



# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

### Sunday, August 27, 2023

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew

The Holy Martyr Phanourios

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

Mode of the Week: Third/Τρίτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, August 27</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew and the Feast of St. Phanourios 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
<i>Tuesday, August 29</i>	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)
<i>Friday, September 1</i>	Start of the New Ecclesiastical Year
<i>Sunday, September 3</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study in the Parish House after Liturgy
<i>Monday, September 4</i>	Labor Day—Office Closed
<i>Wednesday, September 6</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Choir Practice (in the Church)
<i>Thursday, September 7</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers for the Nativity of the Theotokos
<i>Friday, September 8</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos
<i>Saturday, September 9</i>	10a-6p 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive at Lake Tobesofkee
<i>Sunday, September 10</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday before the Holy Cross Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
<i>Wednesday, September 13</i>	6:00pm Great Vespers for the Elevation of the Holy Cross 7:00pm Refreshments in the Parish House
<i>Thursday, September 14</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Elevation of the Holy Cross (our parish's name day!)
<i>Saturday, September 16</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (9/3) Pete Tsamolias, Rene Esquivel; (9/10) Kostas Iakovidis, Beth Zoumberis  
**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (9/3) Charles Glotzbach; (9/10) Sarah Draskopoulos; (9/17) Natalia Saratsiotis  
**Upcoming Ushers:** (8/27) John A., Charles G.; (8/29) OPEN; September Ushers TBA  
**Upcoming Video Operators:** (8/29) Joanna P.; (9/3) Cristina L.; (9/10) 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.

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

*Εὐφρανθήσεται δίκαιος ἐν Κυρίῳ.  
Στίχ. Εἰσάκουσον, ὁ Θεός, τῆς φωνῆς μου.*

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*Πρὸς Ῥωμαίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ  
ἀνάγνωσμα.*

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Ἀδελφοί, οἶδαμεν ὅτι τοῖς ἀγαπῶσι τὸν Θεὸν πάντα συνεργεῖ εἰς ἀγαθόν, τοῖς κατὰ πρόθεσιν κλητοῖς οὖσιν· ὅτι οὖς προέγνω, καὶ προώρισε συμμόρφους τῆς εἰκόνας τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ, εἰς τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸν πρωτότοκον ἐν πολλοῖς ἀδελφοῖς· οὖς δὲ προώρισε, τούτους καὶ ἐκάλεσε, καὶ οὖς ἐκάλεσε, τούτους καὶ ἐδόξασε. Τί οὖν ἐροῦμεν πρὸς ταῦτα; Εἰ ὁ Θεὸς ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν, τίς καθ' ἡμῶν; Ὅς γε τοῦ ἰδίου υἱοῦ οὐκ ἐφείσατο, ἀλλ' ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν πάντων παρέδωκεν αὐτόν, πῶς οὐχὶ καὶ σὺν αὐτῷ τὰ πάντα ἡμῖν χαρίζεται; Τίς ἐγκαλέσει κατὰ ἐκλεκτῶν Θεοῦ; Θεὸς ὁ δικαίων· τίς ὁ κατακρίνων; Χριστὸς ὁ ἀποθανών, μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ ἐγερθεὶς, ὃς καὶ ἔστιν ἐν δεξιᾷ τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὃς καὶ ἐντυγχάνει ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν. Τίς ἡμᾶς χωρίζει ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγάπης τοῦ Χριστοῦ; Θλίψις ἢ στενοχωρία ἢ διωγμὸς ἢ λιμὸς ἢ γυμνότης ἢ κίνδυνος ἢ μάχαιρα; Καθὼς γέγραπται ὅτι «ἐνεκά σου θανατούμεθα ὅλην τὴν ἡμέραν· ἐλογίσθημεν ὡς πρόβατα σφαγῆς». Ἄλλ' ἐν τούτοις πᾶσιν ὑπερνικῶμεν διὰ τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντος ἡμᾶς. Πέπεισμαι γὰρ ὅτι οὔτε θάνατος οὔτε ζωὴ οὔτε ἄγγελοι οὔτε ἀρχαὶ οὔτε δυνάμεις οὔτε ἐνεστῶτα οὔτε μέλλοντα οὔτε ὕψωμα οὔτε βάθος οὔτε τίς κτίσις ἑτέρα δυνήσεται ἡμᾶς χωρίσαι ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγάπης τοῦ Θεοῦ τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τῷ Κυρίῳ ἡμῶν.

*The righteous man shall be glad in the  
Lord.*

*Verse: Hear my voice, O God. (Psalm 63)*

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*The reading is from Paul's Letter to the  
Romans. (8:28-39)*

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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, in order that he might be the first-born among many brethren. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; who is to condemn? Is it 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 Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (19:16-26)

### 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, νεανίσκος τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ γονυπετῶν αὐτῷ καὶ λέγων· Διδάσκαλε ἀγαθέ, τί ἀγαθὸν ποιήσω ἵνα ἔχω ζωὴν αἰώνιον; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· Τί με λέγεις ἀγαθόν; οὐδεὶς ἀγαθὸς εἰ μὴ εἷς ὁ Θεός. εἰ δὲ θέλεις εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν ζωὴν, τήρησον τὰς ἐντολάς. λέγει αὐτῷ· Ποίας; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε· Τὸ οὐ φονεύσεις, οὐ μοιχεύσεις, οὐ κλέψεις, οὐ ψευδομαρτυρήσεις, τίμα τὸν πατέρα καὶ τὴν μητέρα, καί, ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν. λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ νεανίσκος· Πάντα ταῦτα ἐφυλαξάμην ἐκ νεότητός μου· τί ἔτι ὑστερῶ; ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Εἰ θέλεις τέλειος εἶναι, ὑπάγε πώλησόν σου τὰ ὑπάρχοντα καὶ δὸς πτωχοῖς, καὶ ἔξεις θησαυρὸν ἐν οὐρανῷ, καὶ δεῦρο ἀκολούθει μοι. ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ νεανίσκος τὸν λόγον ἀπῆλθε λυπούμενος· ἦν γὰρ ἔχων κτήματα πολλά. Ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ· Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι δυσκόλως πλούσιος εἰσελεύσεται εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν οὐρανῶν. πάλιν δὲ λέγω ὑμῖν, εὐκοπώτερόν ἐστι κάμηλον διὰ τρυπήματος ῥαφίδος διελθεῖν ἢ πλούσιον εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ εἰσελθεῖν. ἀκούσαντες δὲ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἐξεπλήσσοντο σφόδρα λέγοντες· Τίς ἄρα δύναται σωθῆναι; ἐμβλέψας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· Παρὰ ἀνθρώποις τοῦτο ἀδύνατόν ἐστι, παρὰ δὲ Θεῷ πάντα δυνατά ἐστι.

At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you call me good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

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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 August 27, 2023

Ushers on Duty: John Apostolou, Charles Glotzbach

Video: Christina D.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: George Saratsiotis (Greek), Isabelle Saratsiotis (Eng.)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Mandi Saratsiotis

PC Member On-Duty: John Apostolou



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ The Holy and Newly Appeared Martyr Phanourios

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

+ Our Devout Father Pimen (+450)

Saint Pimen was from Egypt and shone forth in the ascetical life in Scete in the fourth and fifth century; he was renowned for his discretion. Many of his sayings and deeds are preserved in the Paradise of the Fathers and the Sayings of the Fathers.

+ Our Devout Father Liberius 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 chief defenders of Orthodoxy in 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 (+1<sup>st</sup> 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 Pew Book):

- Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Ευφραινέσθω τα οὐράνια, Third Mode):

Let the heavens be glad. Let the earth rejoice exceedingly. For the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead. Out of the belly of Hades, He has rescued us, and to the world He has granted the great mercy. (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.

- Hymn of St. Phanourios (Ὡς ἄστρον ἀνέτειλας, Fourth Mode):

You rose, O Phanourios, like a new star in the Church; \* and wondrously appearing, as your name denotes, you have shined \* on all with your miracles. \* Glorious holy Martyr, you provide saving graces \* to the faithful who extol you 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 (Ἰωακείμ και Ἄννα, 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 nativity. For this do your 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."

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

### This Week's Daily Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

**Sunday (8/27—No Fasting):** Matthew 28:16-20; Romans 8:28-39; Matthew 19:16-26

**Monday (8/28—No Fasting):** II Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 3:6-12

**Tuesday (8/29—Beheading of St. John the Baptist—Strict Fast):** Matthew 14:1-13; Acts 13:25-33; Mark 6:14-30

**Wednesday (8/30—Strict Fast):** II Corinthians 9:12-15, 10:1-7; Mark 3:20-27

**Thursday (8/31—No Fasting):** Hebrews 9:1-7; Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

**Friday (9/1—Start of New Ecclesiastical Year—Oil+Wine):** I Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 4:16-22

**Saturday (9/2—No Fasting):** Romans 8:28-39; Matthew 22:15-22

### Prayer Requests:

Fr. Symeon (mission priest supported by our parish), Panteleimon, Michael, Evthalia, Kassiani, Michael, Dimitrios, Georgia, Pavlos, Jill, Betty, David, Chris, Irene, Valerie, 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, Denna

### Prayers for those recently reposed:

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 Glotzbach, Robert Ice, Aaron Vrahiotes, 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. Xanthias**, 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)

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

August 30: Aleca Hortman, Alex Saratsiotis, Mandi Saratsiotis

September 1: Susan McCluskey

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

August 27: Amanda Lord

August 28: George Iakovidis

August 31: John Greene

September 1: Betty Maxwell

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

August 31: Mariana and Dragos Filimon

September 1: Paulina and James Stone

(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.

\* For those that are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian faith, we are conducting our **Intro to Orthodoxy/Catechumen classes**. We will be restarting with a new book 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: Dolmades (September 30) and Pastry packaging (October 13 at 8am). We are asking each family to sell 5 books for the Raffle Drawing. Please see Natalia to get 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. Presvytera 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 Sunday, September 24. Let Fr. Theodore know if you are interested (by email)!

\* Be sure to Save the Date for the **2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Be sure to purchase your ticket online (holycrossga.org/cross-dive) and register your high schooler for the Dive!

\* Contact Natalia if you are interested in a Holy Cross outing at the **movies** on the afternoon of September 10 to see "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3"!

\* **FYI:** Fr. Theodore will be out of town this week from Thursday to Saturday. Please advise him by cell of any emergencies.