

Peachtree City, Georgia

St. Christopher Church

THANKS GIVING 2025



St. John Chrysostom (4th century)

"Gratitude is the memory of the heart."



SAINT CHRISTOPHER HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

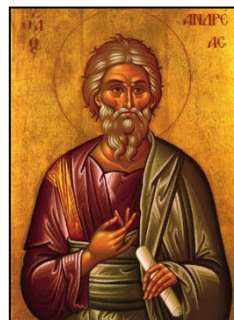
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org

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



313 Dividend Drive, Suite 210
Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

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

Liturgical Guide for Sunday, November 30, 2025

ON THIS DAY, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES the Holy, Glorious, Apostle Andrew of the Twelve, the First to be Called (*the "Protocletos"*) (+62); Righteous Father Froumentios the Ethiopian, Bishop of India (+370); and Alexander the Wonderworker, Bishop of Methymna (+378). *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 4th Tone) – (Hymnal-pp126-7):

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.

3. Hymn for St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle– (not in Hymnal):

It is sung after the Small Entrance. As first-called of the Apostles and brother of Peter the Pre-eminent, O Andrew, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace to the whole world, and great mercy to our souls.

4. 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.

5. Kontakion – Preparation for the Nativity (11/26-12/24) – (Hymnal-pp.240-243):

It is sung *after* the Small Entrance: Today the Virgin goes forth, making her way to a cave where from her, ineffably, God the eternal Word will be born. Let the world be filled with joy, hearing these tidings. Joining the angels and shepherds, let us give glory to Him who is God from all ages, yet wills to be seen as a little child.

6. Communion Hymn – (not in Hymnal):

On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord": "His proclamation went forth into all the earth, and his words to the ends of the world. Alleluia." (Ps. 18[19]). Alleluia."

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 (1 Cor. 4:9-16)

1Cor. 4:9 For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, as though sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to mortals. 10 We are fools for the sake of Christ, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. 11 To the present hour we are hungry and thirsty, we are poorly clothed and beaten and homeless, 12 and we grow weary from the work of our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; 13 when slandered, we speak kindly. We have become like the rubbish of the world, the dregs of all things, to this very day. 14 I am not writing this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. 15 For though you might have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers. Indeed, in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel. 16 I appeal to you, then, be imitators of me.

Gospel Reading (John 1:36-51)

John 1:36 and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. 38 When Jesus turned and saw them following, He said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" 39 He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and they remained with Him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. 40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). 42 He brought Simon to Jesus, Who looked at him and said,

“You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter). 43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow Me.” 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found Him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” 46 Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” 47 When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, He said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” 48 Nathanael asked Him, “Where did You get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” 49 Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” 50 Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” 51 And He said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

On this the 1079th 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! On behalf of our parish, we thank you.

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!

The Foundation of Gratitude



“Lord, You have brought us to this hour of prayer. You have blessed us with gifts beyond measure. Accept our thanksgiving and grant that we may always glorify You—not only with our lips, but with our lives, by giving ourselves to Your service and walking before You in holiness and righteousness all our days.”

(Prayer of St. John Chrysostom)

On this crisp autumn morning, the oak trees around Peachtree City whisper in the wind, their golden leaves dancing like prayers rising to heaven. Inside the hearts of 56 families, a different kind of whisper began stirring months earlier—answering a call to join in the building of something lasting, something sacred. It wasn’t just about bricks and mortar; it was about faith, hope, and love woven into the very foundation of St. Christopher Church.

Indeed, since March, our families have prayerfully considered and been offering their five-year pledges to **raise \$1.5 million**—a goal that ensures we can complete construction of our long-awaited church project by the beginning of 2026. It was a bold vision, rooted in faith and hope, and entrusted to the hearts of our parish family. As your Priest, I am in awe of your response... your generosity. Each pledge is more than a number on paper. It is a story of trust in God’s providence. Some families gave from

abundance, others from sacrifice, but all are giving willingly with hearts full of thanksgiving. Like the widow's two coins, these offerings have become treasures in heaven; they form the cornerstone of a spiritual home for generations yet unborn. They unite us with God's blessings and build upon the solid foundation of our 22-year history of growing our parish to what it is today.

As St. John Chrysostom reminds us:

"Gratitude is the memory of the heart."

When we give thanks, we do more than speak words—we remember God's goodness and respond with love. Thank you for your generous support every time needs arise and help is sought.

As we pause this Thanksgiving, imagine the future: children running through the halls of a new church, voices lifted in hymns, candles flickering before icons of Christ and His saints. This vision is no longer a dream—it is taking shape because of the faith and generosity of those who are answering the call to join our efforts.

And yet, the story is not finished. There are pages still blank, waiting for new names, new pledges, new acts of love. Together, we will write the next chapter—a chapter where we break ground in 2026 and we raise a temple to the glory of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now, and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

A Thanksgiving Message of Gratitude and Hope

*“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His love endures forever.”*

(Psalm 136:1)

Beloved Parish Family,

As we arrive at this week of national Thanksgiving, our hearts overflow with gratitude for the blessings God has bestowed upon our families and our parish community. This year, we have witnessed a remarkable outpouring of faith and generosity. Since March, **56 families have prayerfully pledged \$1 million over five years toward our goal of \$1.5 million**—a milestone that enables us to begin construction of our beloved St. Christopher Church. *And all the while, your stewardship support for the operations of our parish has remained strong and steadfast – we are doubly blessed with your faithful commitment, sacrifices, and trust!*

To our families who have stepped forward to help us achieve our \$1.5 million goal (as of Monday, November 24, 2025), we offer our heartfelt thanks:

Lazo & Pauline Papavassiliou-Bajic; George Bonos & Sybele Capezzutti; Phil & Andrea Boswell; Stephen & Becky Butler; Michael & Jen Burris; Michael & Maria Cahill; Valerie Chappell; Larisa Chen; Mahany & Cynthia Cromartie; John & Misty Duke; Johnny & Jeanie Ellinas; Eric & Eleni Elling; Gail Ericsson; Tom & Ellen Farmakis; Emmanuel & Kim Haldopoulos; Sam & Catherine Holoviak; Myke & Candy Jacobs; Christopher Johns; Deborah Kavadas (Ricos Kavadas of blessed memory); Dina Tagalos Kearns; Pete & Susan Kleto; Jeff & Holly Longino; Scott & Eleni Loyd; Charlie & Georgia Lungaro; Alec MacDougall; Suzanne Marshall; Reese & Cynthia Martin; John & Sunam Mazarella; Fr. Tony & Jeanie McGee; Daniel & Barbara McGouirk; Evangelos & Emilia Moraitis; Nicolas Morin; Perry & Aimee Panos; Kirk & Dedee Panayis; Randy & Anna Pelky; Steven Pelky; Peter & Julie Poulos; Paula Price; George & Helen Psihountas; Mary Psihountas; Fotis & Effie Sakkas; Eva Sarantis; Steve & Jackie Sarantis; James & Claudia Sliwinski; George & Julie Skouteris; Angelique Soulakos; Robert & Lia Spezzano; Nicholas & Michele Stravelakis; Tanner Tatum; Stavro & Pam Theodorakis; Victor & Julie Torres; Fr. George & Presbyteria Marinda Tsahakis; Bill & Isabelle Wiley; Steven & Katie Wilson; Justin & Anna Winter; George & Catherine Zavlanos.

Your pledges—and the payments you are making—are a living testimony of what it means to build not just a church, but a spiritual home for generations to come.

We extend heartfelt appreciation to friends and parishioners who, in addition to these new five-year pledges, have offered gifts throughout our history to purchase our property and our future church building. We appreciate all who have labored tirelessly and offered their time, talents, and treasures these past 22 years in support of our parish. Some have moved, some are in life eternal, but we pause to remember and thank all. Every contribution—large or small—reflects the love of Christ and strengthens the foundation of our future.

Now, as we look toward completing this sacred goal, we invite you to share this blessing with others. It is a privilege to invite family and friends, both within and outside our parish, to give them an opportunity to share in this holy work. Let us reach out to those who love Christ and His Church and invite them to join us in raising the remaining \$500,000. Together, we can offer them the joy of participating in something eternal—a house of worship where countless souls will encounter God's grace for generations to come. A church is more than a physical structure – it is a sacred eternal reality because it is consecrated for God's presence.

For those who have not yet pledged towards our \$1.5 million, five-year goal, know we enthusiastically welcome you to join us in this sacred endeavor. Together, we can reach and exceed our goal as we look forward to His Eminence Metropolitan Sevastianos bless our church complex construction site on Sunday, February 15, 2026, turning our shared vision into reality.

This Thanksgiving let us give thanks not only for what we have, but for what we are building together: a community rooted in prayer, generosity, and hope. For as St. John Chrysostom teaches us, *“The Church is not walls and roof alone, but the dwelling place of God among His people. What is built for His glory stands forever.”*

With gratitude and love in Christ,
Fr. George Tsahakis



Save the Date



The Night *That* Changed *Everything*

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Today, journey to Bethlehem through
the eyes of Aaron, a young shepherd
who witnesses the miraculous birth of Jesus.

St. Christopher Church
Peachtree City, GA

Sunday, December 21, 2025 10:30, a.m.

***Youth and Adults – join us for Religious Education
combined session today for us to share plans and
assign parts. Parents please join us also.***

Join Us Often with Your Family

Sunday, November 30th – Feast of St. Andrew the 1st-Called Apostle

7:45 Orthros

9:00 Divine Liturgy

10:45 Religious Education (all ages) – youth and adults will rehearse Christmas Pageant

11:30 Deadline for Parish Council Nominations to be received by Board of Elections

12:00 Let's EAT! (Broadway Diner)

Monday, December 1st

7:00 pm Parish Council Training for Candidates for PC Elections (Zoom)

Thursday, December 4th – St. Barbara the Great Martyr

8:00 Orthros & 9:00 Divine Liturgy at Archangel Michael Chapel

Saturday, December 6th – St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

9:00 Divine Liturgy, Community Breakfast – youth and adults decorate Christmas Tree

Sunday, December 7th – 10th Sunday of St. Luke

8:00 Orthros

9:00 Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Five Loaves & December Commemorations
(We thank Helen & George Psihountas for offering the 5 loaves)

11:00 Religious Education (all ages) – youth and adults will rehearse Christmas Pageant



Reflection Questions for the Week

Fr. George offers these questions to help you discuss the application of today's Gospel lesson with your families:

1. Where in my life do I struggle with pride or the desire for recognition, and how can I imitate Christ's humility instead?
(Think about moments when you feel overlooked or want credit—how can you respond with humility and grace, remembering Christ's command to love God with all your heart?)
2. How can my family practice unity and peace during this Nativity season, especially when disagreements arise?
(Consider practical steps—like listening patiently, praying together, and loving God with all your soul and strength.)
3. What small act of selfless love can I offer this week that will bring Christ's light into someone's darkness?
(It could be a phone call to someone lonely, helping a neighbor, or forgiving someone who hurt you—living out the commandment to love God with all your mind.)
4. How does the example of the humble woman in India challenge me to live my faith more authentically and sacrificially?
(Reflect on what sacrifices you can make—time, comfort, or resources—to serve others as Christ served, fulfilling His call to love God with all your being.)

+FGT/11.30.25