



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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www.holycrossga.org | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

Sunday, July 9, 2023

5th Sunday of Matthew

St. Pancratios, Bishop of Tauromenium

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Fifth (Luke 24:12-35)

Mode of the Week: Fourth/Τέταρτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, July 9</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 5 th Sunday of Matthew Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study in the Parish House after Liturgy
<i>Wednesday, July 12</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study Class
<i>Thursday, July 13</i>	4:00pm Youth Outing at Rigby's in Warner Robins
<i>Saturday, July 15</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, July 16</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study in the Parish House after Liturgy
<i>Tuesday, July 18</i>	7:20pm Not-So-Young Adult/Young Adult Outing (Braves Game in Atlanta)
<i>Wednesday, July 19</i>	3-7pm Red Cross Blood Drive in the Parish House 6:00pm Great Vespers for the Feast of the Prophet Elias (Elijah)
<i>Thursday, July 20</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Prophet Elias (Elijah)
<i>Friday, July 21</i>	TBD Greek Festival Prep—Pastitsio
<i>Saturday, July 22</i>	TBD Greek Festival Prep—Pastitsio 4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, July 23</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 7 th Sunday of Matthew Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study in the Parish House after Liturgy
<i>Tuesday, July 25</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Dormition of St. Anna
<i>Wednesday, July 26</i>	5:30pm Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Paraskevi and honoring St. Panteleimon 7:00pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Saturday, July 29</i>	5:00pm End of the Summer BBQ at the House of Kathy Patras (all are invited!)

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (7/16) George Saratsiotis, Richard Stewart; (7/23) Aleca Hortman, Cheryl Schwartzkopf
Upcoming Ushers: (7/12) Melanie M.; (7/15) Tassie C.; (7/16) Kiki K., Natalia S.; (7/19) Hazel D.; (7/20) Sarah D.
Upcoming Video Operators: (7/16) David Z.; (7/20) Joanna P.; (7/23) Christina D.; (7/25) Joanna P.
Upcoming Fellowship Hosts: (7/16) Cheryl Schwartzkopf; (7/23) Beth Zoumberis; (7/30) Kathy Patras

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

Ὡς ἐμεγαλύνθη τὰ ἔργα σου, Κύριε·
πάντα ἐν σοφίᾳ ἐποίησας.

Στίχ. Εὐλόγει, ἡ ψυχὴ μου, τὸν Κύριον.
Κύριε ὁ Θεός μου, ἐμεγαλύνθησ σου σφόδρα.

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Πρὸς Ῥωμαίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ
ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἀδελφοί, ἡ μὲν εὐδοκία τῆς ἐμῆς καρδίας καὶ ἡ δέησις πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν ὑπὲρ αὐτῶν εἰς σωτηρίαν. Μαρτυρῶ γὰρ αὐτοῖς ὅτι ζῆλον Θεοῦ ἔχουσιν, ἀλλ' οὐ κατ' ἐπίγνωσιν· ἀγνοοῦντες γὰρ τὴν τοῦ Θεοῦ δικαιοσύνην, καὶ τὴν ἰδίαν ζητοῦντες στήσαι, τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ τοῦ Θεοῦ οὐχ ὑπετάγησαν· τέλος γὰρ νόμου Χριστὸς εἰς δικαιοσύνην παντὶ τῷ πιστεύοντι. Μωϋσῆς γὰρ γράφει τὴν δικαιοσύνην τὴν ἐκ τοῦ νόμου ὅτι ὁ ποιήσας ἄνθρωπος ζήσεται ἐν αὐτῇ. Ἡ δὲ ἐκ πίστεως δικαιοσύνη οὕτως λέγει· Μὴ εἴπῃς ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ σου· Τίς ἀναθήσεται εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν; τοῦτ' ἔστι Χριστὸν καταγαγεῖν· ἢ Τίς καταθήσεται εἰς τὴν ἄβυσσον; τοῦτ' ἔστι Χριστὸν ἐκ νεκρῶν ἀναγαγεῖν. Ἀλλὰ τί λέγει; Ἐγγύς σου τὸ ῥῆμα ἔστιν, ἐν τῷ στόματί σου καὶ ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ σου· τοῦτ' ἔστι τὸ ῥῆμα τῆς πίστεως ὃ κηρύσσομεν. Ὅτι ἐὰν ὁμολογήσῃς ἐν τῷ στόματί σου Κύριον Ἰησοῦν, καὶ πιστεύσῃς ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ σου ὅτι ὁ Θεὸς αὐτὸν ἤγειρεν ἐκ νεκρῶν, σωθήσῃ· καρδίᾳ γὰρ πιστεύεται εἰς δικαιοσύνην, στόματι δὲ ὁμολογεῖται εἰς σωτηρίαν.

O Lord, Your works shall be
magnified greatly; You made all
things in wisdom.

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul. O
Lord my God, You are magnified
exceedingly. (Psalm 103)

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The reading is from Paul's Letter to
the Romans. (10:1-10)

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Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified. Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (8:28-34, 9:1)

5th Sunday of Matthew

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἔλθοντι τῷ Ἰησοῦ εἰς τὴν χώραν τῶν Γεργεσηνῶν ὑπήντησαν αὐτῷ δύο δαιμονιζόμενοι ἐκ τῶν μνημείων ἐξερχόμενοι, χαλεποὶ λίαν, ὥστε μὴ ἰσχύειν τινὰ παρελθεῖν διὰ τῆς ὁδοῦ ἐκείνης. καὶ ἰδοὺ ἔκραξαν λέγοντες· Τί ἡμῖν καὶ σοί, Ἰησοῦ υἱὲ τοῦ Θεοῦ; ἦλθες ὧδε πρὸ καιροῦ βασανίσαι ἡμᾶς; ἦν δὲ μακρὰν ἀπ' αὐτῶν ἀγέλη χοίρων πολλῶν βοσκομένη. οἱ δὲ δαίμονες παρεκάλουν αὐτὸν λέγοντες· Εἰ ἐκβάλλεις ἡμᾶς, ἐπίτρεπον ἡμῖν ἀπελθεῖν εἰς τὴν ἀγέλην τῶν χοίρων. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· Ὑπάγετε. οἱ δὲ ἐξελθόντες ἀπῆλθον εἰς τὴν ἀγέλην τῶν χοίρων· καὶ ἰδοὺ ὥρμησεν πᾶσα ἡ ἀγέλη τῶν χοίρων κατὰ τοῦ κρημοῦ εἰς τὴν θάλασσαν, καὶ ἀπέθανον ἐν τοῖς ὕδασι. οἱ δὲ βόσκοντες ἔφυγον, καὶ ἀπελθόντες εἰς τὴν πόλιν ἀπήγγειλαν πάντα καὶ τὰ τῶν δαιμονιζομένων. καὶ ἰδοὺ πᾶσα ἡ πόλις ἐξῆλθεν εἰς συνάντησιν τῷ Ἰησοῦ, καὶ ἰδόντες αὐτὸν παρεκάλεσαν ὅπως μεταβῆ ἀπὸ τῶν ὁρίων αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐμβὰς εἰς πλοῖον διεπέρασεν καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς τὴν ἰδίαν πόλιν.

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

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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 July 9, 2023

Ushers on Duty: Charles Glotzbach, Jim Lekas

Video: Cristina L.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

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

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Tammi and Mike Cantrell



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + The Holy Hieromartyr Pancratios, Bishop of Taoumenium (+1st Century)

The Hieromartyr Pancratios, Bishop of Taormina, was born when our Lord Jesus Christ yet lived upon the earth. The parents of Pancratios were natives of Antioch. Hearing the good news of Jesus Christ, Pancratios' father took his young son with him and went to Jerusalem in order to see the great Teacher for himself. The miracles astonished him, and when he heard the divine teaching, he then believed in Christ as the Son of God. He became close with the disciples of the Lord, especially with the holy Apostle Peter. It was during this period that young Pancratios got to know the holy Apostle Peter. After the Ascension of the Savior, one of the Apostles came to Antioch and baptized the parents of Pancratios together with all their household. When the parents of Pancratios died, he left behind his inherited possessions and went to Pontus and began to live in a cave, spending his days in prayer and deep spiritual contemplation. The holy Apostle Peter, while passing through those parts, visited Pancratios at Pontus. He took him along to Antioch, and then to Sicily, where the holy Apostle Paul then was. There the holy Apostles Peter and Paul made Saint Pancratios Bishop of Taormina in Sicily. Saint Pancratios toiled zealously for the Christian enlightenment of the people. In a single month he built a church where he celebrated divine services. The number of believers quickly grew, and soon almost all the people of Taormina and the surrounding cities accepted the Christian Faith. Saint Pancratios governed his flock peacefully for many years. However, pagans plotted against the saint, and seizing an appropriate moment, they fell upon him and stoned him., ending his life as a martyr.

- + The Holy Martyrs Andrew and Probus
- + Commemoration of the Consecration of the Church of Zoodochos Pege in Constantinople (559)
- + The Devout Fathers Dionysios the Rhetor and Metrophanes, who excelled in asceticism at St. Anna's Skete on Mount Athos (+17th Century)

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 (To φαίδρόν της αναστάσεως κήρυγμα, Fourth Mode):

When the women disciples of the Lord heard the Angel joyously proclaim the resurrection, they cast aside the ancestral verdict, and boasting in glory they said to the Apostles, "Death has been despoiled! Christ God has risen, granting the great mercy to the world!" (Sung before and after the Small Entrance)

- Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σώσον Κύριε, First 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.

- The Normal Kontakion of the Theotokos (Προστασία των Χριστιανών, Second Mode):

O Protection of Christians that never falls, intercession with the Creator that never fails, we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you.

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday (7/9—No Fasting): Luke 24:13-35; Romans 10:1-10; Matthew 8:28-34, 9:1
Monday (7/10—No Fasting): Romans 16:17-24; Matthew 13:10-23, 43
Tuesday (7/11—St. Euphemia—No Fasting): Mark 5:24-34; II Corinthians 6:1-10; Luke 7:36-50
Wednesday (7/12—Strict Fast): I Corinthians 2:9-16, 3:1-8; Matthew 13:31-36
Thursday (7/13—No Fasting): Hebrews 2:2-10; Luke 10:16-21
Friday (7/14—Strict Fast): Romans 16:1-16; Matthew 13:44-54
Saturday (7/15—No Fasting): I Corinthians 13:11-14, 14:1-15; Matthew 17:24-27, 18:1-4

Prayer Requests:

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

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Anna (+June 11), Hines (+July 3)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Katina B., Maggie B.

Prayers for Military Personnel and Their Families:

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

Prayers for our Catechumens and Inquirers into the Orthodox Church:

Bobbie, Chad, CJ, Jace, Nate and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

St. Maximos the Confessor speaks to us regarding the peace that we should desire in our souls and our relation to others created in God's image: "The godlike soul cannot nurse hatred against a man and yet be at peace with God, the giver of the commandments. 'For', He says, 'if you do not forgive men their faults, neither will your heavenly Father forgive you your faults' (cf. Matt. 6:14-15). If your brother does not wish to live peaceably with you, nevertheless guard yourself against hatred, praying for him sincerely and not abusing him to anybody."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!
July 10: Amalia Emily Dermatas

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

July 12: Cyndi Douglas

July 14: Tassie Cantrell

July 15: Rene Esquivel

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.

* **END OF SUMMER BBQ FELLOWSHIP** will be held on Saturday, July 29th at 5:00pm at the home of Kathye Patras. The Parish Council will be providing dinner. Be sure to bring your choice of beverage along with your chairs. For those that want to play on the beach, kayak, swim, etc., be sure to bring your bathing suits and towels. Please click the link in the bulletin email to RSVP whether or not you are able to attend.

* For those that are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian faith, we are conducting our **Intro to Orthodoxy/Catechumen classes** (usually) online by Zoom meeting every other week (next meeting is planned for Tuesday, July 11). Please contact Fr. Theodore for more information!

* **GREEK FESTIVAL:** Please mark your calendars for this year's festival: October 20-22. Also, please save the date for October 19 for set-up! We will be preparing Pastitsio on Friday, July 21st and Saturday, July 22nd. If you are able to help, please contact Natalia. Lastly, please refer to the bulletin email for more festival info and links!

* The next **Red Cross Blood Drive** will be taking place on Wednesday, July 19 from 3:00pm to 7:00pm in the Parish House. Please consider donating!

* All **Holy Cross Youth** are invited to Rigby's Water World in Warner Robins, Thurs. July 13th for "Twilight Admission", from 4-6pm. Tickets are \$17 per person (all ppl 3yo and older) and the church is generously covering \$10 of the cost per person. RSVP to Presv. Stacey ASAP if you and your kids can join us!