



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Sunday, February 5, 2023

Triodion Begins: Sunday of Publican and the Pharisee

+ St. Agatha the Holy Martyr

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: First (Matthew 28:16-20)

Mode of the Week: First/Πρώτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, February 5</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee (beginning of the Triodion) and Godparent Sunday Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion One Year Memorial for Sam "Chuck" Ray at the end of the Divine Liturgy Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
<i>Tuesday, February 7</i>	7:00pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Wednesday, February 8</i>	6:30pm Adult Study Class in the Parish House
<i>Friday, February 10</i>	8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Haralambos 10:00am Book Study
<i>Sunday, February 12</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Prodigal Son Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:30pm GOYA Meeting
<i>Wednesday, February 15</i>	5:30pm Small Paraklesis 6:30pm Adult Study Class in the Parish House
<i>Thursday, February 16</i>	5:00pm Vespers 6:00pm Divine Liturgy for St. Theodore the Recruit
<i>Saturday, February 18</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy and Memorial Service (Saturday of the Souls)
<i>Sunday, February 19</i>	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
<i>Monday, February 20</i>	Presidents Day—Office Closed
<i>Wednesday, February 22</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study Class in the Parish House
<i>Friday, February 24</i>	5:30pm Divine Liturgy for the 2 nd Saturday of the Souls, followed by the Memorial Service

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (2/12) Pete Tsamolias, Nadia Cazacu; (2/19) George Saratsiotis, Isabelle Saratsiotis
Upcoming Ushers: (2/12) Sarah D., Joanna P.; (2/16) Melanie M.; (2/18) Sarah D.; (2/19) Charles G., Jim L.
Upcoming Video Operators: (2/12) Gray Yates, David Needham; (2/18) Joanna Patronis; (2/19) Cristina Lekas
Upcoming Fellowship Hosts: (2/12) Maria McCluskey; (2/19) Toula Tsamolias; (2/26) Cheryl Schwartzkopf

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

Γένοιτο, Κύριε, τὸ ἔλεός σου ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, καθάπερ ἠλπίσαμεν ἐπὶ σέ.

Στίχ. Ἀγαλλιᾶσθε, δίκαιοι, ἐν Κυρίῳ· τοῖς εὐθέσι πρέπει αἴνεσις.

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Πρὸς Τιμόθεον Β' Ἐπιστολῆς

Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, παρηκολούθηκάς μου τῆ διδασκαλία, τῆ ἀγωγῆ, τῆ προθέσει, τῆ πίστει, τῆ μακροθυμία, τῆ ἀγάπῃ, τῆ ὑπομονῇ, τοῖς διωγμοῖς, τοῖς παθήμασιν, οἷά μοι ἐγένοντο ἐν Ἀντιοχείᾳ, ἐν Ἰκονίῳ, ἐν Λύστροις· οἷους διωγμοὺς ὑπήνεγκα καὶ ἐκ πάντων με ἐρρύσατο ὁ Κύριος. Καὶ πάντες δὲ οἱ θέλοντες εὐσεβῶς ζῆν ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ διωχθήσονται· πονηροὶ δὲ ἄνθρωποι καὶ γόητες προκόψουσιν ἐπὶ τὸ χειρόν, πλανῶντες καὶ πλανώμενοι. Σὺ δὲ μένε ἐν οἷς ἔμαθες καὶ ἐπιστώθης, εἰδὼς παρὰ τίνος ἔμαθες, καὶ ὅτι ἀπὸ βρέφους τὰ ἱερὰ γράμματα οἶδας, τὰ δυνάμενά σε σοφίσαι εἰς σωτηρίαν διὰ πίστεως τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τῷ Κυρίῳ ἡμῶν.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we hope in You.

Verse: Rejoice greatly in the Lord, O righteous ones; praise is fitting for the upright. (Ps. 32)

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The reading is from Paul's Second Letter to Timothy.

(3:10-15)

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Timothy, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Luke (18:10-14)

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ἄνθρωποι δύο ἀνέβησαν εἰς τὸ ἱερόν προσεύξασθαι, ὁ εἷς Φαρισαῖος καὶ ὁ ἕτερος τελώνης. ὁ Φαρισαῖος σταθεὶς πρὸς ἑαυτὸν ταῦτα προσηύχετο· ὁ Θεός, εὐχαριστῶ σοι ὅτι οὐκ εἰμι ὡς περ οἱ λοιποὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἄρπαγες, ἄδικοι, μοιχοί, ἢ καὶ ὡς οὗτος ὁ τελώνης· νηστεύω δις τοῦ σαββάτου, ἀποδεκατῶ πάντα ὅσα κτῶμαι. καὶ ὁ τελώνης μακρόθεν ἐστῶς οὐκ ἠθέληεν οὐδὲ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν ἐπάραι, ἀλλ' ἔτυπτεν εἰς τὸ στήθος αὐτοῦ λέγων· ὁ Θεός, ἰλάσθητί μοι τῷ ἁμαρτωλῷ. λέγω ὑμῖν, κατέβη οὗτος δεδικαιωμένος εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ ἢ γὰρ ἐκεῖνος· ὅτι πᾶς ὁ ὑψῶν ἑαυτὸν ταπεινωθήσεται, ὁ δὲ ταπεινῶν ἑαυτὸν ὑψωθήσεται.

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

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GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ehmer

Προϊστάμενος/Presiding Priest

E-mail: frtheodore@holycrossga.org

Cell: 770.256.0290

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 5, 2023

Ushers on Duty: Cheryl+ Erick S., Bill+Kiki V.

Video: David Z. **Altar Servers:** All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Aleca Hortman (Greek), Angelika Passias (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Denna Bradford



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + The Opening of the Triodion: Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades; and, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights. All foods are allowed the week that follows this Sunday.

- + The Holy Martyr Agatha of Sicily (+251)

This Martyr, who was from Panormus (that is, Palermo) or perhaps Catania of Sicily, was a most comely and chaste virgin. After many exceedingly harsh torments, she gave up her spirit in prison at Catania in 251, because she did not consent to the seductions of Quintian, the Governor of Sicily. At her burial, an Angel placed a stone tablet on her grave inscribed with the words, "A righteous mind, self-determining, honor from God, the deliverance of her father-land." The following year this was fulfilled when Mount Etna erupted, spewing forth violent fire from which Catania was manifestly saved by Saint Agatha's prayers. The holy Martyr Agatha, the protectress and chief patroness of Sicily, is, with perhaps the exception of Saint Agnes of Rome, the most highly venerated Virgin Martyr of the West. Saint Damasus, Pope of Rome, and Saint Ambrose of Milan both wrote in praise of her.

- + Our Devout Father Theodosius of Skopelos (+421)
- + Our Devout Father Polyuctus, Patriarch of Constantinople (+970)
- + The Holy New Martyr Anthony of Athens (+1774)

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

- *Hymn of the Meeting of the Lord (Χαίρε κεχαριτωμένη, 1st Mode):*

Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness has risen from you and He illumined those in darkness. And you, righteous Elder, be glad in heart, receiving in your embraces the One who liberates our souls and bestows on us the Resurrection. (Sung before the Small Entrance and after the Resurrectional Hymn)

- *Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Του λίθου σφραγισθέντος, 1st Mode):*

The stone had been secured with a seal by the Judeans, * and a guard of soldiers was watching Your immaculate body. * You rose on the third day, O Lord * and Savior, granting life unto the world. * For this reason were the powers of heaven crying out to You, O Life-giver, * "Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! * Glory to Your kingdom! * Glory to Your dispensation, only One who loves mankind!" (sung after the Small Entrance)

- *Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σώσον Κύριε, 1st 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 the Presentation of Christ (Ο μήτραν παρθενικήν, 1st Mode):*

You sanctified the virginal womb by Your birth, O Lord, and blessed the hands of Symeon fittingly, O Christ God; and even now You came and saved us. Now, give peace to our Nation in time of war, and empower our Leaders, so loved by You, the only one who loves humanity.

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday (2/5—No Fasting): Matthew 28:16-20; II Timothy 3:10-15; Luke 18:10-14
Monday (2/6—No Fasting): John 10:1-9; Hebrews 7:26-28, 8:1-2; John 10:9-16
Tuesday (2/7—No Fasting): II Peter 2:9-22; Mark 13:14-23
Wednesday (2/8—No Fasting): Ephesians 2:4-10; Matthew 10:16-22
Thursday (2/9—No Fasting): I John 1:8-10, 2:1-6; Mark 13:31-37, 14:1-2
Friday (2/10—St. Haralambos—No Fasting): Luke 21:12-19; II Timothy 2:1-10; John 15:17-27, 16:1-2
Saturday (2/11—No Fasting): Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:1-6; Matthew 10:1, 5-8

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

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Cynthia (+December 25), Sharon (+December 28), Louis (+January 16), Kay (+January 23)

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

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

St. Symeon the New Theologian on how to respond to those who slander us, talks behind our back, whatever it may be: "A person who suffers bitterly when slighted or insulted should recognize from this that he still harbors the ancient serpent in his breast. If he quietly endures the insult or responds with great humility, he weakens the serpent and lessens its hold. But if he replies acrimoniously or brazenly, he gives it strength to pour its venom into his heart and to feed mercilessly on his guts. In this way the serpent becomes increasingly powerful; it destroys his soul's strength and his attempts to set himself right, compelling him to live for sin and to be completely dead to righteousness."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!
February 10: Harry Bennette, Harry Zaloumes

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

February 5: Richard Stewart
February 6: Louis Bennette
February 8: Brad Perry, Dimitris Saratsiotis
February 11: Ron Sprouse

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.

* Fr. Theodore is continuing to celebrate **House Blessings** with the Holy Water from the feast of Theophany. If you are interested in having a house blessing, please contact Presvytera Stacey (770-827-7145) to arrange a date and time.

* **Philoptochos News:** Interested in becoming a member of Philoptochos? Stewardship forms have been emailed out to all parishioners and are now being collected for the year 2023. Please complete the stewardship form and turn it in along with your money to Christina Danforth, Philoptochos Treasurer. Please make checks payable to Philoptochos or pay through Venmo: @HolyCross-Philoptochos. *Next Philoptochos meeting will be Sunday, February 19 after the Divine Liturgy.*

* **Blood Drive:** Thank you to those who were able to give blood earlier this month. Please mark your calendar for the next few drives: March 2nd, May 24th and July 19th. Not able to give blood but wish you could help? We are looking for volunteers to help out with the drive (meeting the American Red Cross to open the doors, setting up the main room, etc.), please contact Natalia.

* **YOUTH:** Save the date for our parish level St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival: Sunday, March 19th. Topic choices will be sent to all of our Youth soon!

* **Congratulations** and God's Blessing to Louis Bennette and Maggie Barhite who were united in Holy Marriage yesterday here at Holy Cross!