HOLY CROSS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
Sunday, August 27, 2023
12th Sunday of Matthew
The Holy Martyr Phanourios
Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: First (Matthew 28:16-20)
Mode of the Week: Third/Τρίτος

Upcoming Schedule

Today, August 27
9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 12th Sunday of Matthew and the Feast of St. Phanourious
Blessing of Phanouropites at the end of the Liturgy
Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study in the Parish House after Liturgy
12:30pm Cross Dive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 29
9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy for the Commemoration of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist
5:30pm Not So Young Adult Outing (Hiking at Amerson Park and Fasting Meal at Papouli’s in Macon)

Friday, September 1
Start of the New Ecclesiastical Year

Sunday, September 3
9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 13th Sunday of Matthew
Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study in the Parish House after Liturgy

Monday, September 4
Labor Day—Office Closed

Wednesday, September 6
5:45pm Vespers
6:30pm Choir Practice (in the Church)

Thursday, September 7
5:30pm Great Vespers for the Nativity of the Theotokos

Friday, September 8
9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos

Saturday, September 9
10a-6p 2nd Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive at Lake Tobesofkee

Sunday, September 10
9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday before the Holy Cross
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy

Wednesday, September 13
6:00pm Great Vespers for the Elevation of the Holy Cross
7:00pm Refreshments in the Parish House

Thursday, September 14
9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Elevation of the Holy Cross (our parish’s name day!)

Saturday, September 16
4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class
5:00pm Great Vespers

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (9/3) Pete Tsamolias, Rene Esquivel; (9/10) Kostas Ikovidis, Beth Zoumbiris
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (9/3) Charles Glotzbach; (9/10) Sarah Draskopoulos; (9/17) Natalia Saratsiotis
Upcoming Ushers: (8/29) John A., Charles G.; (8/29) OPEN; September Ushers TBA
Upcoming Video Operators: (8/29) Joanna P.; (9/13) Cristina L.; (9/16) Gray Y./David N.; (9/13) Cristina L.
Upcoming Fellowship Hosts: (9/3) Christina Danforth; (9/10) Parish Council; (9/17) Georgia Saratsiotis

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.

Σῶσον 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!
Ephesians 8:28-39

Brethren, we know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose.

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, glorify us with you?

Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies.

Who is the one who is condemned? Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of God, who is in Christ Jesus our Lord?
Today Our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ The Holy and Newly Appeared Martyr Phanourios
+ Saint Pimen

Little is known of the holy Martyr Phanourios, except what is depicted concerning his martyrdom on his icon, which was discovered in the year 1500 among the ruins of an ancient church on Rhodes. Thus he is called “the Newly Appeared.” The faithful pray to Saint Phanourios especially to help them recover things that have been lost, and because he has answered their prayers so mercifully, the custom has arisen of baking a Phanouropita (called “Phanourios-Cake”) as a thanks-offering.

+ Our Devout Father Pimen (+450)
+ Our Devout Father Liberus the Confessor, Pope of Rome (+366)
+ Our Holy Father Hosios, Bishop of Cordova (+359)

Saint Hosios was a Spanish bishop of Córdoba, Spain for more than sixty years during the fourth century. As an ecclesiastical adviser to Emperor Constantine the Great he was one of the leading defenders of Orthodoxy to the West against the early Donatists and in the Arian controversy, which divided the fourth century early Christian Church.

Commemoration of the Baptism of the Ethiopian Eunuch by St. Philip (+3rd Century)

+ The Holy New Martyr Anthusa

Through 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 Pesev Book):

- Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Εορησαόνο Ὀλόκληρον, Third Mode).
- Hymn of the Cross (Χαίρετος Χίλια, First Mode): Save, O Lord, save your people and bless Your Church. Give victory to those who battle evil and protect us all by Your Holy Cross.
- Hymn of St. Phanourios (Ως ὄσιρος αὐθεμένος, Fourth Mode): You rose, O Phanourios, like a new star in the Church; * and wondrously appearing, as your name denotes, you have shined * all with your miracles. * Glorious holy Martyr, you provide saving graces * to the faithful who exult and who celebrate your contests. * You intercede with Christ the Lord and entreat Him on our behalf.
- The Kontakion of the Nativity of the Theotokos (Ἰωάκην καὶ Άννα, Fourth Mode): Both Joachim and Anna from their sterility’s stigma, and Adam and Eve from their mortality’s ruin have been set free, O immaculate Maid, by your holy Baptism. For this you people hold celebration, redeemed from the guilt of transgression as they cry to you, “The barren one bears the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life.”
- The Sayings of the Fathers.
- Deeds are preserved in the Paradise of the Fathers and was renowned for his discretion. Many of his sayings and ascetical life in Scete in the fourth and fifth century; he was one of the chief defenders of Orthodoxy in the West against the early Donatists and in an ecclesiastical adviser to Emperor Constantine the Great. In the Sayings of the Fathers.

Prayers:

Prayers for those recently repose:
Clement (+July 15), Eugenia (+July 16), Dimitra (+July 19), Marty (+August 4), Rose (+August 6), James (+August 14), Mounir (+August 23)

Prayers for expecting mothers:
Katina B., Maggie B.

Prayers for Military Personnel and Their Families:
Aubriana Butchko, Kyle Gotzsch, Robert Ice, Aaron Vrahotes, Aleksander Zajac

Prayers for our Catechumens and Inquirers into the Orthodox Church:
Bobbie, Chad, CJ, Ethan, Jace, Jessica, Nate and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:
St. Xenaphios, one of the Desert Fathers of the early centuries speaks to us a simple word which speaks to the gift of animals, and what they can teach us: “A dog is better than I am, for he has love and does not judge.” Compare this with a verse from the psalms that we chant every Orthros: “Let everything that breathes (i.e. not just human beings) praise the Lord.” (Ps 150:6)

Week’s Daily Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:
Sunday (8/27—No Fasting): Matthew 28:16-20; Romans 8:28-39
Monday (8/28—No Fasting): 2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Friday (9/1—Start of New Ecclesiastical Year—Oil-Wine): 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 4:16-22
Saturday (9/2—No Fasting): Romans 8:28-39; Matthew 22:15-22

Upcoming Celebrations This Week
Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years! August 30: Aleca Hortman, Alex Saratsiotis, Mandi Parrott

* 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.

* For those that are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Faith or about joining the Church, we are conducting an Intro to Orthodoxy/Catechumen classes. We will be restarting with a new class in a couple of weeks. Let Fr. Theodore know if you are interested!

* GREEK FESTIVAL: This year’s festival is Friday through Sunday, October 20-22. Please save the date for October 19 for set-up—lots of help is always needed! Please refer to the bulletin email for more festival info and links. Preparation dates: Dolmas (September 30) and Pastry packaging (October 13 at 8am). We are asking each family to sell 5 books for the Raffle Drawing. Please turn in your tickets if you have not already. If you would like to order Festival apparel, please do so by August 31. There are samples to be seen in the bookstore!

* Youth: Sunday School will be begin on Sunday, September 17 after Holy Communion. Presyters Stacey is still seeking a Sunday School teacher or pair of teachers. Please contact her ASAP if you feel called or inclined to assist our youth. There is a short GOYA meeting after Liturgy today!

* Greek School will be starting on September, 24. Let Fr. Theodore know if you are interested (by email)!

* Be sure to Save the Date for the 2nd Annual Cross Dive which will be taking place on the afternoon of Saturday, September 9 at Lake Tobesofkee. Our Holy Cross will be hosting Orthodox Christians from around the Atlanta Metropolitan area! The registration is live on the Church’s website. Please be sure to purchase your ticket online (holycrossga.org/cross-dive) and register your high school diver for the Dive!

* Contact Natalia if you are interested in a Holy Cross outing at the My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 on October 13, which will be taking place on the afternoon of Saturday, September 9 at Lake Tobesofkee. Our Holy Cross will be hosting Orthodox Christians from around the Atlanta Metropolitan area! The registration is live on the Church’s website. Please be sure to purchase your ticket online (holycrossga.org/cross-dive) and register your high school diver for the Dive!

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