



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Sunday, April 30, 2023

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

+ St. James the Apostle, brother of St. John

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Fourth (Luke 24:1-12)

Mode of the Week: Second/Δεύτερος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, April 30</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 1:00pm Not So Young Adult Outing (Mercer Baseball Game)
<i>Wednesday, May 3</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study Class
<i>Saturday, May 6</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, May 7</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Paralytic Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
<i>Wednesday, May 10</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of Mid-Pentecost 5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study Class
<i>Saturday, May 13</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, May 14</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
<i>Wednesday, May 17</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study Class
<i>Saturday, May 20</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, May 21</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Blind Man and Sts. Constantine and Helen Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion (last day) Honoring of our High School and College Graduates at the end of the Liturgy Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (5/7) George Saratsiotis, Diana Cazacu; (5/14) Pete Tsamolias, Panos Drakopoulos

Upcoming Ushers: (5/3) Christina D.; (5/6) Tassie C.; (5/7) Cristina+Jim L.; (5/10am) TBD; (5/10pm) Maria S.

Upcoming Video Operators: (5/7) David Z.; (5/10) Joanna P.; (5/14) Gray Y./David N.; (5/21) Cristina L.

Upcoming Fellowship Hosts: (5/7) Maria and Joanna Patronis; (5/14) Cleo Bennette; (5/21) Katerina Iakovidis

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

*Ἰσχύς μου καὶ ὕμνησίς μου ὁ Κύριος,
καὶ ἐγένετό μοι εἰς σωτηρίαν.*

*Στίχ. Παιδεύων ἐπαίδευσέ με ὁ Κύριος,
καὶ τῷ θανάτῳ οὐ παρέδωκέ με.*

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*Πράξεων τῶν Ἀποστόλων τὸ
ἀνάγνωσμα.*

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Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις, πληθυνόντων τῶν μαθητῶν ἐγένετο γογγυσμὸς τῶν Ἑλληνιστῶν πρὸς τοὺς Ἑβραίους, ὅτι παρεθεωροῦντο ἐν τῇ διακονίᾳ τῇ καθημερινῇ αἱ χῆραι αὐτῶν. Προσκαλεσάμενοι δὲ οἱ Δώδεκα τὸ πλῆθος τῶν μαθητῶν εἶπον· Οὐκ ἀρεστόν ἐστιν ἡμᾶς καταλείψαντας τὸν λόγον τοῦ Θεοῦ διακονεῖν τραπέζαις· ἐπισκέψασθε οὖν, ἀδελφοί, ἄνδρας ἐξ ὑμῶν μαρτυρουμένους ἐπτὰ πλήρεις πνεύματος καὶ σοφίας, οὓς καταστήσομεν ἐπὶ τῆς χρείας ταύτης· ἡμεῖς δὲ τῇ προσευχῇ καὶ τῇ διακονίᾳ τοῦ λόγου προσκαρτερήσομεν. Καὶ ἤρρεσεν ὁ λόγος ἐνώπιον παντὸς τοῦ πλῆθους, καὶ ἐξελέξαντο Στέφανον, ἄνδρα πλήρη πίστεως καὶ πνεύματος ἁγίου, καὶ Φίλιππον καὶ Πρόχορον καὶ Νικάνορα καὶ Τίμωνα καὶ Παρμενᾶν καὶ Νικόλαον προσήλυτον Ἀντιοχέα, οὓς ἔστησαν ἐνώπιον τῶν ἀποστόλων, καὶ προσευξάμενοι ἐπέθηκαν αὐτοῖς τὰς χεῖρας. Καὶ ὁ λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ ἠύξανεν, καὶ ἐπληθύνετο ὁ ἀριθμὸς τῶν μαθητῶν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ σφόδρα, πολὺς τε ὄχλος τῶν ἱερέων ὑπήκουον τῇ πίστει.

*The Lord is my strength and my
song, and He became my salvation.*

*Verse: The Lord chastened and
corrected me, but He did not give me
up to death. (Ps. 117)*

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*The reading is from the Acts of the
Apostles. (6:1-7)*

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In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Mark (15:43-16:8)

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ ἐλθὼν Ἰωσήφ ὁ ἀπὸ Ἀριμαθαίας, εὐσχήμων βουλευτής, ὃς καὶ αὐτὸς ἦν προσδεχόμενος τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ, τολμήσας εἰσηλθε πρὸς Πιλάτον καὶ ἠτήσατο τὸ σῶμα τοῦ Ἰησοῦ. ὁ δὲ Πιλάτος ἐθαύμασεν εἰ ἤδη τέθνηκε, καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος τὸν κεντυρίωνα ἐπηρώτησεν αὐτὸν εἰ πάλοι ἀπέθανε· καὶ γνοὺς ἀπὸ τοῦ κεντυρίωνος ἐδωρήσατο τὸ σῶμα τῷ Ἰωσήφ. καὶ ἀγοράσας σινδὸνα καὶ καθελὼν αὐτὸν ἐνείλησε τῇ σινδόνι καὶ κατέθηκεν αὐτὸν ἐν μνημείῳ ὃ ἦν λελατομημένον ἐκ πέτρας, καὶ προσεκύλισε λίθον ἐπὶ τὴν θύραν τοῦ μνημείου. ἡ δὲ Μαρία ἡ Μαγδαληνὴ καὶ Μαρία Ἰωσή ἐθεώρουν ποῦ τίθεται. Καὶ διαγενομένου τοῦ σαββάτου Μαρία ἡ Μαγδαληνὴ καὶ Μαρία ἡ τοῦ Ἰακώβου καὶ Σαλώμη ἠγόρασαν ἀρώματα ἵνα ἐλθοῦσαι ἀλείψωσιν αὐτόν. καὶ λίαν πρωὶ τς μιᾶς σαββάτων ἔρχονται ἐπὶ τὸ μνημεῖον, ἀνατείλαντος τοῦ ἡλίου. καὶ ἔλεγον πρὸς ἑαυτάς· Τίς ἀποκυλίσει ἡμῖν τὸν λίθον ἐκ τῆς θύρας τοῦ μνημείου; καὶ ἀναβλέψασαι θεωροῦσιν ὅτι ἀποκεκύλισται ὁ λίθος· ἦν γὰρ μέγας σφόδρα. καὶ εἰσελθοῦσαι εἰς τὸ μνημεῖον εἶδον νεανίσκον καθήμενον ἐν τοῖς δεξιοῖς, περιβεβλημένον στολὴν λευκὴν, καὶ ἐξεθαμβήθησαν. ὁ δὲ λέγει αὐταῖς· Μὴ ἐκθαμβεῖσθε· Ἰησοῦν ζητεῖτε τὸν Ναζαρητὸν τὸν ἐσταυρωμένον· ἠγέρθη, οὐκ ἔστιν ὧδε· ἴδε ὁ τόπος ὅπου ἔθηκαν αὐτόν. ἀλλ' ὑπάγετε εἶπατε τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ καὶ τῷ Πέτρῳ ὅτι προάγει ὑμᾶς εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν· ἐκεῖ αὐτὸν ὄψεσθε, καθὼς εἶπεν ὑμῖν. καὶ ἐξελθοῦσαι ἔφυγον ἀπὸ τοῦ μνημείου· εἶχε δὲ αὐτάς τρόμος καὶ ἔκστασις, καὶ οὐδενὶ οὐδὲν εἶπον· ἐφοβοῦντο γάρ.

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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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 April 30, 2023

Ushers on Duty: Cleo Bennette, Jim Lekas

Video: Gray Y./David N.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Aleca Hortman (Greek), Charles Glotzbach (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Danai Esquivel



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ Third Sunday of Pascha: Commemoration of the Myrrh-Bearing Women, Joseph of Arimathea, and Nicodemus

About the beginning of His thirty-second year, when the Lord Jesus was going throughout Galilee, preaching and working miracles, many women who had received of His beneficence left their own homeland and from then on followed after Him. They ministered unto Him out of their own possessions, even until His crucifixion and entombment; and afterwards, neither losing faith in Him after His death, nor fearing the wrath of the Jewish rulers, they came to the sepulchre, bearing the myrrh-oils they had prepared to anoint His body. It is because of the myrrh-oils, that these God-loving women brought to the tomb of Jesus that they are called the Myrrh-bearers. Of those whose names are known are the following: first of all, the most holy Virgin Mary, who in Matthew 27:56 and Mark 15:40 is called "the mother of James and Joseph" (these are the sons of Joseph by a previous marriage, and she was therefore their step-mother); Mary Magdalene (celebrated July 22); Mary, the wife of Clopas; Joanna, wife of Chouza, a steward of Herod Antipas; Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and Susanna. As for the names of the rest of them, the evangelists have kept silence (Matt 27:55-56; 28:1-10. Mark 15:40-41. Luke 8:1-3; 23:55-24:11, 22-24. John 19:25; 20:11-18. Acts 1:14)

+ The Holy Apostle James, brother of St. John the Theologian (+44)

+ The Holy Martyr Maximos at Ephesus

+ The Recover of the Holy Relics of the Hieromartyr Vasielfs, Bishop of Amasia (+322)

+ Our Father among the Saints, Donatus, Bishop of Euroia (+387)

+ The Holy New Martyr Argyri in Constantinople (+1725)

The 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):

• Hymn of the Resurrection (Χριστός ανέστη, Plagal 1st Mode):

Χριστός ανέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι, ζωὴν χαρισάμενος.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

• Special Entrance Hymn (Ἐν ἐκκλησίαις, 2nd Mode):

Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

• Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Ὅτε κατήλθες, 2nd Mode):

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, "O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!"

• Hymns of Myrrh-Bearing Sunday (Ὁ εὐσχημῶν Ἰωσήφ, Ταῖς Μυροφόροις, 2nd Mode):

When he took down Your immaculate Body from the Cross, the honorable Joseph wrapped it in a clean linen shroud with spices and laid it for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day You arose, O Lord, and granted the world Your great mercy.

The Angel who had come to the sepulcher said to the Myrrh-bearing women, "Ointments are appropriate for mortal men; but Christ is indeed a stranger to decay. Now go proclaim that the Lord has risen and granted the world His great mercy."

• 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 Pascha (Εἰ καὶ ἐν τάφῳ, Plagal 4th Mode):

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out "Rejoice" to the Myrrh-bearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection.

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday (4/30—No Fasting): Luke 24:1-12; Acts 6:1-7; Mark 15:43-16:8

Monday (5/1—No Fasting): Acts 6:8-15, 7:1-5, 47-60; John 4:46-54

Tuesday (5/2—No Fasting): Hebrews 13:7-16; Matthew 5:14-19

Wednesday (5/3—Wine+Oil): Acts 8:18-25; John 6:35-39

Thursday (5/4—No Fasting): Acts 8:26-29; John 6:40-44

Friday (5/5—Wine+Oil): Acts 8:40, 9:1-19; John 6:48-54

Saturday (5/6—No Fasting): Acts 9:19-31; John 15:17-27, 16:1-2

Prayer Requests:

Metropolitan Alexios, Fr. Symeon (mission priest supported by our parish), Panteleimon, Michael, Eve, Kassiani, Michael, Dimitrios, Georgia, Pavlos, Pete, Jill, Betty, David, Chris, Irene, Valerie, Chris, Dianna, Keith, Jeannie, Dawn, Kenneth, Samuel, Hermione, Emmanuel, Mary, Adrienne, Kay, Helen, Nikki, Sedky, Mena, Austin, Kiley, Garrett, Andy, Heather, Carolina, Maria, Laurie, Lindsey, Randy, Raymond, Marina, Effie, Christina, Ashley

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Jane (+March 17), Tasos (+March 21), Fr. Angelo (+April 20), Stanley (+April 24)

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. Silouan the Athonite on our Lord's love for us: "A certain monk told me that when he was very sick, his mother said to his father, "How our little boy is suffering. I would gladly give myself to be cut up into pieces if that would ease his suffering." Such is the love of God for people. He pitied people so much that he wanted to suffer for them, like their own mother, and even more. But no one can understand this great love without the grace of the Holy Spirit."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!
April 30: Mina Stewart

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

April 30: Despina Passias
May 1: Taylor Zoumberis
May 3: Dragos Filimon, Tennessee Morris,
Mary Klaire Zoumberis
May 4: Sarah Drakopoulos
May 5: Theo Drakopoulos
May 6: Paul Vrahiotes

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

May 6: Beth and David Zoumberis

(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.

* **THANK YOU** to all who assisted throughout Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha for the Divine Services and Events/Activities around our Holy Cross Church!

* **YOUTH:** May 14th: 2nd Sunday GOYA meeting/activity. Take note: Last day of Sunday School is May 21st. Traditional Ice Cream Sundaes to celebrate! We will also honor our Graduates on the 21st. Plan to be there!

* **Philoptochos:** Elections will be taking place next month in May—date to be announced soon. The Food Drive is continuing until Mother's Day. Thank you to those that have participated!

* Please check out the **Bookstore** as there are not only the usual wonderful items available for purchase, but also gifts for Mother's Day!

* For those that are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian faith, we are conducting our **Intro to Orthodoxy/Catechumen classes** online by Zoom meeting every other week. Please contact Fr. Theodore for more information!

* **Not So Young Adult Get Together** today after Divine Liturgy at 1:00pm—Mercer Baseball Game. Please see Beth Zoumberis for more information!

Christ is Risen! Χριστός Ανέστη!