



# 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, November 12, 2023

8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke  
 St. John the Merciful

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

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

Today, November 12

9:15am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke  
 Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion  
 Honoring of our Holy Cross Veterans at the end of the Liturgy  
 12:30pm Fall General Assembly

Tuesday, November 14

5:30pm 9<sup>th</sup> Hour and Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Philip the Apostle

Wednesday, November 15

**Beginning of the Nativity Fast**

5:45pm Vespers  
 6:30pm Adult Study: Orthodoxy 101 in the Parish House

Saturday, November 18

4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class  
 5:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday, November 19

9:15am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke  
 Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion  
 Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy  
 12:45pm Greek School (Youth)/Adult Bible Study

Monday, November 20

9:00pm Holy Vigil (Great Vespers, Orthros, and Divine Liturgy) for the Entrance of the Theotokos

Thursday, Nov 23/Friday, Nov 24

Office Closed—Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 26

9:15am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Stylianos (commemoration also of St. Katherine the Great Martyr)  
 Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy  
 12:45pm Greek School (Youth)/Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, November 28

6:30pm Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 29

5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of St. Andrew the First-Called  
 6:30pm Adult Study: Orthodoxy 101 in the Parish House

Thursday, November 30

9:30am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Andrew the First-Called

Saturday, December 2

4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class  
 5:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday, December 3

9:15am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke  
 Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion  
 Coffee Fellowship, Adult Greek School following Liturgy

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (11/19) George Saratsiotis, Cleo Bennette; (11/26) Pete Tsamolias, Sarah Drakopoulos

**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (11/19) Gray Yates; (11/26) Charles Glotzbach; (12/3) John Apostolou

**Upcoming Ushers:** (11/14) David Z.; (11/15) Melanie M.; (11/18) Maria S.; (11/19) Sarah D., Kiki K.; (11/20) OPEN

**Upcoming Video Operators:** (11/19) David Z.; (11/20) Natalia S.; (11/26) Gray Y./David N.; (11/30) Joanna P.

**Upcoming Fellowship Hosts:** (11/19) GOYA/Sofia Lekas; (11/26) Maria B.; Joanna P.; (12/3) Rodica Cazacu

### 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

*Τίμιος ἐναντίον Κυρίου ὁ θάνατος  
τοῦ ὁσίου αὐτοῦ.*

*Στίχ. Τί ἀνταποδώσωμεν τῷ Κυρίῳ  
περὶ πάντων, ὧν ἀνταπέδωκεν  
ἡμῖν;*

+++

*Πρὸς Κορινθίους Β' Ἐπιστολῆς  
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.*

+++

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ σπείρων φειδομένως, φειδομένως καὶ θερίσει, καὶ ὁ σπείρων ἐπ' εὐλογίαις ἐπ' εὐλογίαις καὶ θερίσει. Ἐκαστος καθὼς προαιρεῖται τῇ καρδίᾳ, μὴ ἐκ λύπης ἢ ἐξ ἀνάγκης· ἰλαρὸν γὰρ δότην ἀγαπᾷ ὁ Θεός. Δυνατὸς δὲ ὁ Θεὸς πᾶσαν χάριν περισσεῦσαι εἰς ὑμᾶς, ἵνα ἐν παντὶ πάντοτε πᾶσαν αὐτάρκειαν ἔχοντες περισσεύητε εἰς πᾶν ἔργον ἀγαθόν, καθὼς γέγραπται· Ἐσκόρπισεν, ἔδωκε τοῖς πένησιν, ἡ δικαιοσύνη αὐτοῦ μένει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Ὁ δὲ ἐπιχορηγῶν σπέρμα τῷ σπείροντι καὶ ἄρτον εἰς βρῶσιν χορηγήσαι καὶ πληθύναι τὸν σπόρον ὑμῶν καὶ αὐξήσει τὰ γενήματα τῆς δικαιοσύνης ὑμῶν· ἐν παντὶ πλουτιζόμενοι εἰς πᾶσαν ἀπλότητα, ἥτις κατεργάζεται δι' ἡμῶν εὐχαριστίαν τῷ Θεῷ.

*Precious in the sight of the Lord is  
the death of His holy one.*

*Verse: What shall we give back to  
the Lord for all He rendered to  
us? (Ps. 115)*

+++

*The reading is from Paul's  
Second Letter to the Corinthians.  
(9:6-11)*

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Brethren, the point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

## The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Luke (10:25-37)

### 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, νομικός τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ πειράζων αὐτὸν καὶ λέγων· Διδάσκαλε, τί ποιήσας ζωὴν αἰώνιον κληρονομήσω; ὁ δὲ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτόν· Ἐν τῷ νόμῳ τί γέγραπται; πῶς ἀναγινώσκεις; ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπεν· Ἀγαπήσεις Κύριον τὸν Θεόν σου ἐξ ὅλης τῆς καρδίας σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ψυχῆς σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ἰσχύος σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς διανοίας σου, καὶ τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν· εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ· Ὅρθῶς ἀπεκρίθης· τοῦτο ποιεῖ καὶ ζῆσι. ὁ δὲ θέλων δικαιῶν ἑαυτὸν εἶπε πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν· Καὶ τίς ἐστὶ μου πλησίον; ὑπολαβὼν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν· Ἀνθρωπός τις κατέβαινεν ἀπὸ Ἱερουσαλὴμ εἰς Ἱεριχὼ, καὶ λησταῖς περιέπεσεν· οἱ καὶ ἐκδύσαντες αὐτὸν καὶ πληγὰς ἐπιθέντες ἀπῆλθον ἀφέντες ἡμιθανῆ τυγχάνοντα. κατὰ συγκυρίαν δὲ ἱερεὺς τις κατέβαινεν ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ ἐκείνῃ, καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν ἀντιπαρήλθεν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ Λευίτης γενόμενος κατὰ τὸν τόπον, ἐλθὼν καὶ ἰδὼν ἀντιπαρήλθε. Σαμαρείτης δὲ τις ὁδεύων ἦλθε κατ' αὐτόν, καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν ἐσπλαγχνίσθη, καὶ προσελθὼν κατέδησε τὰ τραύματα αὐτοῦ ἐπιχέων ἔλαιον καὶ οἶνον, ἐπιβιβάσας δὲ αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τὸ ἴδιον κτῆνος ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς πανδοχεῖον καὶ ἐπεμελήθη αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν αὔριον ἐξελθὼν, ἐκβαλὼν δύο δηνάρια ἔδωκε τῷ πανδοχεῖ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἐπιμελήθητι αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὅ, τι ἂν προσδαπανήσης, ἐγὼ ἐν τῷ ἐπανέρχεσθαί με ἀποδώσω σοι. τίς οὖν τούτων τῶν τριῶν πλησίον δοκεῖ σοι γεγονέναι τοῦ ἐμπροσθέντος εἰς τοὺς ληστές; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν· Ὁ ποιήσας τὸ ἔλεος μετ' αὐτοῦ. εἶπεν οὖν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Πορεύου καὶ σὺ ποιεῖ ὁμοίως.

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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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 November 12, 2023

Ushers on Duty: Cleo Bennette, Tassie Cantrell

Video: Natalia S.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Aleca Hortman (Greek), Panos Drakopoulos (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Youth Potluck

PC Member On-Duty: Maria McCluskey



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ Our Father among the Saints John the Merciful, Archbishop of Alexandria (+619)

*Saint John was born in 555 on the island of Cyprus in the city of Amathus; his father, Epiphanius, was a ruler of Cyprus. The Saint was consecrated Archbishop of Alexandria in 608. A man of exemplary uprightness, in his zeal for Orthodoxy he strove mightily to fight the many heresies among the Christians in Egypt; but above all, he was famous for his singular generosity, humility, and sympathy towards all, especially the poor. His mercy was so great that the report of it reached the Persian invaders of Jerusalem, who desired to see him because of it. Saint John reposed in 619, at the age of sixty-four.*

+ Our Devout Father Nilus the Ascetic (+451)

+ Our Devout Father Martin the Wonderworker, Bishop of Tours (+397)

+ The Holy Prophet Achia (Ahijah) the Shilonite (+960 BC)

+ Our Devout Father Martin, Bishop of Tarakin

+ The Holy Martyrs Anthony + those with him (+305)

+ The Holy Martyr Arsakios

+ Our Devout Father Nilus of Kynuria (+1651)

+ Our Devout Father Leo Styppes, Patriarch of Constantinople (+1143)

+ The Holy New Martyrs Nigdele and Samolada (+1726)

+ The Holy New Martyr Nicholas (+1732)

*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 (Αγγελικαὶ 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 before and after the Small Entrance. Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 118)

- *Hymn of St. John the Merciful (Ἐν τῇ υπομονῇ σου, Plagal of the Fourth Mode):*

By your patience you obtained your reward, O devout Father. You persevered in your prayers without ceasing; and the poor you loved and satisfied. We entreat you, blessed John the Merciful, intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

- *Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σῶσον 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 Kontakion of the Entrance of the Theotokos (Ὁ καθαρῶτατος ναός, Fourth Mode):*

The Savior's most pure and immaculate temple, the very precious bridal chamber and Virgin, who is the sacred treasure of the glory of God, on this day is introduced into the House of the Lord, and with herself she brings the grace in the divine Spirit. She is extolled by the Angels of God. A heavenly tabernacle is she. (Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 236)

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

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

**Sunday (11/12—No Fasting):** Matthew 28:16-20; II Corinthians 9:6-11; Luke 10:25-37

**Monday (11/13—St. John Chrysostom—No Fasting):** John 10:1-9; Hebrews 7:26-28, 8:1-2; John 10:9-16

**Tuesday (11/14—Apostle Philip—No Fasting):** I Corinthians 4:9-16; John 1:43-51

**Wednesday (11/15—Strict Fast):** I Thessalonians 4:1-12; Luke 15:1-10

**Thursday (11/16—St. Matthew—Fish, Wine, Oil):** Romans 10:11-21, 11:1-2; Matthew 9:9-13

**Friday (11/17—Strict Fast):** I Corinthians 12:7-11; Luke 16:15-18, 17:1-4

**Saturday (11/18—Fish, Wine, Oil):** II Corinthians 11:1-6; Luke 9:57-62

### 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, Katerina, Link, Kathy

### Prayers for those recently reposed:

Jeffie Sue (+September 21), Raymond (+September 23), Georgia (+September 24), Jackie (+October 21)

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

### Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

**St. John the Merciful**, celebrated today: "I thank You, my Lord and God, for you made me worthy to give back the gifts which You gave me. I thank You, for you also heard my prayer and my work now that I am dying is none other than "a third coin", which I order to be given to my poor brothers. When by the grace of God I became bishop of Alexandria, I found in the treasury of my bishopric about 8,000 liters of gold. With the greatly gracious offerings of good-loving men, I established to gather [and distribute] an uncountable amount. All of which, which I knew, is a gift of

Christ the king of all, which I returned with assiduity and care towards God, to whom they also belong. To Him I also now commend my soul."

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

*Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!*  
None in the Records

*Birthdays—Happy Birthday!*

November 12: Marissa Goss, Anthony Nicholas Odom

November 15: Barry Mahoney, Maria Spicer

November 16: Matthew Deskins

November 18: John Paul Syribeys

*Anniversaries—Congratulations!*

None in the Records

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

### Announcements:

\* **Fall General Assembly** TODAY after the Divine Liturgy in the Parish House. One of the main topics will be concerning iconography—Iconographer Ari Kovaci will be making a presentation during the assembly. Please plan on attending!

\* Congratulations and Axioi (worthy!) to our 2023 **Archangel Michael Award** recipients Jim Lekas and Gray Yates! The award ceremony was yesterday at the Cathedral in Atlanta.

\* **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!

\* **Orthodoxy 101** this Wednesday at 6:30pm in the Parish House after Vespers. Topic: God, Jesus, the Holy Trinity

\* The facilitator of the bookstore, Cristina Lekas, is very graciously offering to open the **Holy Cross Bookstore** during the week. On Wednesday afternoons, the bookstore will be open from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. During this time, the Church will also be open for prayer, lighting candles, etc.

\* **Contribution statements** have been emailed and/or mailed out to each of you. If you have not received yours, please contact Maria McCluskey to obtain a copy for your records. A final statement will be mailed after the end of the year has closed out.

\* **Christmas Card/Poinsettias:** If you would like to participate in the 2023 Christmas Card and/or purchase a poinsettia "In Memory of" or "In Honor of", please fill out the form sent by email and turn in your payment to Natalia Saratsiotis. Christmas Card deadline is November 15th. Christmas Poinsettia deadline is December 17th.

\* **Festival:** Chairman follow-up meeting will be December 7<sup>th</sup>. For anyone that has suggestions for improvements to the Festival, please contact Natalia Saratsiotis.

\* **The Nativity Fast** in preparation for Christmas begins this week on November 15 and lasts until Christmas Eve. May it be blessed and fruitful!