



# 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 6, 2023

Holy Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ

Η θεία Μεταμόρφωσις τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Festal (Luke 9:28-36)

Mode of the Week: Festal/της Εορτής

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, August 6</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Holy Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study in the Parish House after Liturgy
<i>Tuesday, August 8</i>	5:30pm Great Paraklesis
<i>Wednesday, August 9</i>	5:30pm Small Paraklesis 7:00pm Intro to Orthodoxy Meeting (Library/Zoom)
<i>Thursday, August 10</i>	5:30pm Great Paraklesis
<i>Saturday, August 12</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, August 13</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study in the Parish House after Liturgy
<i>Monday, August 14</i>	6:00pm Great Vespers and Encomia for the Dormition of the Theotokos
<i>Tuesday, August 15</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Dormition of the Theotokos
<i>Wednesday, August 16</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study Class
<i>Thursday, August 17</i>	6:30pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Saturday, August 19</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, August 20</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday after the Dormition Visit and Procession of the Holy Icon of Panagia Prousiotissa Panagiri (Celebration) hosted by the Philoptochos in honor of the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos 12:15pm
<i>Tuesday, August 22</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study Class
<i>Wednesday, August 23</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of Panagia Prousiotissa (name day of the Chapel)
<i>Friday, August 25</i>	6:00pm Divine Liturgy on the eve of the Feast of Sts. Adrian and Natalia
<b>Upcoming Epistle Readers:</b> (8/13) Kostas Iakovidis, Panos Drakopoulos; (8/20) Aleca Hortman, Cleo Bennette	
<b>Upcoming Ushers:</b> (8/8, 8/9, 8/10) Maria S.; (8/12) Hazel D.; (8/13) Cheryl+ Erick S.; (8/14) Cristina L.	
<b>Upcoming Video Operators:</b> (8/10) Cristina L.; (8/13) Gray Y., David N.; (8/15) Cristina L.; (8/20) Natalia S.	
<b>Upcoming Fellowship Hosts:</b> (8/13) Christine and Ron Sprouse; (8/20) Philoptochos; (8/27) Mandi 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 worshipping 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.*

+++

*Καθολικῆς Β' Ἐπιστολῆς Πέτρου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.*

+++

Ἀδελφοί, σπουδάσατε βεβαίαν ὑμῶν τὴν κλησιν καὶ ἐκλογὴν ποιῆσθαι· ταῦτα γὰρ ποιῶντες οὐ μὴ πταίσητέ ποτε· οὕτως γὰρ πλουσίως ἐπιχορηγηθήσεται ὑμῖν ἡ εἰσοδος εἰς τὴν αἰώνιον βασιλείαν τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν καὶ σωτῆρος Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Διὸ οὐκ ἀμελήσω ἀεὶ ὑμᾶς ὑπομιμνήσκων περὶ τούτων, καίπερ εἰδόμενος, καὶ ἐστηριγμένους ἐν τῇ παρουσίᾳ ἀληθείᾳ. Δίκαιον δὲ ἠγοῦμαι, ἐφ' ὅσον εἰμι ἐν τούτῳ τῷ σκηνώματι, διεγείρειν ὑμᾶς ἐν ὑπομνήσει· εἰδὼς ὅτι ταχινή ἐστὶν ἡ ἀπόθεσις τοῦ σκηνώματός μου, καθὼς καὶ ὁ κύριος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦς Χριστὸς ἐδήλωσέν μοι. Σπουδάσω δὲ καὶ ἐκάστοτε ἔχειν ὑμᾶς μετὰ τὴν ἐμὴν ἐξοδὸν τὴν τούτων μνήμην ποιῆσθαι. Οὐ γὰρ σεσοφισμένοις μύθοις ἐξακολουθήσαντες ἐγνωρίσαμεν ὑμῖν τὴν τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ δύναμιν καὶ παρουσίαν, ἀλλ' ἐπόπται γεννηθέντες τῆς ἐκείνου μεγαλειότητος. Λαβὼν γὰρ παρὰ θεοῦ πατρός τιμὴν καὶ δόξαν, φωνῆς ἐνεχθείσης αὐτῷ τοιαύδε ὑπὸ τῆς μεγαλοπρεποῦς δόξης, Οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱός μου ὁ ἀγαπητός, εἰς ὃν ἐγὼ εὐδόκησα· καὶ ταύτην τὴν φωνὴν ἡμεῖς ἠκούσαμεν ἐξ οὐρανοῦ ἐνεχθεῖσαν, σὺν αὐτῷ ὄντες ἐν τῷ ὄρει τῷ ἁγίῳ. Καὶ ἔχομεν βεβαιότερον τὸν προφητικὸν λόγον, ᾧ καλῶς ποιεῖτε προσέχοντες, ὡς λύχνῳ φαίνοντι ἐν ἀσχηρῷ τόπῳ, ἕως οὗ ἡμέρα διαυγάσῃ, καὶ φωσφόρος ἀνατείλῃ ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ὑμῶν.

*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)*

+++

*The reading is from Peter's Second Universal Letter. (1:10-19)*

+++

Brethren, be more zealous to confirm your call and election, for if you do this you will never fall; so there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Therefore I intend always to remind you of these things, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to arouse you by way of reminder, since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. And I will see to it that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things. For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we heard this voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word made more sure. You will do well to pay attention to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

## The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (17:1-9)

### Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, παραλαμβάνει ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὸν Πέτρον καὶ Ἰάκωβον καὶ Ἰωάννην τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀναφέρει αὐτοὺς εἰς ὄρος ὑψηλὸν κατ' ἰδίαν· καὶ μετεμορφώθη ἔμπροσθεν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἔλαμψε τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ ὡς ὁ ἥλιος, τὰ δὲ ἱμάτια αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο λευκὰ ὡς τὸ φῶς. καὶ ἰδοὺ ὤφθησαν αὐτοῖς Μωσῆς καὶ Ἡλίας μετ' αὐτοῦ συλλαλοῦντες. ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ Πέτρος εἶπε τῷ Ἰησοῦ· Κύριε, καλὸν ἐστὶν ἡμᾶς ὧδε εἶναι· εἰ θέλεις, ποιήσωμεν ὧδε τρεῖς σκηνάς, σοὶ μίαν καὶ Μωσεῖ μίαν καὶ μίαν Ἡλία. ἔτι αὐτοῦ λαλοῦντος ἰδοὺ νεφέλη φωτεινὴ ἐπεσκίασεν αὐτούς, καὶ ἰδοὺ φωνὴ ἐκ τῆς νεφέλης λέγουσα· οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ υἱός μου ὁ ἀγαπητός, ἐν ᾧ εὐδόκησα· αὐτοῦ ἀκούετε· καὶ ἀκούσαντες οἱ μαθηταὶ ἔπεσον ἐπὶ πρόσωπον αὐτῶν καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν σφόδρα. καὶ προσελθὼν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἤψατο αὐτῶν καὶ εἶπεν· ἐγέρθητε καὶ μὴ φοβεῖσθε. ἐπάραντες δὲ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτῶν οὐδένα εἶδον εἰ μὴ τὸν Ἰησοῦν μόνον. καὶ καταβαινόντων αὐτῶν ἀπὸ τοῦ ὄρους ἐνετείλατο αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· μηδενὶ εἶπητε τὸ ὄραμα ἕως οὗ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐκ νεκρῶν ἀναστῆ.

At that time, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ehmer

Προϊστάμενος/Presiding Priest

E-mail: frtheodore@holycrossga.org

Cell: 770.256.0290

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 6, 2023

**Ushers on Duty:** Cristina Lekas, Jim Lekas

**Video:** David Z.

**Altar Servers:** All Adult/Youth Servers

**Epistle Readers:** Pete Tsamolias (Greek), Diana Cazacu (English)

**Fellowship Host (Thank You!):** Sarah Drakopoulos



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Holy Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Our Lord had spoken to His disciples many times not only concerning His Passion, Cross, and Death, but also concerning the coming persecutions and afflictions that they themselves would endure. Since all these evils were near at hand, but the enjoyment of good things which they hoped to receive in their stead was yet to come, our Savior desired to give them full assurance, evidently and openly, concerning that glory which is prepared for those who endure to the end. Therefore, fulfilling that which He had promised shortly before, that "there be some standing here which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in His Kingdom" (Matt. 16:28), He took His three foremost disciples and ascended Mount Tabor, where He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white as the light. Suddenly, together with this dread and marvelous effulgence of light, there appeared those pinnacles of the Prophets, Moses and Elias, who spoke with the Lord Jesus concerning His saving Passion which was about to take place. Standing before Him as reverent servants, they showed that He is the Lord of both the living and the dead, for Moses came forth from Hades, having died many centuries before, and Elias, as it were from heaven, whither he had been taken up while yet alive. After a little while a radiant cloud overshadowed them and out of the cloud they heard that same voice which had been heard at the Jordan at the Baptism of Christ, testifying to the Divinity of Jesus and saying: "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well-pleased; hear ye Him" (Matt. 17: 5). Such are the marvels, truly worthy of God, celebrated in this present feast, which is an image and prefiguring of the future state of the righteous, whose splendor the Lord spoke of, saying: "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun" (Matt. 13:43). It is because of this that the Kontakion of this Feast is said daily (when there is not a great feast) in the Service of the Typica in perpetual commemoration of the glory that will be the lot of the Saints. According to tradition, the Lord's Transfiguration came to pass forty days before His Crucifixion; this is why the Transfiguration is celebrated forty days before the Exaltation of the Cross.

To Him be the glory and dominion forever. Amen.

### Variable Hymns of the Day in the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (page 8 in the Pew Book):

- Hymn of the Transfiguration (Grave Mode):

Μετεμορφώθης ἐν τῷ ὄρει Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, δείξας τοῖς Μαθηταῖς σου τὴν δόξαν σου, καθὼς ἠδύνατο. Λάμψον καὶ ἡμῖν τοῖς ἀμαρτωλοῖς, τὸ φῶς σου τὸ αἰδίων, πρεσβειᾶς τῆς Θεοτόκου, φωτοδότα δόξα σοι.

You were transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Your disciples Your glory as much as they could bear. Do also in us, sinners though we may be, shine Your everlasting light, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Giver of light. Glory to You.

- Special Entrance Hymn (2<sup>nd</sup> Mode):

For with You, Lord, is the fountain of life; in Your light we shall see light. Save us, O Son of God, who were transfigured on Mt. Tabor. We sing to You, Alleluia.

- Hymn of the Transfiguration is repeated thrice, hymn of the Holy Cross not sung today.
- The Kontakion of the Transfiguration (Ἐπι τοῦ ὄρους μετεμορφώθης, Grave Mode):

Upon the mountain were You transfigured, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they were able, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified they might understand that Your Passion was deliberate, and declare to the world that in truth You are the Father's radiance.

- Communion Hymn (from Psalm 87):

We shall walk in the light of the glory of Your face, O Lord, forever. Alleluia.

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

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

**Sunday (8/6—Fish+Wine+Oil):** Luke 9:28-36; II Peter 1:10-19; Matthew 17:1-9  
**Monday (8/7—Strict Fast):** I Corinthians 15:12-19; Mark 9:2-9  
**Tuesday (8/8—Strict Fast):** I Corinthians 15:29-38; Matthew 21:23-27  
**Wednesday (8/9—Strict Fast):** Acts 1:12-17, 21-26; Matthew 21:28-32  
**Thursday (8/10—Strict Fast):** II Corinthians 1:1-7; Matthew 21:43-46  
**Friday (8/11—Strict Fast):** II Corinthians 1:12-20; Matthew 22:23-33  
**Saturday (8/12—Wine+Oil):** Romans 15:30-33; Matthew 17:24-27, 18:1-4

### 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, Marty, Denna

### Prayers for those recently reposed:

Hines (+July 3), Clement (+July 15), Eugenia (+July 16), Dimitra (+July 19)

### 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, Jace, Jessica, Nate and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

### Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

St. Cyril of Alexandria speaks to us of why we call the Virgin Mary "Theotokos"/"Mother of God": "And since the holy Virgin hath borne after the Flesh God united personally to the Flesh, therefore we do say that she is also Mother of God, not as though the Nature of the Word had the beginning of Its existence from flesh, for It was in the beginning and the Word was God, and the Word was with God [John 1:1], and is Himself the Maker of the ages, Co-eternal with the Father and Creator of all things."

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

**Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!**  
August 10: Lori Crouse

**Birthdays—Happy Birthday!**

August 6: Eve McElrath

August 8: Joachim Ehmer

August 10: Panayiotis Drakopoulos, Nate Schwartzkopf

August 11: Jim Lekas

**Anniversaries—Congratulations!**

August 12: Marcela and Cornelius Chiorescu

(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** (usually) online by Zoom meeting (next meeting is planned for Wednesday, August 9 after Paraklesis). 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! Also, please refer to the bulletin email for more festival info and links! Preparation dates: Spanakopita (August 12) and Dolmades (September 30). 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:** Short Dormition-related activity after Liturgy next Sunday, the 13th! Sunday School will be begin on Sunday, September 17 after Holy Communion.

\* 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. 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!

\* Philoptochos: The **Panagia Panagiri** will be taking place after Liturgy on Sunday, August 20. We will also have the visit of the Panagia Prousiotissa icon on this day!