnesses God's love for all!*

***Thank you for your presence and prayers, today and always. +Fr. George***