



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Sunday, November 19, 2023

9th Sunday of Luke

The Holy Prophet Obadiah

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

Mode of the Week: Grave/Βαρύς

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, November 19</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 9 th 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 GOYA/Young Adult Service Project (after Church activities)
<i>Monday, November 20</i>	9:00pm Holy Vigil (Great Vespers, Orthros, and Divine Liturgy) for the Entrance of the Theotokos
<i>Thursday, Nov 23/Friday, Nov 24</i>	Office Closed—Thanksgiving
<i>Sunday, November 26</i>	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 (Adults)/Youth Dance Practice
<i>Tuesday, November 28</i>	6:30pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Wednesday, November 29</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of St. Andrew the First-Called 6:30pm Adult Study: Orthodoxy 101 in the Church Library
<i>Thursday, November 30</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Andrew the First-Called
<i>Saturday, December 2</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, December 3</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 14 th 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
<i>Tuesday, December 5</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of St. Nicholas 6:30pm Adult Study: Orthodoxy 101 in the Church Library
<i>Wednesday, December 6</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Nicholas 6:30pm Choir Practice in the Church
<i>Thursday, December 7</i>	6:30pm Festival Wrap-Up Meeting in the Parish House
<i>Saturday, December 9</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class followed by Great Vespers (5:00pm)

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (11/26) Pete Tsamolias, Sarah Drakopoulos; (12/3) Kostas Iakovidis, Rene Esquivel
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (11/26) Charles Glotzbach; (12/3) John Apostolou; (12/10) Charles Glotzbach
Upcoming Ushers: (11/20) OPEN; (11/26) Sarah D., Joanna P.; (11/29) David Z.; (11/30) Eleni A., Norm A.
Upcoming Video Operators: (11/20) Natalia S.; (11/26) David Z.; (11/30) Joanna P.; (12/3) Christina D.
Upcoming Fellowship Hosts: (11/26) Maria B.; Joanna P.; (12/3) Rodica Cazacu; (12/10) Maria McCluskey

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

*Κύριος ἰσχὺν τῷ λαῷ αὐτοῦ δώσει,
Κύριος εὐλογήσει τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ ἐν
εἰρήνῃ.*

*Στίχ. Ἐνέγκατε τῷ Κυρίῳ, υἱοὶ Θεοῦ,
ἐνέγκατε τῷ Κυρίῳ δόξαν καὶ τιμὴν.*

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*Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ
ἀνάγνωσμα.*

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Ἀδελφοί, Χριστός ἐστιν ἡ εἰρήνη ἡμῶν, ὁ ποιήσας τὰ ἀμφότερα ἐν καὶ τὸ μεσότοιχον τοῦ φραγμοῦ λύσας· τὴν ἔχθραν, ἐν τῇ σαρκὶ αὐτοῦ, τὸν νόμον τῶν ἐντολῶν ἐν δόγμασιν καταργήσας, ἵνα τοὺς δύο κτίσῃ ἐν αὐτῷ εἰς ἓνα καινὸν ἄνθρωπον ποιῶν εἰρήνην, καὶ ἀποκαταλλάξῃ τοὺς ἀμφοτέρους ἐν ἐνὶ σώματι τῷ Θεῷ διὰ τοῦ σταυροῦ, ἀποκτείνοντας τὴν ἔχθραν ἐν αὐτῷ. Καὶ ἐλθὼν εὐηγγελίσαστο εἰρήνην ὑμῖν τοῖς μακρὰν καὶ εἰρήνην τοῖς ἐγγύς· ὅτι δι' αὐτοῦ ἔχομεν τὴν προσαγωγὴν οἱ ἀμφότεροι ἐν ἐνὶ Πνεύματι πρὸς τὸν Πατέρα. Ἄρα οὖν οὐκέτι ἐστὲ ξένοι καὶ πάροικοι, ἀλλὰ ἐστὲ συμπολίται τῶν ἁγίων καὶ οἰκεῖοι τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἐποικοδομηθέντες ἐπὶ τῷ θεμελίῳ τῶν ἀποστόλων καὶ προφητῶν, ὄντος ἀκρογωνιαίου αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἐν ᾧ πᾶσα οἰκοδομὴ συναρμολογουμένη αὐξεῖ εἰς ναὸν ἅγιον ἐν Κυρίῳ, ἐν ᾧ καὶ ὑμεῖς συνοικοδομεῖσθε εἰς κατοικητήριον τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν Πνεύματι.

*The Lord will give strength to His
people; the Lord will bless His
people with peace.*

*Verse: Bring to the Lord, O you sons
of God, bring to the Lord glory and
honor. (Ps. 28)*

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*The reading is from Paul's Letter to
the Ephesians. (2:14-22)*

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Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Luke (12:16-21)

9th Sunday of Luke

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ἄνθρώπου τινὸς πλουσίου εὐφόρησεν ἡ χώρα· καὶ διελογίζετο ἐν ἑαυτῷ λέγων· τί ποιήσω, ὅτι οὐκ ἔχω ποῦ συνάξω τοὺς καρπούς μου; καὶ εἶπε· τοῦτο ποιήσω· καθελῶ μου τὰς ἀποθήκας καὶ μείζονας οἰκοδομήσω, καὶ συνάξω ἐκεῖ πάντα τὰ γεννήματά μου καὶ τὰ ἀγαθά μου, καὶ ἔρω τῇ ψυχῇ μου· ψυχὴ, ἔχεις πολλὰ ἀγαθὰ κείμενα εἰς ἔτη πολλά· ἀναπαύου, φάγε, πίε, εὐφραίνου. εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ Θεός· ἄφρον, ταύτη τῇ νυκτὶ τὴν ψυχὴν σου ἀπαιτοῦσιν ἀπὸ σοῦ· ἃ δὲ ἠτοίμασας τίνι ἔσται; οὕτως ὁ θησαυρίζων ἑαυτῷ καὶ μὴ εἰς Θεὸν πλουτῶν. Ταῦτα λέγων ἐφώνει· Ὁ ἔχων ὄτα ἀκούειν, ἀκουέτω.

The Lord said this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As he said these things, he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

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 November 19, 2023

Ushers on Duty: Sarah Drakopoulos, Kiki Kazakis

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

Epistle Readers: George Saratsiotis (Greek), Cleo Bennette (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): GOYA/Sofia Lekas

PC Member On-Duty: Gray Yates



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ The Holy Prophet Obadiah (+9th Century BC)

The Divine Scriptures do not tell us with any certainty when the Prophet Obadiah lived nor what was his homeland. Thus, some say that he is that Obadiah who was Ahab's steward, who, because of Jezebel's wrath, hid one hundred prophets in a cave and fed them with bread and water (III Kings 18:4), and that he later became a disciple of Elias the Prophet about 903 B.C. But others surmise from the words of the same prophetic book that he is somewhat later than Joel (celebrated on Oct. 19). He is also called Obdiu, or Abdiu, or Obadiah; his name means "servant of God." His book of prophecy, which consists of only one chapter, is ranked fourth among the minor Prophets.

+ The Holy Martyr Barlaam (+304)

+ The Holy Martyr Azes the Wonder-worker and the 150 martyred soldiers with him (+284)

+ The Holy Women, the wife and daughter of a governor

+ The Holy 12 Martyr Soldiers

+ The Holy Martyr Agapios (+306)

+ The Holy Martyr Heliodoros of Magido, Pamphylia (+273)

+ The Holy Martyrs Anthimos, Thalleleos, Christopher, Euphemia, and their children; and St. Pancharios

+ Our Devout Father Simon the Wonder-worker of Calabria (+10th 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 (pg. 8 in the Small Book/pg. 37 in the Hymnal):

- *Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Κατέλυσας τὸ Σταυρῶ, Grave Mode):*

You destroyed death by Your Cross, You opened Paradise to the Robber. You turned the Myrrh-bearing Women's lament into joy, and You commanded Your Apostles to preach that You rose, O Christ God, granting the world the great mercy. (Sung before and after the Small Entrance. Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 122)

- *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 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 (11/19—Fish, Wine, Oil): Mark 16:1-8; Ephesians 2:14-22; Luke 12:16-21

Monday (11/20—Fish, Wine, Oil): II Thessalonians 1:1-10; Luke 17:20-25

Tuesday (11/21—Entrance of the Theotokos—Fish, Wine, Oil): Luke 1:39-49, 56; Hebrews 9:1-7; Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

Wednesday (11/22—Strict Fast): Philemon 1:1-25; Luke 18:15-17, 26-30

Thursday (11/23—Fish, Wine, Oil): II Thessalonians 2:13-17, 3:1-5; Luke 18:31-34

Friday (11/24—Strict Fast): Philippians 3:20-21, 4:1-3; Luke 19:12-28

Saturday (11/25—St. Katherine—Fish, Wine, Oil): Matthew 25:1-3; Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-5; Mark 5:24-34

Prayer Requests:

Fr. Symeon (mission priest supported by our parish), Panteleimon, Michael, Evthalia, Kassiani, Michael, Dimitrios, Georgia, Pavlos, Betty, 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, Brian, Vassilios, Bessie, Katerina, Link, Kathy, Bill, Virginia, Karl

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Jackie (+October 21)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Hannah K., Julieta L., Muryah S.

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. Ignatius of Antioch, an early Father of the Church from the second century, on thanksgiving—and the importance of communal thanksgiving: “Take heed often to come together to give thanks to God and show forth His praise. For when you assemble frequently in the same place, the powers of Satan are destroyed, and the destruction at which he aims is prevented by the unity of your faith. Nothing is more precious than peace, by which all war, in heaven and earth, is brought to an end.”

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

November 25: Katina Cacavias, Katerina Iakovidis, Kathy Patras, Irene Ray, Mary Katherine Saratsiotis, Katerina Saxon

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

November 25: Sophia Cantrell

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:

* **GOYA/Young Adults:** Service project after church today: help unload/sort/store an influx of donated items at Daybreak for a couple of hours after church activities today during their benefit Music Festival! Bring a change of clothes/shoes to church. Please see Presvytera Stacey if you are interested in helping today!

* There will be a **Holy Vigil (Αγρυπνία)** on Monday evening to celebrate the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos, one of the twelve Great Feasts of the Church year. Great Vespers will begin at 9:00pm followed by Orthros and Divine Liturgy with Holy Communion just after midnight. Come and see!

* **Philoptochos:** Please see the emails/bulletin email that have been sent for more information about the Christmas Pastry Sale and the collections happening to assist Macon Outreach and the Colby Center!

* **Orthodoxy 101** is off this week because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

* 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.

* **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 was November 15th. Christmas Poinsettia deadline is December 17th.

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

* As a reminder, we have begun the **Nativity Fast** this past week on November 15. Of course, this week we celebrate the national holiday of Thanksgiving. While we may lessen the fast to celebrate together with our fellow American brothers and sisters, don't forsake thereafter the beautiful, blessed, and fruitful Nativity Fast!

* Please see your email for the **2024 Coffee Fellowship sign-up!**

* **Congratulations** to Louis and Maggie Bennette on the birth of their daughter, Riley Jane Bennette!