

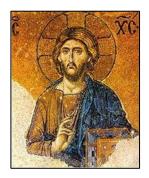
SAINT CHRISTOPHER HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

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 Friday, August 15, 2025

Feast of the Dormition of our Most Holy, Glorious Lady and Blessed Theotokos & Ever Virgin Mary

We remember the "falling asleep" (koimissis/dormition) — the death of the Virgin Mary. We will continue to sing the hymns for this Feast Day through August 23rd. May the prayers of the Theotokos to her Son and our Lord for us bring peace, unity, and love in every aspect of our lives. Through her intercessions O Good and Loving 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. Hymn for Second Antiphon – (pg. 28 of Hymnal):

On the occasion of today's feast, we sing the following hymn instead of the regular <u>Soson imas</u>, "Save us, O Son of God": "Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, we sing to You, Alleluia."

- <u>2./3. Hymn for the Falling Asleep of the Theotokos (Hymnal-pp.222-223):</u> It is sung <u>before</u> and <u>after</u> the Small Entrance. In giving birth you remained a virgin, and in your dormition you did not forsake this world, O Theotokos. For as the Mother of Life, you have yourself passed into life. And by your prayers, you deliver our souls from death.
- 4. Kontakion for the Falling Asleep of the Theotokos (Hymnal-pp.288-289): It is sung after the Small Entrance. She is our vigilant intercessor, the Theotokos, our sure hope and protection. Neither death nor tomb held any power over her, for as the Mother of Life, she was taken into life by that very one who deigned to dwell in her ever virgin womb.

5. Megalynarion (Hymn to the Theotokos) – (not in New Hymnal):

On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Axion Estin" or "Truly bless you, the only Mother of God. Now all generations call

you blessed, O only Theotokos. In you the laws of nature are defeated, O undefiled Virgin pure. In virginity childbirth was accomplished, and death introduces life. You, after bearing, are virgin, and after dying are living. Mother of God, ever save your inheritance.

6. Communion Hymn – (Hymnal-pp.324):

On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord": "I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. (Ps. 115[116]). 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 (Philippians 2:5-11)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, Who, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Reading (Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28)

Now as they went on their way, He entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what He was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to Him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which

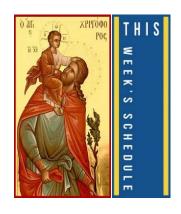
will not be taken away from her." While He was saying this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You and the breasts that nursed You!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!"

And on this *the twenty-second* Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos 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 <u>will</u> 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!

Friday, August 15th – Dormition of the Theotokos

- 8:00 Lamentations [chanted in front of Tomb (Kouvouklion) of the Theotokos]
- 9:00 Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!





Fortify my mind, O my Savior; for I am daring to extol Your immaculate Mother, the fortress of the world. Reinforce me with a tower of words and shelter me in a castle of concepts; for You have promised to fulfill the requests of those who request with faith. Do, therefore, endow me with elocution, expression, and dauntless meditation; for every dose of illumination is sent down from You, O guiding Light, who lived in her ever-virgin womb. [Orthros Oikos for Feast of Dormition of the Theotokos]