

ГДЕ БЫСЕДИТЕ ЖЕНОЮ САМАРИТЯНОЮ.







## SAINT CHRISTOPHER HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

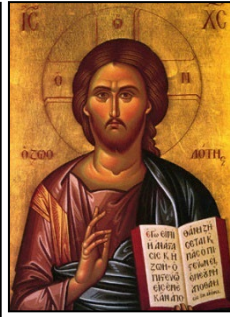
*Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople:* [www.patriarchate.org](http://www.patriarchate.org)

*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, May 18, 2025

**ON THIS DAY, THE *FIFTH* SUNDAY OF PASCHA, THE SUNDAY AFTER MID-PENTECOST, THE CHURCH REMEMBERS JESUS COMING TO THE WELL OF JACOB, FATHER OF ALL PATRIARCHS, AND ASKING FOR A DRINK OF WATER FROM THE HANDS OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN WHO REFUSED TO SERVE HIM, SAYING THAT JESUS HAD NO DEALINGS WITH SAMARITANS. BUT THE WISE CREATOR, SAY THE WORDS OF THE ORTHROS SERVICE TODAY, CHANGED HER HEART THROUGH THE SWEETNESS OF HIS WORD; AND HAVING RECEIVED IT SHE CRIED OUT AND PROCLAIMED TO ALL: “COME AND SEE THE KNOWER OF SECRETS, GOD HIMSELF WHO HAS APPEARED IN THE FLESH**

**SO THAT MANKIND MAY BE SAVED BY HIM.” WE ALSO COMMEMORATE TODAY** *all our Fathers among the saints who served as Archbishops and Patriarchs of Constantinople; Holy Martyrs: Peter, Dionysius, Andrew, Paul, Christina, Heraclius, Paulinus and Benedimus; Stephen I, Patriarch of Constantinople; Julian the Martyr; and Euphrasia the Martyr of Nicea. 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.*

### **Reflection About Today’s Religious Theme:**

Jesus came to the well of Jacob, Father of the Patriarchs, and asked for a drink of water from the hands of the Samaritan Woman who refused to serve Him, saying that Jesus had no dealings with Samaritans. But the Wise Creator, say the words from the Orthros Service today, changed her heart through the sweetness of His words, so that she sought to obtain from Him the Water of Everlasting Word; and having received it she cried out and proclaimed to all: “Come and see the Knower of Secrets, God Himself who has appeared in the flesh so that mankind may be saved by Him.”

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

**1./2./11. Hymn for the Feast of Pascha** *(our Lord’s passover from death to life):*

*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.

**3. 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!"

**4. Resurrectional Hymn - Fourth Tone (Today) – (Hymnal-pp.110-113):**

*Sung 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.

**5. Hymn for Mid-Pentecost – (not in Hymnal):**

*Sung after the Small Entrance:* O Lord, midway through the feast, give drink to my thirsty soul from the living waters of right belief. You, O Savior, proclaimed to everyone, "Let whoever is thirsty come to Me and drink." You are the fountain of life, O Christ our God. Glory to You!

**6. Hymn for Archbishops & Patriarchs of Constantinople – (not in Hymnal):**

*Sung after the Small Entrance:* O illustrious leaders and shepherds of Byzantium, you have been regarded throughout different ages as wise Hierarchs. Wherefore, the Church of Christ praises the manner of your life. Through her, as eminent luminaries, you give light to those who cry out, "Glory to her who aided you, glory to Him who crowned you, glory to Him who, through you, affirmed the Orthodox faith."

**7. 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.

**8. 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.

**9. Megalynarion (Hymn to the Theotokos) – (Hymnal-pp.304-307):**

*Today, the following hymn is sung instead of "Axion Estin" or "Truly it is proper to call you blessed...":* The Angel cried out to the woman full of grace: Rejoice, O Pure Virgin; again I say, rejoice, for your Son is risen from the tomb on the third day. Rejoice and exult, sacred gate of the Light, for Jesus Who went down into the grave has dawned again, O God-favored Lady, shining more brightly than the sun, and filling all the faithful with light.

**10. Communion Hymn – (Hymnal-pp.318-319):**

*On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord":* Receive the Body of Christ; drink from the font of immortality.

**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 (John 20:1-10)**

*Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look*

*in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that He must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.*

### **Epistle Reading (Acts 11:19-30)**

*Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that took place over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and they spoke the word to no one except Jews. But among them were some men of Cyprus and Cyrene who, on coming to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists also, proclaiming the Lord Jesus. The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number became believers and turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast devotion; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were brought to the Lord. Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for an entire year they met with the church and taught a great many people, and it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called "Christians." At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine over all the world; and this took place during the reign of Claudius. The disciples determined that according to their ability, each would send relief to the believers living in Judea; this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.*

### **Gospel Reading (John 4:5-42)**

*So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir I see that you are a prophet, Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and*



truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritan came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

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



“The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come.’ And let everyone who hears say, ‘Come.’ And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.” (Rev. 22:17)

## **PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:**

*<sup>30</sup>So they said to Him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe You? What work are You performing? <sup>31</sup>Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” (John 6:30-31)*

In Jesus’ ministry on earth, He offered spectacular evidence of Who He is. He gave His followers bread. He offered great healings. He taught them love, mercy, and forgiveness like today’s Holy Gospel revealed.

That was more than 2,000 years ago, yet today, incredibly, the story is the same for us . . . Jesus has done so many things to bless us – in our families, our homes, our vocations, our parish, and our inclusion in His Holy Body with unconditional love and patience. *What will it take to prove to us that our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ, is God . . . that we should submit to His Will and follow Him every moment of each day? How many more miracles and signs will He have to offer before we truly believe that He is God and gives us eternal life?*

As we depart today, let us not discount the wonderful things that our Risen Lord has done for us. Today, and all this week, let us give thanks for His blessings in our lives. Each day, let us thank our Lord for His divine providence and ask that He enable us to see His efforts to shape and change us according to His Will.

*“No, Lord, we do not need another miracle or mighty deed to believe. We can truly believe right now, right here, and without doubt that Jesus Christ gives us life today, . . . and forever and ever.” AMEN!*

## **Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Greek Pontian Genocide**

*Since May 2019, the Greek Parliament has dedicated May 19th as a Day of Remembrance for the victims of the Greek Pontian Genocide. Our Metropolis of Atlanta Clergy have been directed to offer a Memorial to pray for the victims of the Greek Pontian Genocide on Sunday, May 18th.*

*The Greek Orthodox Genocide in Pontus refers to the systematic extermination of the native Greek subjects of the Ottoman Empire before, during and after World War I (1914-1923) from Mustafa Kemal Ataturk.*

*It included massacres, forced deportations and death marches, summary expulsions, boycotts, rape, forced conversion to Islam, conscription into labor battalions, arbitrary executions, and destruction of Orthodox Christian cultural, historical and religious monuments. According to various sources, approximately 1 million Ottoman Greeks perished during this period.*

*All Greek males aged between 21-45 were forcibly conscripted into labor battalions. Most of them perished under appalling conditions being forced to work around the clock with little food or water. In*

*1915, under the advice of German military personnel, these Greeks were not permitted to take anything with them. Goods in their shops were later sold by Ottoman authorities. They were deported to the interior and to Muslim villages where they were forced to choose between Islam or death.*

*According to figures compiled by the Ecumenical Patriarchate, by 1918, 774,235 Greeks had been deported from their homes, many of them to the interior of Turkey, never to be seen again.*

***On this Day of Remembrance, Fr. George thanks you for your willingness to offer prayers for the memories of our fallen brothers and sisters.***

On this the 1053<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! On behalf of our parish, we thank you. ***Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!***

### Calendar of Upcoming Events:

June	1	General Meeting for all
	8	Prayer Shawl Blessing Guest: Bloom Our Youth
	19	Batter Day! For GreekFest 8:30
	21	Folding Day! 9:00
	22	Bonus Father's Day Luncheon
	26	Batter Day! For GreekFest 8:30
	28	Folding Day! 9:00

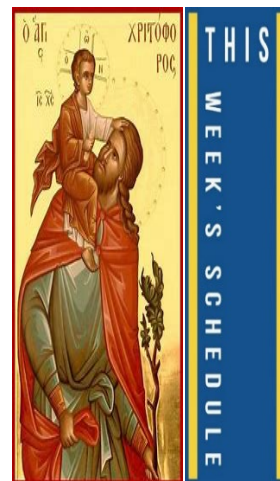
**Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> – Sunday of the Samaritan Woman, Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Greek Pontian Genocide, & AHEPA Sunday**

**7:45 Orthros**

**9:00 Divine Liturgy, Memorial Service, & Religious Education Graduation**

**11:00 Religious Education Classes (*Last Day of classes for 2024-2025 year*)**

**12:00 Philoptochos Board Meeting**



**Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday of the Blind Man**

**7:45 Orthros**

**9:00 Divine Liturgy**

**11:30 Let's EAT!**

**SUPPORT OUR BUILDING FUND**



**St. Christopher 5-Year Building Fund Pledge**

*"... for God loves a cheerful giver" 2 Corinthians 9: 7*

*Begins 03/01/2025*

**Offer your 5-year Building Fund Pledge  
Today**



## Sharing Talents in Multiple Ways

Fr. George will bless our next collection of Prayer Shawls on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. For the third year in a row, we get to partner with YOCAMA. If it is possible for the maker to do so, we request the shawls be made with wool yarn. It can get very cold in the locations that YOCAMA serves.



While the Prayer Shawl Ministry is about shawls, we also try to assist our partnering organizations in other ways. Supporting the Young Orthodox Christian American Mission Adventures (YOCAMA) financially is one way to do so. Participating in a Mission Trip with your teens and young adult family members is another. YOCAMA sponsors mission trips to Native American Indian Reservations to provide medical, dental, vision and developmental screenings for pre-school children. They also help with educational programs and small construction projects.

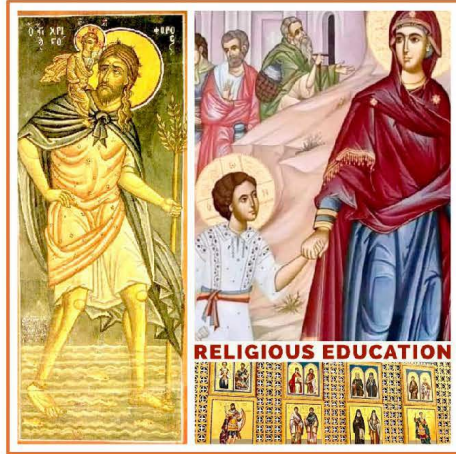
YOCAMA is an independent, non-profit organization. We seek to provide teens and young adults an opportunity to share the experience of working side-by-side with Native Americans who are helping to improve the quality of life in their own communities in the Navajo and Blackfeet reservations. Missionaries pay their own travel and lodging expenses. We rely on fundraising and donations to support our medical, food distribution and construction projects. Donations are fully tax-deductible. Annual fundraising and donations from missionaries and their parishes from throughout the Greek Orthodox churches in North America and with other interested organizations, support our medical, social welfare and construction projects.

Since 2008, over 1,000 missionaries have participated in trips to New Mexico and Montana. In addition to pre-school screenings, we built houses, completed building renovations, and delivered food and firewood to families in remote parts of the reservations.

YOCAMA supports Native American families by partnering with local organizations such as St. Bonaventure's or the De La Salle Blackfeet School. They aim to support and enhance the great work being done by these groups, while providing additional funding and manpower. Each summer YOCAMA trip participants distribute food boxes put together by the St. George Albuquerque Philoptochos across the Eastern Navajo reservation. Many of the homes receiving deliveries lack electricity or plumbing. For more information about these volunteer opportunities or to support YOCAMA directly, see their website at <http://www.yocama.com/>.

As our Parish member and YOCAMA volunteer Isabelle Wiley has shared with us, day-to-day life is very difficult on both the Blackfeet and Navajo Reservations. Philoptochos has already pledged a donation to accompany our Prayer Shawls. However, you can help too. To support YOCAMA through our Philoptochos, please make donations to Philoptochos but put YOCAMA Donation on the "For" line.

Please contact Susan Kleto at (576) 877-9115 or [skleto@gmail.com](mailto:skleto@gmail.com) to either become a participant in this ministry, to receive yarn, to receive sew-in labels, to receive a Prayer Guide, or if you have any questions or suggestions.



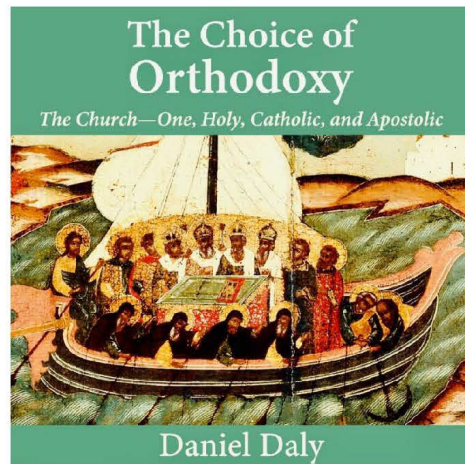
## Adult Class

Sunday, May 18, 2025

Fr. George Tsahakis

Today, our class will discuss Chapter 4 of our textbook at right, entitled, *The Church: Do We Really Need It?* It adds to Fr. George's reflection in this week's e-bulletin, about the importance of attending church with family (reprinted on following page).

*Whether you are a cradle Orthodox or seeker of learning the Orthodox faith, I encourage you to come and learn with your parish family.*



Attending church with family is more than just a weekly tradition—it's a way to strengthen faith, build community, and pass down spiritual values. Here's why I feel it matters:

- **Biblical Insight:** *"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."* (Hebrews 10:25)
- **Patristic Insight:** St. John Chrysostom expressed that *"The Church is not a theater, where we listen for pleasure; we are not here to be entertained, but to be instructed and edified."*
- **Spiritual Growth:** Worshiping together fosters a deeper connection with God and reinforces Orthodox teachings.
- **Family Bonding:** Shared experiences in church create lasting memories and strengthen family ties.
- **Cultural Heritage:** The Orthodox Church preserves traditions, language, and customs that keep cultural identity alive.
- **Community Support:** Being part of a church family provides emotional and social support, especially during life's challenges.
- **Moral Foundation:** Children learn values like kindness, humility, and service through participation in church life.

As your Priest, I recognize it is not always easy to get everyone out the door on Sunday morning, but the benefits of attending church as a family make the effort worthwhile.

[Email me with your thoughts on this?](#)



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS <sup>OF</sup> ATLANTA  
ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΛΑΝΤΑΣ

May 15, 2025

Very Rev. Fr. George Tsahakis  
And all the Faithful of St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox  
313 Dividend Dr., Suite 210  
Peachtree City, GA 30269

My dear Fr. George, and my Beloved Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

**Χριστός ανέστη! Αληθώς ανέστη!**  
**Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!**

I greet you with joy in the Name of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! My fervent prayer is that the Lord's peace and unwaning light continue to uplift you and your loved ones throughout the remainder of the Paschal season.

I am writing to you to express my gratitude and appreciation for your generous gift towards the Agape Fund, in recognition of my travels to your community. In recognition of your hospitality and open-heartedness, I wish that this gift be received back by your community and offered toward your parish's building fund.

Through your generosity, you have clearly demonstrated the Gospel of Christ, and I only hope this offering assists your community in achieving its goals and thus continuing your service to our Lord's Holy Church.

In the love and service of the Lord,

*+ Metropolitan Sevastianos*

**+SEVASTIANOS**  
**Metropolitan of Atlanta**