



# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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[www.holycrossga.org](http://www.holycrossga.org) | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

### Sunday, September 3, 2023

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

The Holy Hieromartyr St. Anthimos

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Second (Mark 16:1-8)

Mode of the Week: Fourth/Τέταρτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, 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>Tuesday, September 5</i>	7:00pm Young Adult Ministry Outing (Trivia in Macon)
<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 (Dive at 3:00pm, Food at 4:00pm)
<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 TBD (Late Afternoon) Parish Movie Outing
<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!) Procession of the Holy Cross at the end of the Liturgy
<i>Saturday, September 16</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, September 17</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday after the Holy Cross Blessing for the beginning of Sunday School Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study in the Parish House after Liturgy 12:30pm Philoptochos Meeting in the Parish House
<i>Tuesday, September 19</i>	7:30pm Stewardship Committee Meeting

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (9/10) Kostas Iakovidis, Beth Zoumberis; (9/17) Aleca Hortman, Isabelle Saratsiotis  
**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (9/10) Sarah Draskopoulos; (9/17) Natalia Saratsiotis; (9/24) Melanie Moyer  
**Upcoming Ushers:** (9/6) OPEN; (9/7) Tassie C.; (9/8) Eleni+Norm A.; (9/10) Cleo B., Sarah D.; (9/13) Tassie C.  
**Upcoming Video Operators:** (9/10) Gray Y./David N.; (9/13) Cristina L.; (9/14) Joanna P.; (9/17) David Z.  
**Upcoming Fellowship Hosts:** (9/10) Parish Council; (9/17) Georgia Saratsiotis; (9/24) Tassie Cantrell

### 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  
σφόδρα.*

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*Πρὸς Κορινθίους Α' Ἐπιστολῆς  
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.*

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Ἀδελφοί, γρηγορεῖτε, στήκετε ἐν τῇ πίστει, ἀνδρίζεσθε, κραταιοῦσθε· πάντα ὑμῶν ἐν ἀγάπῃ γενέσθω. Παρακαλῶ δὲ ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί· οἶδατε τὴν οἰκίαν Στεφανᾶ, ὅτι ἐστὶν ἀπαρχὴ τῆς Ἀχαΐας καὶ εἰς διακονίαν τοῖς ἁγίοις ἔταξαν ἑαυτούς· ἵνα καὶ ὑμεῖς ὑποτάσσησθε τοῖς τοιοῦτοις καὶ παντὶ τῷ συνεργοῦντι καὶ κοπιῶντι. Χαίρω δὲ ἐπὶ τῇ παρουσίᾳ Στεφανᾶ καὶ Φορτουνάτου καὶ Ἀχαϊκοῦ, ὅτι τὸ ὑμέτερον ὑστέρημα οὗτοι ἀνεπλήρωσαν· ἀνέπαυσαν γὰρ τὸ ἐμὸν πνεῦμα καὶ τὸ ὑμῶν. ἐπιγινώσκετε οὖν τοὺς τοιοῦτους. Ἀσπάζονται ὑμᾶς αἱ ἐκκλησίαι τῆς Ἀσίας. ἀσπάζεται ὑμᾶς ἐν Κυρίῳ πολλὰ Ἀκύλας καὶ Πρίσκιλλα σὺν τῇ κατ' οἶκον αὐτῶν ἐκκλησίᾳ. Ἀσπάζονται ὑμᾶς οἱ ἀδελφοὶ πάντες. Ἀσπασασθε ἀλλήλους ἐν φιλήματι ἁγίῳ. Ὁ ἀσπασμὸς τῆ ἐμῆ χειρὶ Παύλου. Εἴ τις οὐ φιλεῖ τὸν Κύριον ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν, ἦτω ἀνάθεμα μαρὰν θά. Ἡ χάρις τοῦ Κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ μεθ' ὑμῶν. Ἡ ἀγάπη μου μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ. Ἀμήν.

*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 First  
Letter to the Corinthians. (16:13-24)*

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Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicos, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

## The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (21:33-42)

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

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· ἄνθρωπος τις ἦν οἰκοδεσπότης, ὅστις ἐφύτευσεν ἀμπελῶνα καὶ φραγμὸν αὐτῷ περιέθηκε καὶ ὠρυξεν ἐν αὐτῷ ληνὸν καὶ ὠκοδόμησεν πύργον, καὶ ἐξέδοτο αὐτὸν γεωργοῖς, καὶ ἀπεδήμησεν. ὅτε δὲ ἤγγισεν ὁ καιρὸς τῶν καρπῶν, ἀπέστειλε τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ πρὸς τοὺς γεωργοὺς λαβεῖν τοὺς καρπούς αὐτοῦ. καὶ λαβόντες οἱ γεωργοὶ τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ ὃν μὲν ἔδειραν, ὃν δὲ ἀπέκτειναν, ὃν δὲ ἐλιθοβόλησαν. πάλιν ἀπέστειλεν ἄλλους δούλους πλείονας τῶν πρώτων, καὶ ἐποίησαν αὐτοῖς ὡσαύτως. ὕστερον δὲ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς αὐτοὺς τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ λέγων· ἐντραπήσονται τὸν υἱὸν μου. οἱ δὲ γεωργοὶ ἰδόντες τὸν υἱὸν εἶπον ἐν ἑαυτοῖς· οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ κληρονόμος· δεῦτε ἀποκτείνωμεν αὐτὸν καὶ κατάσχωμεν τὴν κληρονομίαν αὐτοῦ. καὶ λαβόντες αὐτὸν ἐξέβαλον ἔξω τοῦ ἀμπελῶνος καὶ ἀπέκτειναν. ὅταν οὖν ἔλθῃ ὁ κύριος τοῦ ἀμπελῶνος, τί ποιήσει τοῖς γεωργοῖς ἐκείνοις; λέγουσιν αὐτῷ· Κακοὺς κακῶς ἀπολέσει αὐτούς, καὶ τὸν ἀμπελῶνα ἐκδώσεται ἄλλοις γεωργοῖς, οἵτινες ἀποδώσουσιν αὐτῷ τοὺς καρπούς ἐν τοῖς καιροῖς αὐτῶν. λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Οὐδέποτε ἀνέγνωτε ἐν ταῖς γραφαῖς, λίθον ὃν ἀπεδοκίμασαν οἱ οἰκοδομοῦντες, οὗτος ἐγενήθη εἰς κεφαλὴν γωνίας· παρὰ Κυρίου ἐγένετο αὕτη, καὶ ἔστι θαυμαστὴ ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς ἡμῶν;

The Lord said this parable, "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it was marvelous in our eyes?'"

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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 September 3, 2023

**Ushers on Duty:** Eleni and Norm Adams

**Video:** Joanna P.

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

**Epistle Readers:** Pete Tsamolias (Greek), Rene Esquivel (English)

**Fellowship Host (Thank You!):** Christina Danforth

**PC Member On-Duty:** Charles Glotzbach



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + The Holy Hieromartyr Anthimos, Bishop of Nicomedia (+303)

After the death of the 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia, their Bishop Anthimos fled to a certain village to care for his remaining flock. The Emperor Maximian sent men in search of him. When they found him, he promised to show Anthimos to them, but first took them in as guests, fed them, and only then made himself known to them. Amazed at his kindness, the soldiers promised him to tell Maximian that they had not found him. But Anthimos went willingly with them, and converting them by his admonitions, baptized them on the way. He boldly confessed his Faith before Maximian, and after frightful tortures was beheaded in the year 303 or 304.

- + Our Devout Father Theoklistos, fellow ascetic of Efthymos the Great (+451)

Saint Theoklistos, a monk at the Palestinian lavra of Pharan, embraced a more severe life in the wilderness with his friend Saint Efthymios the Great. They founded a monastery, of which Theoklistos was the abbot. He reposed in deep old age in 451.

- + The Holy Martyr Zeno (+302)

- + The Holy Martyr Vasilissa of Nicomedia (+309)

- + The Holy Hieromartyr Aristion, Bishop of Alexandria (+167)

- + The Holy Martyr Chariton

- + The Holy Martyr Archontion

- + The Holy New Martyr Polydoros of New Ephesus (+1794)

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 (To φαίδρον, 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.

- Hymn of St. Anthimos (Και τρόπων μέτοχος, Fourth Mode):

Becoming a partner with the Apostles in way of life and successor to their thrones, O God-inspired Saint, in the active life you found an entrance to contemplation. Hence you rightly expounded the word of truth, and you shed your blood in struggling for the faith, O Hieromartyr Anthimos. Intercede with Christ our God, beseeching Him to save our souls.

- Hymn of St. Theoklistos (Ταῖς των δακρύων, Plagal Fourth Mode):

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O Theoklistos our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

- 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 (9/3—No Fasting):** Mark 16:1-8; I Corinthians 16:13-24; Matthew 21:33-42

**Monday (9/4—No Fasting):** II Corinthians 12:10-19; Mark 4:10-23

**Tuesday (9/5—No Fasting):** II Corinthians 12:20-21, 13:1-2; Matthew 23:29-39

**Wednesday (9/6—Wine+Oil):** Hebrews 2:2-10; Luke 10:16-21

**Thursday (9/7—No Fasting):** Galatians 1:1-3, 20-24, 2:1-5; Mark 5:1-20

**Friday (9/8—Nativity of the Theotokos—Fish+Oil+Wine):** Luke 1:39-49, 56; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

**Saturday (9/9—No Fasting):** I Corinthians 2:6-9; Matthew 10:37-42, 11:1

### 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

### Prayers for those recently reposed:

Marty (+August 4), Rose (+August 6), James (+August 14), Mounir (+August 23), Sedky (+August 25)

### Prayers for expecting mothers:

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. Anthimos of Chios (+1960)**, speaks to us a simple reminder for when we go to wash our own hands and faces: "What do people do when their hands and faces are dirty? They turn on a tap and allow the water to clean away the stains. We should imitate them. Only, we should open two taps – our eyes, so that an abundance of tears of repentance pour out, which will wash out all the poisons of this futile world which have infected and dirtied our wretched souls."

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

September 4: Stephanie "Hermione" Lord

September 7: Kassiani Andros

September 8: Diana-Maria Cazacu, Ana-Maria Filimon

September 9: Joachim Ehmer, Anne Gordy

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

September 3: Basil Ehmer

September 4: Presvytera Kaliope Vastakis

September 5: Bob McCluskey

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

September 3: Stacey and Henry Goss

September 6: Lisa and David Needham

September 9: Ron and Christine Sprouse

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

### Announcements:

\* **YAM:** (20s/30s): Our next gathering is Trivia this Tuesday at Just Tap'd in downtown Macon! Trivia is typically from 7-8:30pm. Let Presv. Stacey know if you can join us!

\* **CROSS DIVE:** Very last minute Cross Dive registrations welcome today! Purchase during coffee hour with help on the iPad or buy your ticket online ([holycrossga.org/cross-dive](http://holycrossga.org/cross-dive))! T-shirts must be ordered for printing tomorrow; if you want to buy a \$15 t-shirt, register online or let Presv. Stacey know TODAY! We'll be gathering for beach time and fellowship as early as 10am this Saturday the 9th at Sandy Beach. Bring a bag lunch or snacks to hold you over til 4pm dinner. We're so excited - see you there!

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

\* **YOUTH:** Sunday School kicks off in two weeks (9/17) 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.

\* **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 would like to order Festival apparel, please do so ASAP as the deadline has passed.* There are samples to be seen in the bookstore!

\* **Greek School** will be starting on Sunday, September 24. Please see the e-mail that was sent this week by Maria Bronisevsky for more information.

\* **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.