



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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www.holycrossga.org | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

Sunday, March 19, 2023

3rd Sunday of Great Lent: Veneration of the Cross
 + Sts. Chrysanthos and Daria

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Seventh (John 20:1-10)

Mode of the Week: Grave/Βαρυς

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, March 19</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross Procession of the Holy Cross at the end of the Divine Liturgy St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival after the Divine Liturgy Philoptochos Lenten Luncheon after the Oratorical Festival 1:30pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Tuesday, March 21</i>	6:00pm Great Compline
<i>Wednesday, March 22</i>	5:30pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00pm Adult Study Class and Light Lenten Meal in the Parish House
<i>Friday, March 24</i>	4:30pm Orthodox Book Study in the Parish House 6:00pm Great Vespers for the Annunciation with the 4 th Salutations to the Theotokos
<i>Saturday, March 25</i>	Lenten "Field Trip" to the Annunciation Cathedral for their Parish Name Day
<i>Sunday, March 26</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of St. John Climacus Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:00pm Spring General Assembly in the Parish House
<i>Tuesday, March 28</i>	6:00pm Great Compline
<i>Wednesday, March 29</i>	5:30pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00pm Adult Study Class and Light Lenten Meal in the Parish House
<i>Thursday, March 30</i>	9:30am Orthros and the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
<i>Friday, March 31</i>	9:30am Akathist Hymn
<i>Sunday, April 2</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:30pm Usher Meeting in the Church
<i>Tuesday, April 4</i>	6:00pm Great Compline
<i>Wednesday, April 5</i>	5:30pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00pm Adult Study Class and Light Lenten Meal in the Parish House

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (3/26) George Saratsiotis, Bryan Gordy; (4/2) Pete Tsamolias, Nadia Cazacu
Upcoming Ushers: (3/21) Norm+Eleni A.; (3/22) David Z.; (3/24) Hazel D.; (3/26) John A., Cheryl+Erick S.
Upcoming Video Operators: (3/22) Natalia S.; (3/24) David Z.; (3/26) Cristina L.; (3/29) Cristina L.
Upcoming Fellowship Hosts: (3/26) Presvytera Stacey; (4/2) Rodica Cazacu; (4/9) Philoptochos

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 worshiping 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

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου καὶ
εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου.

Στίχ. Πρὸς σέ, Κύριε, κεκράζομαι, ὁ
Θεός μου, μὴ παρασιωπήσης ἀπ' ἐμοῦ.

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Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ
ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἀδελφοί, ἔχοντες Ἀρχιερέα μέγαν διεληλυτότα τοὺς οὐρανοὺς, Ἰησοῦν τὸν Υἱὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ, κρατῶμεν τῆς ὁμολογίας. Οὐ γὰρ ἔχομεν ἀρχιερέα μὴ δυνάμενον συμπαθεῖσαι ταῖς ἀσθενείαις ἡμῶν, πεπειρασμένον δὲ κατὰ πάντα καθ' ὁμοιότητα χωρὶς ἁμαρτίας. Προσερχώμεθα οὖν μετὰ παρρησίας τῷ θρόνῳ τῆς χάριτος, ἵνα λάβωμεν ἔλεον καὶ χάριν εὐρωμεν εἰς εὐκαιρον βοήθειαν. Πᾶς γὰρ Ἀρχιερεὺς ἐξ ἀνθρώπων λαμβανόμενος ὑπὲρ ἀνθρώπων καθίσταται τὰ πρὸς τὸν Θεόν, ἵνα προσφέρῃ δῶρά τε καὶ θυσίας ὑπὲρ ἁμαρτιῶν· μετριοπαθεῖν δυνάμενος τοῖς ἀγνοοῦσι καὶ πλανωμένοις, ἐπεὶ καὶ αὐτὸς περικεῖται ἀσθένειαν· καὶ διὰ ταύτην ὀφείλει, καθὼς περὶ τοῦ λαοῦ, οὕτω καὶ περὶ ἑαυτοῦ προσφέρειν ὑπὲρ ἁμαρτιῶν. Καὶ οὐχ ἑαυτῷ τις λαμβάνει τὴν τιμὴν, ἀλλὰ καλούμενος ὑπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ, καθάπερ καὶ ὁ Ἀαρών. Οὕτω καὶ ὁ Χριστὸς οὐχ ἑαυτὸν ἐδόξασε γενηθῆναι ἀρχιερέα, ἀλλ' ὁ λαλήσας πρὸς αὐτόν· Υἱός μου εἶ σύ, ἐγὼ σήμερον γεγέννηκά σε· καθὼς καὶ ἐν ἑτέρῳ λέγει· σὺ ἱερεὺς εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδέκ.

O Lord, save Your people, and bless
Your inheritance.

Verse: To You, O Lord, I cry; O my
God, may You not pass over me in
silence. (Ps. 27)

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The reading is from Paul's Letter to
the Hebrews. (4:14-16, 5:1-6)

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Brethren, since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"; as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Mark (8:34-38, 9:1)

Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Ὅστις θέλει ὀπίσω μου ἀκολουθεῖν, ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἀράτω τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀκολουθείτω μοι. ὃς γὰρ ἂν θέλῃ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ σῶσαι, ἀπολέσει αὐτήν· ὃς δ' ἂν ἀπολέσῃ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου, οὗτος σώσει αὐτήν. τί γὰρ ὠφελήσει ἄνθρωπον εἰάν κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον, καὶ ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ εἰάν ἐπαισχυνθῇ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμοὺς λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπαισχυνθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἰσὶ τινες ὧδε τῶν ἐστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ γεύσονται θανάτου ἕως ἂν ἴδωσι τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

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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 March 19, 2023

Ushers on Duty: Melanie Moye, David Zoumberis

Video: Natalia S.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Aleca Hortman (Greek), Isabelle Saratsiotis (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Philoptochos



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ Third Sunday of Great Lent: The Veneration of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross—Κυριακή της Σταυροπροσκυνήσεως

With the help of God, we have almost reached the middle of the course of the Fast, where our strength has been worn down through abstinence, and the full difficulty of the labor set before us becomes apparent. Therefore our holy Mother, the Church of Christ, now brings to our help the all-holy Cross, the joy of the world, the strength of the faithful, the staff of the just, and the hope of sinners, so that by venerating it reverently, we might receive strength and grace to complete the divine struggle of the Fast.

+ The Holy Martyrs Chrysanthos and Daria (+283)

Saint Chrysanthos, who was from Alexandria, had been instructed in the Faith of Christ by a certain bishop. His father, who was a senator by rank and a pagan, had him shut up in prison for many days; then, seeing the unchanging disposition of his mind, he commanded that a certain young woman named Daria be brought from Athens. She was a very beautiful and learned maiden, and also an idolater, and Chrysanthos' father wedded him to her so that he might be drawn away from the Faith of Christ because of his love for her. Instead of this however, Chrysanthos drew Daria unto piety, and both of them boldly proclaimed Christ and received the crown of martyrdom in 283, during the reign of Numerian, when they were buried alive in a pit of mire.

+ The Holy Martyr Claudius, his wife Hilary, and their sons Jason and Maurus (+283)

+ The Holy Martyr Pancharios of Nicomedia (+302)

+ The Holy Martyrs Diodore the Priest and Marian the Deacon (+283)

+ The Holy New Martyr Demetrios the Joiner (+1564)

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. Basil the Great (page 8 in the Pew Book):

- *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 before the Small Entrance and after the Resurrectional Hymn*)

- *Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Κατέλυσας τω Σταυρώ σου, Grave Mode):*

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. To the robber You opened Paradise. The lamentation of the myrrh-bearing women You transformed, and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all that You had risen, O Christ our God, and granted the world Your great mercy.

- *The Kontakion of the Annunciation (Τη υπερμάχω, Plagal 4th Mode):*

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

- *Communion Hymn (Εσημειώθη εφ' ημας)*

O Lord, the light of Your face was stamped upon us. Alleluia. (Psalm 4)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday (3/19—Wine+Oil): John 20:1-10; Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:1-6; Mark 8:34-38, 9:1

Monday (3/20—Strict Fast): Isaiah 14:24-32; Genesis 8:21-9:7; Proverbs 11:19-12:6

Tuesday (3/21—Strict Fast): Isaiah 25:1-9; Genesis 9:8-17; Proverbs 12:8-22

Wednesday (3/22—Strict Fast): Isaiah 26:21-27:9; Genesis 9:18-10:1; Proverbs 12:23-13:9

Thursday (3/23—Strict Fast): Isaiah 28:14-22; Genesis 10:32-11:9; Proverbs 13:19-14:6

Friday (3/24—Strict Fast): Isaiah 29:13-23; Genesis 12:1-7; Proverbs 14:15-26

Saturday (3/25—Annunciation: Fish, Wine+Oil): Luke 1:39-49, 56; Hebrews 2:11-18; Luke 1:24-38

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, Kiley, Garrett, Andy, Heather, Carolina, Maria

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Michael (+February 7), Alexie (+March 5)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Katina B.

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. John of Kronstadt (+1909,) on the importance of the Sign of the Cross: "Glory, O Lord, to the power of Thy Cross, which never fails! When the enemy oppresses me with a sinful thought or feeling, and I, lacking freedom in my heart, make the sign of the Cross several times with faith, suddenly my sin falls away from me, the compulsion vanishes, and I find myself free... For the faithful the Cross is a mighty power which delivers from all evils, from the malice of the invisible foe."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!
March 20: Henry Gordy

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

March 19: Paige Crouse

March 21: Pete Nicholas

March 23: Mary Hornbaker

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.

* **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. Many have volunteered. Thank you! There are still some items available. If interested, please let Natalia know or send an email to office@holycrossga.org.

* **YOUTH:** YOUTH: Oratorical Festival today— God bless those who are participating! **We thank Jennifer Kangas, Max Salzman, and John Shelton for coming to Holy Cross to be the Oratorical Festival judges.** Handmaidens will meet @ church at 430pm this Friday 3/24 to decorate the icon of the Panagia for the 6pm Salutations service! 3/31-4/2 is the GOYA Lenten Retreat at the Diakonia Retreat Center in SC; sign up today! Registration for St. Stephen's Summer Camp (for 6th-12th graders) starts March 29 at NOON. It typically sells out in 10 minutes.. be prepared!!

* **Coin Boxes** to support the work of OCMC (Orthodox Christian Mission Center) are available for pick up in coffee hour. These will be collected after Pascha.

* **Philoptochos** will be having their Lenten Luncheon today after the Oratorical Festival. Donations are welcomed and encouraged and will be sent to Hellenic College/Holy Cross, our Greek Orthodox School of Theology! The Lenten Food Drive continues collecting non-perishable food. Contributions can be left in the Narthex or in the Parish House. Thank you!

* March 25 (this coming Saturday!) is both Greek Independence Day and the Feast of the Annunciation. As this falls on a Saturday this year, as opposed to having the Liturgy here at Holy Cross, we are going to have a "**Lenten Field Trip**" to the Annunciation Cathedral in Atlanta for their parish's name day. More details to come as we organize carpools, a meal after the service, etc. Please plan on attending!