



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Sunday, October 22, 2023

6th Sunday of Luke

St. Abercius of Hieropolis

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Nineth (John 20:19-31)

Mode of the Week: Third/Τρίτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Sunday, October 22</i>	7:45am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy on the 6 th Sunday of Luke Holy Chrismation of Chad Ridley during the Liturgy No Sunday School/Coffee Fellowship due to Festival Central Georgia Greek Festival (until 4:00pm)
<i>Wednesday, October 25</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of St. Demetrios 6:30pm Adult Study: Orthodoxy 101 in the Parish House
<i>Thursday, October 26</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Demetrios the Myrrh-flowing 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Sunday, October 29</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 7 th Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion Commemoration and Doxology for Oxi Day (Oct 28) Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:45pm Greek School (Youth)/Adult Bible Study 5:00pm Wedding of Daniel Smith and Amanda Lord
<i>Wednesday, November 1</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Choir Practice
<i>Sunday, November 5</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 5 th Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:30pm Philoptochos Meeting 12:45pm Adult Greek School
<i>Wednesday, November 8</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of the Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel 5:30pm Great Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study: Orthodoxy 101 in the Parish House
<i>Thursday, November 9</i>	5:30pm 9 th Hour and Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Nektarios
<i>Friday, November 10</i>	Veterans Day—Office Closed
<i>Sunday, November 12</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 8 th Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion General Assembly following the Divine Liturgy
Upcoming Epistle Readers: (10/29) Pete Tsamolias, Charles Glotzbach; (11/5) Kostas Iakovidis, Diana Cazacu Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (10/29) Sarah Patronis; (11/5) Melanie Moye; (11/12) Charles Glotzbach Upcoming Ushers: (10/25) OPEN; (10/26) Cristina L.; (10/29) Charles G., David Z.; November Ushers TBA Upcoming Video Operators: (10/26) Joanna P.; (10/29) Christina D.; (11/5) Cristina L.; (11/8) Joanna P. Upcoming Fellowship Hosts: (10/29) Sarah Patronis; (11/5) Marcela Chiorescu; (11/12) Presvytera Stacey	

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

Ψάλατε τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῶν, ψάλατε, ψάλατε
τῷ βασιλεῖ ἡμῶν, ψάλατε.

Στίχ. Πάντα τὰ ἔθνη κροτήσατε χεῖρας,
ἀλαλάξατε τῷ Θεῷ ἐν φωνῇ
ἀγαλλιάσεως.

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Πρὸς Γαλάτας Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ
ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἀδελφοί, γνωρίζω ὑμῖν τὸ εὐαγγέλιον
τὸ εὐαγγελισθὲν ὑπ' ἐμοῦ ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν
κατὰ ἄνθρωπον· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἐγὼ παρὰ
ἄνθρωπου παρέλαβον αὐτό, οὔτε
ἐδιδάχθην, ἀλλὰ δι' ἀποκαλύψεως
Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ἦκούσατε γὰρ τὴν
ἐμὴν ἀναστροφήν ποτε ἐν τῷ
Ἰουδαϊσμῷ, ὅτι καθ' ὑπερβολὴν
ἐδίωκον τὴν ἐκκλησίαν τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ
ἐπόρθουν αὐτήν, καὶ προέκοπτον ἐν
τῷ Ἰουδαϊσμῷ ὑπὲρ πολλοὺς
συνηλικιώτας ἐν τῷ γένει μου,
περισσοτέρως ζηλωτῆς ὑπάρχων τῶν
πατρικῶν μου παραδόσεων. Ὅτε δὲ
εὐδόκησεν ὁ Θεός, ὁ ἀφορίσας με ἐκ
κοιλίας μητρός μου καὶ καλέσας διὰ
τῆς χάριτος αὐτοῦ ἀποκαλύψαι τὸν
υἱὸν αὐτοῦ ἐν ἐμοί, ἵνα εὐαγγελίζωμαι
αὐτὸν ἐν τοῖς ἔθνεσιν, εὐθέως οὐ
προσανέθην σαρκὶ καὶ αἵματι, οὐδὲ
ἀνῆλθον εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα πρὸς τοὺς
πρὸ ἐμοῦ ἀποστόλους, ἀλλὰ ἀπῆλθον
εἰς Ἀραβίαν, καὶ πάλιν ὑπέστρεψα εἰς
Δαμασκόν. Ἐπειτα μετὰ τρία ἔτη
ἀνῆλθον εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα ἱστορήσαι
Πέτρον, καὶ ἐπέμεινα πρὸς αὐτὸν
ἡμέρας δεκαπέντε· ἕτερον δὲ τῶν
ἀποστόλων οὐκ εἶδον, εἰ μὴ Ἰάκωβον
τὸν ἀδελφὸν τοῦ Κυρίου.

*Sing praises to God; sing praises;
sing praises to our King; sing
praises.*

*Verse: Oh, clap your hands, all you
nations; shout to God with the voice
of rejoicing. (Ps. 46)*

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*The reading is from Paul's Letter to
the Galatians. (1:11-19)*

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Brethren, I would have you know that
the gospel which was preached by me
is not man's gospel. For I did not
receive it from man, nor was I taught
it, but it came through a revelation of
Jesus Christ. For you have heard of
my former life in Judaism, how I
persecuted the church of God
violently and tried to destroy it; and I
advanced in Judaism beyond many of
my own age among my people, so
extremely zealous was I for the
traditions of my fathers. But when he
who had set me apart before I was
born, and had called me through his
grace, was pleased to reveal his Son
to me, in order that I might preach
him among the Gentiles, I did not
confer with flesh and blood, nor did I
go up to Jerusalem to those who were
apostles before me, but I went away
into Arabia; and again I returned to
Damascus. Then after three years I
went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas,
and remained with him fifteen days.
But I saw none of the other apostles
except James the Lord's brother.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Luke (8:26-39)

6th Sunday of Luke

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐλθόντι τῷ Ἰησοῦ εἰς τὴν
χώραν τῶν Γαδαρηνῶν ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ ἀνὴρ
τις ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, ὃς εἶχε δαιμόνια ἐκ χρόνων
ικανῶν, καὶ ἱμάτιον οὐκ ἐνεδιδύσκετο, καὶ ἐν
οικίᾳ οὐκ ἔμενεν, ἀλλ' ἐν τοῖς μνήμασιν. ἰδὼν
δὲ τὸν Ἰησοῦν καὶ ἀνακράξας προσέπεσεν
αὐτῷ καὶ φωνῇ μεγάλη εἶπε· Τί ἐμοὶ καὶ σοί,
Ἰησοῦ υἱὲ τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ὑψίστου; δέομαί σου,
μὴ με βασανίσῃς. παρήγγειλε γὰρ τῷ πνεύματι
τῷ ἀκαθάρτῳ ἐξελθεῖν ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.
πολλοῖς γὰρ χρόνοις συνηρπάκει αὐτόν, καὶ
ἐδεσμεῖτο ἀλύσει καὶ πέδαις φυλασσόμενος,
καὶ διαρρήσων τὰ δεσμὰ ἠλαύνετο ὑπὸ τοῦ
δαίμονος εἰς τὰς ἐρήμους. ἐπηρώτησε δὲ αὐτόν
ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· Τί σοὶ ἐστὶν ὄνομα; ὁ δὲ εἶπε·
Λεγεὼν· ὅτι δαιμόνια πολλὰ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς
αὐτόν· καὶ παρεκάλει αὐτόν ἵνα μὴ ἐπιτάξῃ
αὐτοῖς εἰς τὴν ἄβυσσον ἀπελθεῖν. Ἦν δὲ ἐκεῖ
ἀγέλη χοίρων ἱκανῶν βοσκομένη ἐν τῷ ὄρει·
καὶ παρεκάλουν αὐτόν ἵνα ἐπιτρέψῃ αὐτοῖς εἰς
ἐκείνους εἰσελθεῖν· καὶ ἐπέτρεψεν αὐτοῖς.
ἐξελθόντα δὲ τὰ δαιμόνια ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου
εἰσῆλθον εἰς τοὺς χοίρους, καὶ ὄρμησεν ἡ
ἀγέλη κατὰ τοῦ κρημοῦ εἰς τὴν λίμνην καὶ
ἀπεπνίγη. ἰδόντες δὲ οἱ βόσκοντες τὸ
γεγενημένον ἔφυγον, καὶ ἀπήγγειλαν εἰς τὴν
πόλιν καὶ εἰς τοὺς ἀγρούς. ἐξῆλθον δὲ ἰδεῖν τὸ
γεγονός, καὶ ἦλθον πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν, καὶ
εὔρον καθήμενον τὸν ἄνθρωπον, ἀφ' οὗ τὰ
δαιμόνια ἐξεληλύθει, ἱματισμένον καὶ
σωφρονοῦντα παρὰ τοὺς πόδας τοῦ Ἰησοῦ, καὶ
ἐφοβήθησαν. ἀπήγγειλαν δὲ αὐτοῖς οἱ ἰδόντες
πῶς ἐσώθη ὁ δαιμονισθεὶς· καὶ ἠρώτησαν
αὐτὸν ἅπαν τὸ πλῆθος τῆς περιχώρου τῶν
Γαδαρηνῶν ἀπελθεῖν ἀπ' αὐτῶν, ὅτι φόβῳ
μεγάλῳ συνείχοντο· αὐτὸς δὲ ἐμβὰς εἰς τὸ
πλοῖον ὑπέστρεψεν. ἐδέετο δὲ αὐτοῦ ὁ ἀνὴρ,
ἀφ' οὗ ἐξεληλύθει τὰ δαιμόνια, εἶναι σὺν
αὐτῷ· ἀπέλυσε δὲ αὐτόν ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων·
Ἔποστρεφε εἰς τὸν οἶκόν σου καὶ διηγοῦ ὅσα
ἐποίησέ σοι ὁ Θεός· καὶ ἀπῆλθε καθ' ὅλην τὴν
πόλιν κηρύσσων ὅσα ἐποίησεν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς.

At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of
the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the
city who had demons; for a long time he had
worn no clothes and he lived not in a house
but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he
cried out and fell down before him, and said
with a loud voice, "What have you to do with
me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I
beseech you, do not torment me." For he had
commanded the unclean spirit to come out of
the man. (For many a time it had seized him;
he was kept under guard, and bound with
chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and
was driven by the demon into the desert.)
Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?"
And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had
entered him. And they begged him not to
command them to depart into the abyss. Now
a large herd of swine was feeding there on the
hillside; and they begged him to let them enter
these. So he gave them leave. Then the
demons came out of the man and entered the
swine, and the herd rushed down the steep
bank into the lake and were drowned. When
the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled,
and told it in the city and in the country. Then
people went out to see what had happened,
and they came to Jesus, and found the man
from whom the demons had gone, sitting at
the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right
mind; and they were afraid. And those who
had seen it told them how he who had been
possessed with demons was healed. Then all
the people of the surrounding country of the
Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for
they were seized with great fear; so he got into
the boat and returned. The man from whom
the demons had gone begged that he might be
with him; but he sent him away, saying,
"Return to your home, and declare how much
God has done for you." And he went away,
proclaiming throughout the whole city how
much Jesus had done for him.

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 October 22, 2023

Ushers on Duty: Nikitis Zoumberis

Video: Gray/David N. Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: George Saratsiotis (Greek), Cheryl Schwartzkopf (Eng)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): None due to Festival

PC Member On-Duty: Natalia Saratsiotis



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ Our Father among the Saints, Abercius, Bishop of Hieropolis and Equal to the Apostles (+167)

Saint Abercius, Bishop of Hierapolis in Phrygia in the times of Marcus Aurelius, was adorned with the grace of wonderworking and with apostolic zeal. During a festival in honour of Apollo, the chief deity of Hierapolis, the holy bishop was instructed in a revelation to destroy the idols. He went to the temple by night and overturned the statues of Apollo and the others. When this was discovered, the Saint boldly cried out that the gods, becoming drunk from the wine of the libations offered them, had struck one against another in their confusion. A multitude of furious pagans came to avenge the insult to their gods, but when the Saint cast the demons out of three afflicted young men, fear fell upon the idolaters and they with the whole city became Christian. After many labours, and afflictions, Saint Abercius reposed in peace about the year 167.

+ The Seven Holy Youths (the Sleepers) of Ephesus: Maximilian, Jamblichus, Martinian, Dionysios, Antoninus, Hexakustodians, and John (+434)

The Seven Youths hid themselves in a certain cave near Ephesus in the year 250, to escape the persecution of Decius. By divine grace, a sleep came upon them and they slept for 184 years, until the reign of Saint Theodosius the Younger, when the doctrine of the resurrection was being assailed by heretics. They then awoke, that is, were resurrected, confirming in the sight of all the bodily resurrection; and again after a short time, by divine command, they reposed in the Lord in the year 434.

+ The Holy Martyrs Alexander the Bishop, Heraclius, Theodota, Glyceria, Anna, and Elizabeth at Adrianople (+2nd-3rd Centuries)

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 (pg. 8 in the Small Book/pg. 37 in the Hymnal):

- *Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Ευφραίνεσθα τα ουράνια, 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. Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 106)

- *Hymn of St. Abercius (Κανόνα πίστεως, Fourth Mode):*

A rule of faith are you, and an icon of gentleness, and a teacher of self-control. And to your flock this was evident, by the truth of your life and deeds. You were humble and therefore you acquired exalted gifts, treasure in heaven for being poor. Father holy hierarch Abercius, intercede with Christ our God, and entreat Him to save our souls.

- *Hymn of the Holy Seven Youths (Οι Μάρτυρες σου Κύριε, Fourth Mode):*

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You * the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. * Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, * dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

- *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.

- *The Normal Kontakion (Προστασία των Χριστιανών, Second Mode):*

O Protection of Christians that never falls, intercession with the Creator that never fails, we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you. (Greek Text found in large hymnal on pg. 224)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday (10/22—No Fasting): John 20:19-31; Galatians 1:11-19; Luke 8:26-39

Monday (10/23—St. James/Iakovos—No Fasting): Galatians 1:11-19; Matthew 13:54-58

Tuesday (10/24—No Fasting): Colossians 1:1-3, 7:1-11; Luke 11:1-10

Wednesday (10/25—Strict Fast): Colossians 1:18-23; Luke 11:9-13

Thursday (10/26—St. Demetrios—No Fasting): Luke 21:12-19; II Timothy 2:1-10; John 15:17-27, 16:1-2

Friday (10/27—Strict Fast): Colossians 2:1-7; Luke 11:23-26

Saturday (10/28—Protection of the Theotokos—No Fasting): Luke 1:39-49, 56; Hebrews 9:1-7; Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

Prayer Requests:

Fr. Symeon (mission priest supported by our parish), Panteleimon, Michael, Evthalia, Kassiani, Michael, Dimitrios, Georgia, Pavlos, Betty, David, Chris, Irene, Valerie, Dianna, Keith, Jeannie, Dawn, Kenneth, Samuel, Hermione, Emmanuel, Mary, Kay, Helen, Nikki, Mena, Austin, Kiley, Garrett, Carolina, Maria, Laurie, Lindsey, Randy, Marina, Effie, Christina, Ashley, Foster, Peggy, Lynn, Dimitri, Stelianos, Denna, Brian, Vassilios, Bessie, Jackie

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Kim (+September 5), Jamal (+September 6), Dennis (+September 10), Steven (+September 18), Jeffie Sue (+September 21), Raymond (+September 23), Georgia (+September 24)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Maggie B., Hannah K., Julieta L.

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

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica with some practical wisdom for us about the reality of spiritual warfare: "All of us sin constantly. We slip and fall. In reality, we fall into a trap set by the demons. The Holy Fathers and the Saints always tell us, 'It is important to get up immediately after a fall and to keep on walking toward God'. Even if we fall a hundred times a day, it does not

matter; we must get up and go on walking toward God without looking back. What has happened has happened – it is in the past. Just keep on going, all the while asking for help from God."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

October 26: James Anthony Bennette, Jimmy Cacavias, Dimitris Karras, Demetri Kostakis, Washington Morris, Dimitris Saratsiotis, Toula Tsamolias, David Zoumberis

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

October 22: Aaron Nicholas Vrahiotes

October 23: Danny McBride

October 24: Gloria Dixon, Chrissy Zdrakas

October 25: George Cazacu

October 26: Jimmy Cacavias, Paulina Stone

October 28: Andreas Tsamolias

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

October 26: Georgia and Dimitris Karras

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

Announcements:

* Congratulations to **Chad Ridley** who is receiving Holy Chrismation today and joining the Holy Orthodox Church. God grant him many years and salvation! Axioi—Worthy are his sponsors: Caroline Jarboe of Washington DC and Michael Brooks of Spokane, Washington.

* **Philoptochos:** If you have not paid your dues for 2023, please do so as soon as possible. If you would like to join Philoptochos, let us know! We are always welcoming new members! The next Philoptochos meeting is schedule for after Liturgy on Sunday, November 5.

* The **Adult Study Class** for the next few months on Wednesday evening will be "Orthodoxy 101." This will cover the basics of our Orthodox Christian faith. This is open to both newcomers and those in the Church. Classes will last from 6:30pm to 7:30pm and be on Wednesdays (with the exception of the first Wednesday of each month and this week due to Festival Preparations.)

* **GREEK FESTIVAL:** The Festival finishes up today (at 4:00pm)! **Please** plan on staying to assist with clean up—many hands makes quick work (and we can enjoy a little food and fellowship after!) **Thank you** to all who have assisted throughout the Festival and the preparations!

* **General Assembly** coming soon: Sunday, November 12 after the Divine Liturgy.

* **Youth:** Winter Youth Rally registration is now open (for 7th to 12th graders, December 27-30 in Atlanta). See the website (<https://atlmetsopolis.org/winter-youth-rally>) for more details.

* **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.