



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

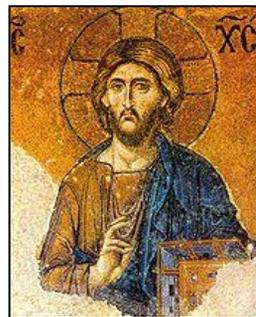
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: [www.patriarchate.org](http://www.patriarchate.org)

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

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: [www.atlanta.goarch.org](http://www.atlanta.goarch.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 Saturday, December 12, 2020**

ON THIS DAY, THE CHURCH COMMEMORATES Spyridon the Wonderwork of Trymithous; Holy New Martyr Peter the Aleut; and John (or Joachim), Bishop of Zichni; Holy Martyr Synetos; Holy Priest-Martyr Alexander, Archbishop of Jerusalem; and Holy Fathers Amonatha and Anthos. *Through their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.*

### **Thank You for Your Understanding**

We welcome our parishioners who pre-registered and are attending services in person today and we also welcome those who are viewing our online video streaming at home. Let us comply with the guidelines we have provided everyone. We appreciate your kind understanding that our church is beginning phase one of the re-opening of our doors. Fr. George is deeply appreciative to you and all who are assisting during worship services.

*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./3./4. Hymn for St. Spyridon the Wonderworker– (not in Hymnal):**

*It is sung after the Great Doxology and before and after the Small Entrance. You were a champion of the First Ecumenical Council, O Spyridon, our God-bearing Father, and worker of miracles. You addressed your daughter who was dead and entombed, and you opportunely turned a snake into gold. There were Angels celebrating along with you, O sacred man, when you served the holy liturgy. Glory to Christ Who glorified you! Glory to Him Who put a crown on you! Glory to Him Who through you gives cures and healing to all!*

### **2. Hymn for Second Antiphon – (pg. 28 of Hymnal):**

*On the occasion of today's feast, we sing the following hymn instead of the regular Soson imas. "Save us, O Son of God": "Save us, O Son of God, among the saints glorified, we sing to You, Alleluia."*

### **5. 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.*

### **6. 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.*

### **7. Communion Hymn – (Hymnal-p.328):**

*On the occasion of today's feast, the following hymn is sung instead of "Aineite" or "Praise the Lord": "The memory of the righteous will endure forever." (Ps. 111[112]). Alleluia."*

## **SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES FROM TODAY'S ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY**

<p>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.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">– St. John Chrysostom</p>
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### **Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (John 10:1-9)**

*John 10:1 “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. 2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” 6 Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what He was saying to them. 7 So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who came before Me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the gate. Whoever enters by Me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.*

### **Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Ephesians 5:8-19)**

*Eph. 5:8 For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light — 9 for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. 10 Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; 13 but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, 14 for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” 15 Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, 16 making the most of the time, because the days are evil. 17 So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts,*

### **Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (John 10:9-16)**

*John 10:9 I am the gate. Whoever enters by Me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. 11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me, 15 just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father. And I lay down My life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.*



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*On this our seventeenth Feast of St. Spyridon the Wonderworker at St. Christopher parish, 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!*

## **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Nativity Fast – November 15 – December 24

### **Saturday, December 12 (St. Spyridon the Wonderworker):**

7:45 am            Orthros Service  
9:00 am            Divine Liturgy

***Your continued support and mutual encouragement  
are essential and appreciated!***

**Help St. John's Church Christmas Ministry**



*The Family Toy &  
Food Box Program*

St. John the Wonderworker Church,

December 19th 2020