



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Sunday, September 17, 2023

Sunday after the Holy Cross

St. Sophia and her daughters: Faith, Hope, and Love

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

Mode of the Week: Plagal of the Second/Πλ. του Δευτέρου

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Sunday, September 17</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday after the Holy Cross Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion (blessing to take place after Liturgy in the Sunday School classrooms) Memorial Service for departed family members of the Saratsiotis Family at the end of the Liturgy Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study in the Parish House after Liturgy
<i>Tuesday, September 19</i>	7:30pm Stewardship Committee Meeting
<i>Wednesday, September 20</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study: Orthodoxy 101 in the Parish House
<i>Sunday, September 24</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 1 st Sunday of Luke and the Feast of St. Thekla the Great Martyr Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy Greek School (Youth)/Bible Study (Adults) 12:45pm 3:00pm Not-So-Young-Adult Hike at Amerson Park in Macon
<i>Tuesday, September 26</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of St. John the Evangelist 6:45pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Wednesday, September 27</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study: Orthodoxy 101 in the Parish House
<i>Saturday, September 30</i>	8:30am Festival Preparations (Dolmades and Property Clean-Up) 4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, October 1</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 2 nd Sunday of Luke and the Feast of St. Romanos the Melodist Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:45pm Adult Greek School
<i>Wednesday, October 4</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study: Orthodoxy 101 in the Parish House

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (9/24) George Saratsiotis, Bryan Gordy; (10/1) Pete Tsamolias, Nadia Cazacu
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (9/24) Melanie Moye; (10/1) Gray Yates; (10/8) Maria McCluskey
Upcoming Ushers: (9/20) OPEN; (9/24) Cristina and Jim L.; (9/26) Joanna P.; (9/27) OPEN; (9/30) David Z.
Upcoming Video Operators: (9/24) Natalia S.; (10/1) Natalia S.; (10/8) Cristina L.; (10/15) David Z.
Upcoming Fellowship Hosts: (9/24) Tassie Cantrell; (10/1) Danai Esquivel; (10/8) Eleni Adams

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

Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου καὶ
εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου.
Στίχ. Πρὸς σέ, Κύριε, κεκράζομαι,
ὁ Θεός μου.

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Πρὸς Γαλάτας Ἐπιστολῆς
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἀδελφοί, εἰδότες ὅτι οὐ
δικαιοῦται ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ἔργων
νόμου, ἐὰν μὴ διὰ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ
Χριστοῦ, καὶ ἡμεῖς εἰς Χριστὸν
Ἰησοῦν ἐπιστεύσαμεν, ἵνα
δικαιωθῶμεν ἐκ πίστεως Χριστοῦ
καὶ οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων νόμου· διότι ἐξ
ἔργων νόμου οὐ δικαιωθήσεται
πᾶσα σὰρξ. Εἰ δὲ ζητοῦντες
δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ
εὐρέθημεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοί,
ἄρα Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος;
μὴ γένοιτο! Εἰ γάρ, ἃ κατέλυσα,
ταῦτα πάλιν οἰκοδομῶ,
παραβάτην ἐμαυτὸν συνίστημι.
Ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ νόμου νόμῳ
ἀπέθανον ἵνα Θεῷ ζήσω. Χριστῷ
συνεσταύρωμαι· ζῶ δὲ οὐκέτι
ἐγώ, ζῆ δὲ ἐν ἐμοὶ Χριστός· ὃ δὲ
νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῇ
τοῦ Υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ
ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ παραδόντος
ἐαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

*O Lord, save Your people, and
bless Your inheritance.*

*Verse: To You, O Lord, I cry; O
my God. (Psalm 27)*

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*The reading is from Paul's Letter
to the Galatians.*

(2:16-20)

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Brethren, you know that a man is
not justified by works of the law
but through faith in Jesus Christ,
even we have believed in Christ
Jesus, in order to be justified by
faith in Christ, and not by works
of the law, because by works of
the law shall no one be justified.
But if, in our endeavor to be
justified in Christ, we ourselves
were found to be sinners, is
Christ then an agent of sin?
Certainly not! But if I build up
again those things which I tore
down, then I prove myself a
transgressor. For I through the
law died to the law, that I might
live to God. I have been crucified
with Christ; it is no longer I who
live, but Christ who lives in me;
and the life I now live in the flesh
I live by faith in the Son of God,
who loved me and gave himself
for me.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Mark (8:34-38, 9:1)

Sunday after the Holy Cross

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Εἴ τις θέλει
ὀπίσω μου ἔλθειν,
ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ
ἀράτω τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ
ἀκολουθείτω μοι. ὃς γὰρ ἂν
θέλη τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ σῶσαι,
ἀπολέσει αὐτήν· ὃς δ' ἂν
ἀπολέσῃ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν
ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου,
οὗτος σώσει αὐτήν. τί γὰρ
ὠφελήσει ἄνθρωπον ἐὰν
κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον, καὶ
ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί
δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα
τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ ἐὰν
ἐπαισχυνθῇ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμοὺς
λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ
μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ
υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου
ἐπαισχυνθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν
ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς
αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν
ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν
λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἰσὶ τινες τῶν ὧδε
ἐστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ
γεύσονται θανάτου ἕως ἂν
ἴδωσι τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ
ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

The Lord said: "If anyone
wishes to come after me, let
him deny himself and take
up his cross and follow me.
For whoever would save his
life will lose it; and whoever
loses his life for my sake
and the gospel's will save it.
For what does it profit a
man, to gain the whole
world and forfeit his life?
For what can a man give in
return for his life? For
whoever is ashamed of me
and my words in this
adulterous and sinful
generation, of him will the
Son of man also be
ashamed, when he comes in
the glory of his Father with
the holy angels." And he
said to them, "Truly, I say
to you, there are some
standing here who will not
taste death before they see
the kingdom of God come
with power."

HOLY CROSS

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 September 17, 2023

Ushers on Duty: Cheryl and Erick Schwartzkopf

Video: David Z.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Aleca Hortman (Greek), Isabelle Saratsiotis (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Georgia Saratsiotis

PC Member On-Duty: Natalia Saratsiotis



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ After-Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross

The Elevation of the Holy Cross, our parish's name day, was celebrated this past Thursday, September 14. The after-feast lasts until the leave-taking on September 21.

+ The Holy Martyr Sophia and her daughters: Faith, Hope, and Love (+126)

These Saints were from Italy and contested for the Faith about the year 126, during the reign of the Emperor Hadrian. Faith was twelve years old, Hope, ten, and Love, nine; each was tormented and then beheaded, from the eldest to the youngest. Their mother Sophia mourned at their grave for three days, where she also fell asleep in peace; because of her courageous endurance in the face of her daughters' sufferings, she is also counted a martyr. The name Sophia means "wisdom" in Greek; as for her daughters' names, Faith, Hope, and Love (Charity), they are Pistis, Elpis, and Agape in Greek, and Vera, Nadezhda, and Lyubov in Russian.

+ The Holy Martyr Agathocleia (+230)

+ The Holy Martyrs Maximos, Theodotos, and Asclepiodote

+ The Holy Saint Lucia (Lucy) and her son, the martyr Germinianos (+303)

+ The Holy Martyr Theodota (+230)

+ The Holy 100 Martyrs of Palestine (+310)

+ The Holy Martyr Charalambos, Pantoleon, and those with them

+ The Holy Hieromartyrs Heracleides and Myron, bishops of Tamasus, Cyprus (+1st Century)

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):

- *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. *(Sung before the Small Entrance and after the Resurrectional Hymn)*

- *Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Αγγελικαί δυνάμεις, Plagal of the Second Mode):*

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary, who was seeking Your immaculate body. Unassailed by Hades, You divested it of spoils. Then You met the Virgin. You granted life. O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You! *(Sung after the Small Entrance)*

- *Kontakion of the Memorial Service (Μνήσθητι, Κύριε, Plagal 4th Mode):*

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who has power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

- *The Kontakion of the Holy Cross (Ο υψωθείς εν τω Σταυρώ, Fourth Mode):*

You who were lifted on the cross voluntarily, * O Christ our God, bestow Your tender compassions * upon Your new community to which You gave Your name. * Cause our faithful emperors to be glad in Your power, * granting them the victories against their adversaries. * And for an ally, Lord, may they have You, * peace as their armor, the trophy invincible.

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday (9/17—No Fasting): Luke 24:1-12; Galatians 2:16-20; Mark 8:34-38, 9:1

Monday (9/18—No Fasting): Galatians 4:28-31, 5:1-10; Luke 3:19-22

Tuesday (9/19—No Fasting): Galatians 5:11-21; Luke 3:23-38, 4:1

Wednesday (9/20—Wine+Oil): Ephesians 6:10-17; Luke 21:12-19

Thursday (9/21—No Fasting): Ephesians 1:1-9; Luke 4:16-22

Friday (9/22—Strict Fast): Ephesians 1:7-17; Luke 4:22-30

Saturday (9/23—No Fasting): Galatians 4:22-27; Luke 1:5-25

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, Mena, Austin, Kiley, Garrett, Andy, Heather, Carolina, Maria, Laurie, Lindsey, Randy, Raymond, Marina, Effie, Christina, Ashley, Foster, Peggy, Lynn, Dimitri, Stelianos, Denna, Brian, Sue, Vassilios

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Rose (+August 6), James (+August 14), Dorothy (+August 20), Mounir (+August 23), Sedky (+August 25), Kim (+September 5), Jamal (+September 6), Dennis (+September 10)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Maggie B., Hannah K.

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. Anatoly of Optina, speaks to us about the Holy Cross: "The holy Fathers relate that when the thief of the Gospel, too, came to the gates of the Kingdom, the Archangel with the flaming sword wanted to chase him away, but he showed him the Cross. Immediately the fire-bearing Archangel himself withdrew and permitted the thief to enter. Understand here not the wooden cross. But which? The Cross in which the chief Apostle Paul

boasts and concerning which he writes, 'I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus (Gal. 6:17).'"

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

September 17: Sofia Danforth, Sofia Lekas, Sophia Zajac
September 23: Paulina Stone

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

September 17: Helen Vardy
September 22: Kassiani Andros, Hazel Dunbar
September 23: Alexia Passias

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

September 18: Hazel and Bob Dunbar

(If you have a celebration that did not make it into the bulletin, please e-mail Fr. Theodore!)

Announcements:

* **Χρόνια Πολλά, Many Years** to our parish as we continue to celebrate the Elevation of the Holy Cross. Blessed basil will be handed out at the end of the Liturgy today.

* **Youth:** Sunday School kicks off TODAY with a blessing of the waters and our first class! Students and teachers will receive communion first, then wait in the narthex to walk to the house together with their class. The Blessing of the Students and Classrooms will take place in the Sunday School after Father concludes with the Divine Liturgy.

* **Greek School** will be starting NEXT Sunday, September 24 (youth class will begin on September 24 and adult class on October 1). Please speak with or contact Maria Bronisevsky TODAY to register and reserve your book for the class.

* The **Not So Young Adult** Group is planning a hike at Amerson Park next Sunday, September 24 at 3:00pm for some fellowship. Please contact Beth Zoumeris for more information!

* **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 at 8:30am) 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 know of someone who would like to volunteer to work at the festival, please direct them to our festival webpage or contact Cheryl Schwartzkopf.

* **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.