



# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

859 First Street | Macon, Georgia 31201 | 478.621.0744 (office)  
[www.holycrossga.org](http://www.holycrossga.org) | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

### Sunday, February 19, 2023

Meatfare/Judgement Sunday

+ St. Philothea of Athens

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Third (Mark 16:9-20)

Mode of the Week: Third/Τρίτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

Today, February 19

9:15am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy on Meatfare/Judgement Sunday  
 Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion  
 Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy  
 12:30pm Philoptochos Meeting in the Parish House

Monday, February 20

Presidents Day—Office Closed

Wednesday, February 22

5:45pm Vespers  
 6:30pm Adult Study Class in the Parish House

Friday, February 24

10:00am Orthodox Book Study  
 5:30pm Divine Liturgy for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Souls, followed by the Memorial Service

Saturday, February 25

7:45am Parish Outing: Cantrell Center 5K with Young Adult and Not So Young Adult Get Togethers afterwards

Sunday, February 26

9:15am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy on Cheesefare/Forgiveness Sunday  
 Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion  
 Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy  
 12:15pm Altar Boy/St. Photini Handmaiden Meetings in the Church  
 1:00pm Forgiveness Vespers for the beginning of Great Lent

Monday, February 27

6:00pm Great Compline on the First Day of Great and Holy Lent

Tuesday, February 28

6:00pm Great Compline

Wednesday, March 1

5:30pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy  
 6:45pm Adult Study Class and Light Lenten Meal in the Parish House

Thursday, March 2

3-7pm Red Cross Blood Drive in the Parish House  
 6:00pm Great Compline

Friday, March 3

6:00pm Salutations to the Theotokos (Χαιρετισμοί)

Saturday, March 4

9:30am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Souls/the Miracle of St. Theodore and the Kollyva, followed by the Memorial Service

Sunday, March 5

9:15am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of Orthodoxy  
 Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion  
 Procession of the Icons at the end of the Liturgy  
 5:00pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers at St. Innocent Church in Bollingbroke

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (2/26) Aleca Hortman, Rene Esquivel; (3/5) George Saratsiotis, Rene Esquivel

**Upcoming Ushers:** (2/22) Hazel D.; (2/24) Maria S.; (2/26) Cristina and Jim L.; (2/28) Eleni and Norm A.

**Upcoming Video Operators:** (2/26) Natalia Saratsiotis; (2/27) Natalia Saratsiotis; (3/1) David Needham

**Upcoming Fellowship Hosts:** (2/26) Cheryl Schwartzkopf; (3/5) Maria B., Joanna P.; (3/12) Aleca Hortman

### Our Parish Hymn of the Holy Cross of Christ:

Save, O Lord, save your people and bless Your inheritance. Give victory to those who battle evil and protect us all by Your Holy Cross.

Σώσον Κύριε τὸν λαόν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς Βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

**To our Visitors and Guests:** We extend a **warm welcome** to all worshipping with us today! While Holy Communion, following ancient practice, is reserved for Orthodox Christians, non-Orthodox may receive the blessed bread (antidoron) offered at the conclusion of the service.

**Please join us in the Parish House after the Divine Liturgy for Coffee Fellowship!**

## Epistle Reading

*Μέγας ὁ Κύριος ἡμῶν, καὶ μεγάλη ἡ  
ἰσχὺς αὐτοῦ.*

*Στίχ. Αἰνεῖτε τὸν Κύριον, ὅτι ἀγαθὸς  
Κύριος.*

+++

*Πρὸς Κορινθίους Α΄ Ἐπιστολῆς  
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.*

+++

Ἀδελφοί, βρῶμα ἡμᾶς οὐ παρίστησι τῷ Θεῷ· οὔτε γὰρ ἐὰν φάγωμεν περισσεύομεν, οὔτε ἐὰν μὴ φάγωμεν ὑστερούμεθα. Βλέπετε δὲ μήπως ἡ ἐξουσία ὑμῶν αὕτη πρόσκομμα γένηται τοῖς ἀσθενοῦσιν. Ἐὰν γάρ τις ἴδῃ σε, τὸν ἔχοντα γνῶσιν, ἐν εἰδωλείῳ κατακείμενον, οὐχὶ ἡ συνείδησις αὐτοῦ ἀσθενοῦς ὄντος οἰκοδομηθήσεται εἰς τὸ τὰ εἰδωλόθυτα ἐσθίειν; Καὶ ἀπολεῖται ὁ ἀσθενῶν ἀδελφὸς ἐπὶ τῇ σῆ γνώσει, δι' ὃν Χριστὸς ἀπέθανεν. Οὕτω δὲ ἀμαρτάνοντες εἰς τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς καὶ τύπτοντες αὐτῶν τὴν συνείδησιν ἀσθενοῦσαν εἰς Χριστὸν ἀμαρτάνετε. Διόπερ εἰ βρῶμα σκανδαλίζει τὸν ἀδελφόν μου, οὐ μὴ φάγω κρέα εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, ἵνα μὴ τὸν ἀδελφόν μου σκανδαλίσω. Οὐκ εἰμὶ ἀπόστολος; οὐκ εἰμὶ ἐλεύθερος; οὐχὶ Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν τὸν Κύριον ἡμῶν ἑώρακα; οὐ τὸν ἔργον μου ὑμεῖς ἐστε ἐν Κυρίῳ; Εἰ ἄλλοις οὐκ εἰμὶ ἀπόστολος, ἀλλὰ γε ὑμῖν εἰμὶ· ἡ γὰρ σφραγὶς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀποστολῆς ὑμεῖς ἐστε ἐν Κυρίῳ.

*Great is our Lord, and great is His  
strength.*

*Verse: Praise the Lord, for the  
Lord is good. (Ps. 146/134)*

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*The reading is from Paul's First  
Letter to the Corinthians.*

*(8:8-13, 9:1-2)*

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Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

## The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (25:31-46)

### Meatfare Sunday

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Ὅταν ἔλθῃ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐν τῇ δόξῃ αὐτοῦ καὶ πάντες οἱ ἅγιοι ἄγγελοι μετ' αὐτοῦ, τότε καθίσει ἐπὶ θρόνου δόξης αὐτοῦ· καὶ συναθροίσεται ἔμπροσθεν αὐτοῦ πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, καὶ ἀφοριεῖ αὐτοὺς ἀπ' ἀλλήλων, ὡσπερ ὁ ποιμὴν ἀφορίζει τὰ πρόβατα ἀπὸ τῶν ἐρίφων, καὶ στήσει τὰ μὲν πρόβατα ἐκ δεξιῶν αὐτοῦ τὰ δὲ ἐρίφια ἐξ εὐωνύμων. τότε ἐρεῖ ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῖς ἐκ δεξιῶν αὐτοῦ· δεῦτε, οἱ εὐλογημένοι τοῦ πατρὸς μου, κληρονομήσατε τὴν ἡτοιμασμένην ὑμῖν βασιλείαν ἀπὸ καταβολῆς κόσμου· ἐπεινάσα γὰρ καὶ ἐδώκατέ μοι φαγεῖν, ἐδίψησα καὶ ἐποτίσατέ με, ξένος ἦμην καὶ συνηγάγετέ με, γυμνὸς καὶ περιεβάλετέ με, ἡσθένησα καὶ ἐπεσκέψασθέ με, ἐν φυλακῇ ἦμην καὶ ἦλθετε πρὸς με. τότε ἀποκριθήσονται αὐτῷ οἱ δίκαιοι λέγοντες· κύριε, πότε σε εἶδομεν πεινῶντα καὶ ἐθρέψαμεν, ἢ διψῶντα καὶ ἐποτίσαμεν; πότε δέ σε εἶδομεν ξένον καὶ συνηγάγομεν, ἢ γυμνὸν καὶ περιεβάλομεν; πότε δέ σε εἶδομεν ἀσθενῆ ἢ ἐν φυλακῇ καὶ ἦλθομεν πρὸς σε; καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐρεῖ αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐφ' ὅσον ἐποιήσατε ἐνὶ τούτων τῶν ἀδελφῶν μου τῶν ἐλαχίστων, ἐμοὶ ἐποιήσατε. Τότε ἐρεῖ καὶ τοῖς ἐξ εὐωνύμων· πορεύεσθε ἀπ' ἐμοῦ οἱ κατηραμένοι εἰς τὸ πῦρ τὸ αἰώνιον τὸ ἡτοιμασμένον τῷ διαβόλῳ καὶ τοῖς ἀγγέλοις αὐτοῦ· ἐπεινάσα γὰρ καὶ οὐκ ἐδώκατέ μοι φαγεῖν, ἐδίψησα καὶ οὐκ ἐποτίσατέ με, ξένος ἦμην καὶ οὐ συνηγάγετέ με, γυμνὸς καὶ οὐ περιεβάλετέ με, ἀσθενὴς καὶ ἐν φυλακῇ καὶ οὐκ ἐπεσκέψασθέ με. τότε ἀποκριθήσονται αὐτῷ καὶ αὐτοὶ λέγοντες· κύριε, πότε σε εἶδομεν πεινῶντα ἢ διψῶντα ἢ ξένον ἢ γυμνὸν ἢ ἀσθενῆ ἢ ἐν φυλακῇ καὶ οὐ διηκονήσαμεν σοι; τότε ἀποκριθήσεται αὐτοῖς λέγων· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐφ' ὅσον οὐκ ἐποιήσατε ἐνὶ τούτων τῶν ἐλαχίστων, οὐδὲ ἐμοὶ ἐποιήσατε. καὶ ἀπελεύσονται οὗτοι εἰς κόλασιν αἰώνιον, οἱ δὲ δίκαιοι εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον.

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ehmer

Προϊστάμενος/Presiding Priest

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Office Days: Tuesday through Friday: call or email Fr. for appointment

Holy Confession: call or email Fr. to schedule

### Bulletin for the week of February 19, 2023

**Ushers on Duty:** Charles Glotzbach, Jim Lekas

**Video:** Cristina L.

**Altar Servers:** All Adult/Youth Servers

**Epistle Readers:** George Saratsiotis (Greek), Isabelle Saratsiotis (Eng.)

**Fellowship Host (Thank You!):** Toula Tsamolias



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Meatfare Sunday (Remembrance of the Second and Impartial coming of our Lord Jesus Christ)

*The foregoing two parables -- especially that of the Prodigal Son -- have presented to us God's extreme goodness and love for man. But lest certain persons, putting their confidence in this alone, live carelessly, squandering upon sin the time given them to work out their salvation, and death suddenly snatch them away, the most divine Fathers have appointed this day's feast commemorating Christ's impartial Second Coming, through which we bring to mind that God is not only the Friend of man, but also the most righteous Judge, Who recompenses to each according to his deeds.*

*It is the aim of the holy Fathers, through bringing to mind that fearful day, to rouse us from the slumber of carelessness unto the work of virtue, and to move us to love and compassion for our brethren. Besides this, even as on the coming Sunday of Cheese-fare we commemorate Adam's exile from the Paradise of delight -- which exile is the beginning of life as we know it now -- it is clear that today's is reckoned the last of all feasts, because on the last day of judgment, truly, everything of this world will come to an end.*

*All foods, except meat and meat products, are allowed during the week that follows this Sunday.*

- + The Holy Apostles Archippos, Philemon, and Apphia of the Seventy (+1<sup>st</sup> Century)
- + The Holy Martyrs Maximos, Theodosios, Hesychios, and Asklepiodoti of Adrianopolis (+305)
- + Our Devout Father Rabulas of Samosata (+530)
- + Our Devout Fathers and Confessors Eugene and Makarios of Antioch (+363)
- + Our Devout Father Conon of Palestine (+555)
- + Our Devout Mother Philothea of Athens (+1588)

*By the intercessions of Your Saints, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.*

### Variable Hymns of the Day in the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (page 8 in the Pew Book):

- *Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Ευφρανέσθω τα ουράνια, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mode):*

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy. (*sung before and after the Small Entrance*)

- *Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σώσον Κύριε, 1<sup>st</sup> Mode):*

Save, O Lord, save your people and bless Your inheritance. Give victory to those who battle evil and protect us all by Your Holy Cross. (*sung in Greek and English*)

- *The Kontakion of Judgement Sunday (Ὅταν ἔλθῃς ο Θεός, 1<sup>st</sup> Mode):*

When You come down to the earth, O God, in Your glory, all things will cower tremulous, and a river of fire will draw before Your Judgment Seat; the books shall be opened up, and public knowledge will things hidden be. Rescue me, then, I pray, from unquenchable fire, and count me worthy to stand at Your right hand, O You, the most righteous Judge.

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

### This Week's Daily Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

**Sunday (2/19—No Fasting):** Mark 16:9-20; I Corinthians 8:8-13, 9:1-2; Matthew 25:31-46  
**Monday (2/20—Diary+Eggs+Fish+Oil+Wine):** III John 1:1-15; Luke 19:29-40, 22:7-39  
**Tuesday (2/21—Diary+Eggs+Fish+Oil+Wine):** Jude 1:1-10; Luke 22:39-42, 45-71, 23:1  
**Wed. (2/22—Diary+Eggs+Fish+Oil+Wine):** Joel 3:12-21; Joel 2:12-26  
**Thursday (2/23—Diary+Eggs+Fish+Oil+Wine):** Jude 1:11-25; Luke 23:1-31, 33, 44-56  
**Friday (2/24—Diary+Eggs+Fish+Oil+Wine):** Luke 7:17-30; II Corinthians 4:6-15; Matthew 11:2-15  
**Saturday (2/25—Diary+Eggs+Fish+Oil+Wine):** Galatians 5:22-26, 6:1-2; Matthew 6:1-13

### Prayer Requests:

Metropolitan Alexios, Fr. Symeon (mission priest supported by our parish), Fr. Angelo, Panteleimon, Michael, Eve, Kassiani, Michael, Dimitrios, Georgia, Pavlos, Pete, Jill, Betty, David, Chris, Irene, Valerie, Marina, Alexi, Chris, Dianna, Keith, Jeannie, Dawn, Kenneth, Samuel, Hermione, Emmanuel, Mary, Adrienne, Kay, Helen, Nikki, Sedky, Mena, Austin

### Prayers for those recently reposed:

Louis (+January 16), Kay (+January 23), Michael (+February 7)

### Prayers for expecting mothers:

### Prayers for Military Personnel and Their Families:

Aubriana Butchko, Kyle Glotzbach, Robert Ice, Aaron Vrahiotes, Aleksander Zajac

### Prayers for our Catechumens and Inquirers into the Orthodox Church:

Nate, Chad, Alexander, and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

### Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

**St. Gennadius of Constantinople** on the focus on our own spiritual illness and not that of another: "To judge sins is the business of one who is sinless, but who is sinless except God? Who ever thinks about the multitude of his own sins in his heart never wants to make the sins of others a topic of conversation. To judge a man who has gone astray is a sign of pride, and God resists the proud. On the other hand, one who every hour prepares himself to give answer for his own sins will not quickly lift up his head to examine the mistakes of others."

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

**Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!**  
February 23: Pamela Gorgonia Poulos

**Birthdays—Happy Birthday!**  
February 22: John Apostolou, Diana-Maria Cazacu  
February 23: Nicholas Poulos

**Anniversaries—Congratulations!**  
None in the Records

*(If you have a celebration that did not make it into the bulletin, please e-mail Fr. Theodore!)*

### Announcements:

\* **Shut-Ins:** If you know of anyone who is unable to come to the Church because of illness, age, or any other reason, please contact Fr. Theodore so that he can visit with them, pray with them, and administer to them the Holy Mysteries.

\* **Philoptochos News:** Next Philoptochos meeting will be TODAY after the Divine Liturgy.

\* **Blood Drive:** Our next blood drive is March 2. If you have not scheduled your appointment, please do so today! Thank you to Melanie Moye who has volunteered to open the doors for the American Red Cross. We are still looking for volunteers for the following two drives: May 24 and July 19.

\* **Great Lent & Holy Week Preparations:** An email has been sent out giving parishioners the opportunity to participate in many different ways during Great Lent & Holy Week. There are still some items available. If interested, please click here to view what is still needed and either let Natalia know or send an email to [office@holycrossga.org](mailto:office@holycrossga.org).

\* **YOUTH:** today at coffee hour our GOYAns will be collecting monetary donations for IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities) and non-perishable foods for our local food bank. Please be generous! It's time for our Oratorical Festival participants to be selecting their topic and jotting down their initial thoughts, notes, and questions. See Presv. Stacey if you need assistance with that! Also, make sure to register your middle/high school aged children. Finally, let Presv. Stacey know if your daughter will be participating in the St. Photini Handmaiden's "reboot" on February 26!

\* As there are still **coffee fellowship** spots available (for example, March 26), we are seeking volunteers to host a second time. This is strictly on a volunteer basis. We have established a fund for repeat hosts/hostesses to aid in purchasing light food and beverages. Also, if the high cost of groceries is a deterrent, we invite first-time hosts/hostesses to use this fund. We welcome all contributions.

\* Holy Cross is walking the **14th Annual Cantrell Center 5k** on 2/25! We will meet at 7:45am. Please see email for info about fellowship opportunities after the race. Join us and REGISTER for the walk by visiting: [www.cantrellcenter.com/5k!](http://www.cantrellcenter.com/5k!)