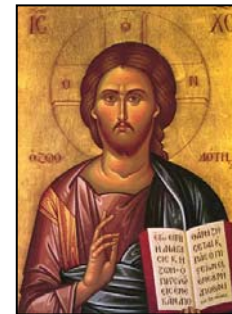
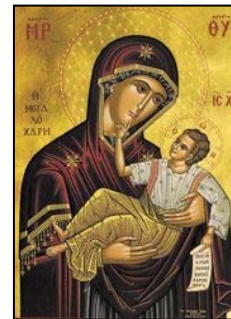
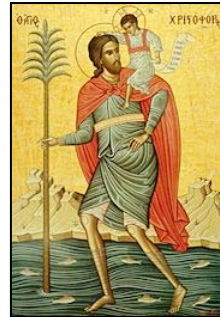




Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople: www.patriarchate.org
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Website: www.goarch.org
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta Website: www.atlanta.goarch.org
St. Christopher Hellenic Orthodox Church Website: www.saintchristopherhoc.org

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, March 10, 2019

ON THIS DAY, THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE TRIODION PERIOD, WHICH WE REFER TO AS CHEESEFARE SUNDAY AND THE SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS, WE CALL TO MIND the banishment of Adam and Eve, the first created from the joys of Paradise. WE ALSO COMMEMORATE Holy Martyr Quadratus of Corinth and his five Companions Martyred with him (+251); Righteous Mother Anastasia of Alexandria (+563); St. Marcian; and New-Martyr St. Michael (+1544). *O Christ our God, through Your ineffable compassion, deem us worthy of the joys of Paradise, and have mercy on us, as the only Loving One. Amen. 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.

Reminder for Next Sunday

Each parishioner is encouraged to bring an icon to church next week for the Sunday of Orthodoxy and join us in the procession at the end of the Divine Liturgy.



TODAY'S Spiritual Theme From the Triodion:

The fall of our first parents, *Adam and Eve*, and their banishment from Paradise are commemorated on this day. Today is also the SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS as emphasized in the Gospel reading. *We are reminded, before we enter the Lenten fast, that there can be no true fast, no genuine repentance, no reconciliation with God, unless we are at the same time reconciled with one another.*

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 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 sung for Cheese Fare Sunday – (Hymnal-pp. 264-267):

It is sung after the Small Entrance: O You Who are the source of all wisdom and discernment, instructor of the ignorant and champion of the poor; strengthen my heart, O Master, and grant me understanding. O Word of the Father, bring words to my lips, that nothing would keep me from crying out to You: In Your compassion have mercy on me, for I have fallen.

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. – St. John Chrysostom</p>
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Gospel Reading During Orthros Service (John 20:11-18)

“But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.’ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?’ Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, ‘Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to Me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to My brothers and say to them, I am ascending to My Father and Your Father, to My God and Your God.’ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that He had said these things to her.”

Epistle Reading During Divine Liturgy (Romans 13:11-14:4)

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is

far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. ¹⁴Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Gospel Reading During Divine Liturgy (Matthew 6:14-21)

“For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. ”And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ”Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

MEMORY VERSE (TRY TO COMMIT TO MEMORY):

“How great is the mercy of the Lord, and His forgiveness for those who return to Him.”
(Sirach 17:29)

Καλή Τεσσαρακοστή!
May God grant you a blessed lenten journey!

All Sundays in March: Holy Cross School of Theology

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts offers graduate programs leading to advanced degrees in Divinity and Theology.



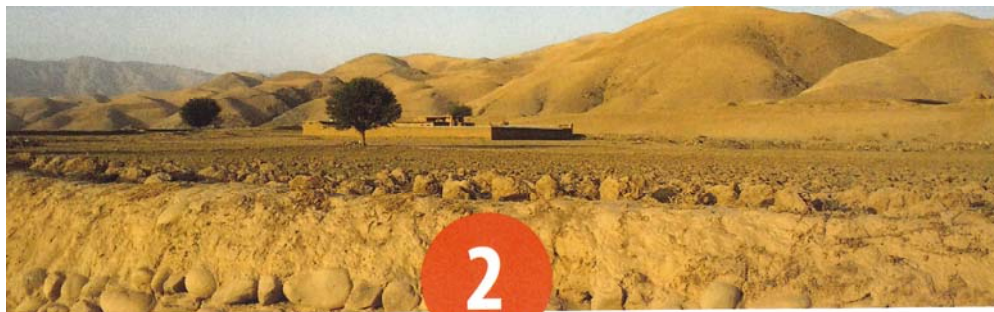
At Holy Cross, the only Greek Orthodox School of Theology in the United States, education is an **integration of learning and faith**. Its programs reflect the religious and cultural values of the **Hellenic Orthodox tradition**.

Holy Cross strives to fulfill the need to educate the **next generation of leaders, clergy, and laypersons** who will exemplify the values and spirit of Orthodox Christianity in their chosen professions. Learning, teaching, service, and worship activities develop the intellectual and spiritual potential of students. The School affords the faculty with **academic freedom** to pursue teaching and scholarship.

"Hands of Love", a ministry of our **Philoptochos Society** will be accepting **monetary donations** to benefit the School.

PASTORAL REFLECTION FROM FR. GEORGE:

Continuing from last week's sermon remarks, I wanted to share that in over 60 countries, Open Doors supports persecuted Christians by providing Bibles, emergency aid, discipleship training, vocational instruction, trauma counseling, advocacy and many other kinds of support. The goal? To let our brothers and sisters know they're not alone. Open Doors exists to allow the church, no matter where it is, to be the Church. Open Doors has stated that it is committed to those who suffer for following Jesus, and it believes the persecuted Church is part of the DNA of every Christian. Toward that end, I continue on the following page with highlighting the "World Watch List of 2019" – the 50 countries where it's most dangerous to follow Jesus. May we offer prayers in support of their efforts and pray for God's peace and good will to prevail!



Afghanistan

Source of persecution Islamic oppression

Population 36,373,000

Christians Thousands

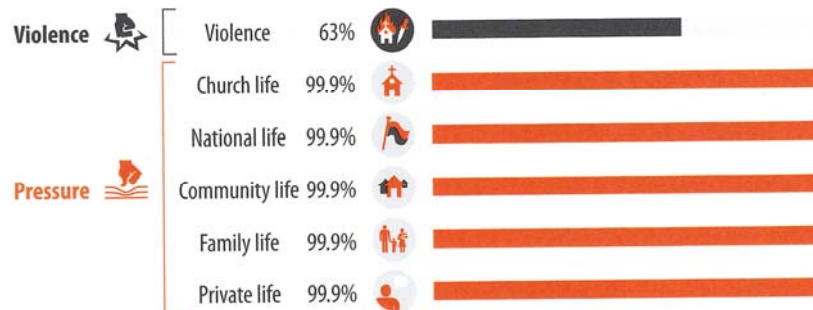
Main religion Islam

Government Islamic republic

Leader President Ashraf Ghani

Profile of persecution

Based on World Watch List 2019 data



Where Christianity is not permitted to exist

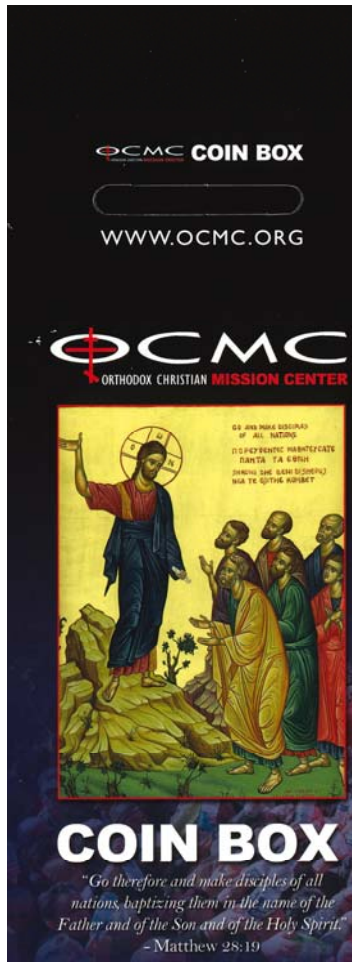
Afghanistan is an Islamic state by constitution, which means government officials, ethnic group leaders, religious officials and citizens are hostile toward adherents of any other religion. This means any expression of any faith other than Islam is simply not permitted to exist. Additionally, to convert to a faith outside Islam is tantamount to treason because it is seen as a betrayal of family, tribe and country.

Prayer points

- Christian converts from Islam face strong pressure from family, friends and neighbors and can even be attacked. Pray for these believers to have courage and protection.
- The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan does not allow conversion from Islam. Please pray for a softening of the country's leadership and local rulers.
- Pray for isolated believers in Afghanistan, many of whom are totally cut off from any other Christians.

Today is Mission Sunday – Let Us Pray for Orthodox Missions and Missionaries!

Today, the last day before Great and Holy Lent begins, is **Mission Sunday**. As we begin our journey toward Christ's glorious Resurrection, the salvation He made possible is to be shared with the world. Let us pray for the workers of Orthodox missions and for those who hunger and thirst for Christ and those who have answered the call to carry the truth of the Orthodox Faith to the world.



Prayer for Missions

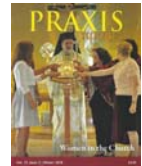
God of truth and love: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, hear our prayer for those who do not know You. that they may come to a saving knowledge of the truth, and that Your Name may be praised among all peoples of the world. Sustain, inspire, and enlighten Your servants who bring them the Gospel. Bring fresh vigor to wavering faith; sustain our faith when it is still fragile. Continually renew missionary zeal in ourselves and in the Church, and raise up new missionaries who will follow You to the ends of the world. Make us witnesses to Your goodness full of love, full of strength, and full of faith, for Your glory and the salvation of the entire world. Through the prayers of all the missionary saints, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

 ["Follow" & "Like" our Facebook page.](#) *Check for updates and photos.*

On this the 694th 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!

Today's Adult Religious Education Class

March 10, 2019: "Made for One Another" (pp. 26 - 27). Fr. George will conclude teaching this lesson today... come and join us!



On this the 746th 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!

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE (CHECK WEB CALENDAR FOR MORE...)

Sunday, March 10th (Cheesefare/Forgiveness Sunday – no dairy product after today for those seeking strict fast during Great Lent/Mission Sunday):

- 7:45 am Orthros Service
- 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- 10:15 am Forgiveness Vespers/Coffee Fellowship Reception
- 11:15 am Religious Education Classes (*for all ages*)
- 12:15 am Parish Council Meeting
- 2:00 pm St. Christopher Outreach Ministry Meeting

Great and Holy Lent begins Monday, March 11th

Your continued support and mutual encouragement are essential and appreciated!