



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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www.holycrossga.org | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

Sunday, January 14, 2024

The Holy Fathers of Sinai and Raitho

Leave-taking of the Feast of Theophany

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Tenth (John 21:1-14)

Mode of the Week: Grave/Βαρύς

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, January 14</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Leave-taking of the Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion 40-Day Memorial for Bob Dunbar at the end of the Liturgy Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:45pm Greek School (Youth)/Adult Bible Study 2:15pm Not-So-Young Adult Outing (see details in announcements)
<i>Monday, January 15</i>	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday—OFFICE CLOSED
<i>Wednesday, January 17</i>	5:00pm 9th Hour and Divine Liturgy on the Feast of St. Anthony the Great 6:30pm Adult Study Class: Orthodoxy 101 in the Library
<i>Saturday, January 20</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers 6:00pm Young Adult Ministry Gathering (see details in announcements)
<i>Sunday, January 21</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 12th Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion 40-Day Memorial for Eve McElrath at the end of the Liturgy Blessing of the New Parish Council Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:45pm Greek School (Adult) 1:00pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Wednesday, January 24</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of St. Gregory the Theologian 6:30pm Adult Study Class: Orthodoxy 101 in the Library
<i>Saturday, January 27</i>	4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, January 28</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 15th 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 1:45pm Youth Clean-Up Service Project/Sports/Playground Day
<i>Tuesday, January 30</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Three Hierarchs
<i>Wednesday, January 31</i>	5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study Class: Orthodoxy 101 in the Library
<i>Thursday, February 1</i>	5:00pm Great Vespers for the Meeting of the Lord
Upcoming Epistle Readers: (1/21) Pete Tsamolias/Cheryl Schwartzkopf; (1/28) Kostas Iakovidis/Charles Glotzbach	
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (1/21) Assistant Treasurer; (1/28) Secretary; (2/4) Assistant Secretary	
Upcoming Ushers: (1/17) Cristina L; (1/20) Maria S; (1/21) Charles G, Sarah D; (1/24) Cristina L; (1/27) Maria S	
Upcoming Video Operators: (1/21) Gray Y, David N; (1/28) Cristina L; (1/30) Cristina L; (2/2) Joanna P	
Fellowship Hosts: (1/21) Cristina Lekas; (1/28) Danaí Esquivel; (2/4) Parish Council; (2/11) Cleo Bennette	

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 worshipping 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

Γένοιτο, Κύριε, τὸ ἔλεός
σου ἐφ' ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. Ἀγαλλιᾶσθε, δίκαιοι,
ἐν Κυρίῳ.

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Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου
τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἀδελφοί, ἐνὶ ἐκάστῳ ἡμῶν ἐδόθη ἢ χάρις κατὰ τὸ μέτρον τῆς δωρεᾶς τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Διὸ λέγει, Ἀναβὰς εἰς ὕψος ἠχμαλώτευσεν αἰχμαλωσίαν, καὶ ἔδωκεν δόματα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις. Τὸ δέ, Ἀνέβη, τί ἐστὶν εἰ μὴ ὅτι καὶ κατέβη πρῶτον εἰς τὰ κατώτερα μέρη τῆς γῆς; Ὁ καταβάς, αὐτός ἐστιν καὶ ὁ ἀναβάς ὑπεράνω πάντων τῶν οὐρανῶν, ἵνα πληρώσῃ τὰ πάντα. Καὶ αὐτὸς ἔδωκεν τοὺς μὲν ἀποστόλους, τοὺς δὲ προφήτας, τοὺς δὲ εὐαγγελιστάς, τοὺς δὲ ποιμένας καὶ διδασκάλους, πρὸς τὸν καταρτισμὸν τῶν ἁγίων, εἰς ἔργον διακονίας, εἰς οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ σώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ· μέχρι καταντήσωμεν οἱ πάντες εἰς τὴν ἐνότητα τῆς πίστεως καὶ τῆς ἐπιγνώσεως τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, εἰς ἄνδρα τέλειον, εἰς μέτρον ἡλικίας τοῦ πληρώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Let Your mercy, O Lord,
be upon us.

Verse: Rejoice greatly in the
Lord, O righteous ones.

(Psalm 32)

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The reading is from Paul's
Letter to the Ephesians. (4:7-13)

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Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (4:12-17)

Sunday after Theophany

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι Ἰωάννης παρεδόθη, ἀνεχώρησεν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν, καὶ καταλιπὼν τὴν Ναζαρέτ ἐλθὼν κατώκησεν εἰς Καπερναοῦμ τὴν παραθαλασσίαν ἐν ὀρίοις Ζαβουλῶν καὶ Νεφθαλείμ, ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸ ῥηθὲν διὰ Ἡσαΐου τοῦ προφήτου λέγοντος· Γῆ Ζαβουλῶν καὶ γῆ Νεφθαλείμ, ὁδὸν θαλάσσης, πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, Γαλιλαία τῶν ἐθνῶν, ὁ λαὸς ὁ καθήμενος ἐν σκότει εἶδε φῶς μέγα, καὶ τοῖς καθημένοις ἐν χώρα καὶ σκιᾷ θανάτου φῶς ἀνέτειλεν αὐτοῖς. Ἀπὸ τότε ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησοῦς κηρῦσσειν καὶ λέγειν· Μετανοεῖτε· ἤγγικε γὰρ ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν.

At that time, Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth He went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

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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 January 14, 2024

Ushers on Duty: Cleo Bennette / Tassie Cantrell

Video: David Zoumberis Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: George Saratsiotis (Greek); Richard Stewart (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Natalia Saratsiotis

PC Member On-Duty: Maria McCluskey



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Leave-taking (Apodosis) of the Feast of Theophany

The apodosis of a feast is the final day a feast is celebrated in the Church. In the case of most great feasts, it follows an after-feast. On the leave-taking, most elements of the festal services from the initial day of the feast are celebrated once again. The feast is then "given back" until its celebration the next year.

- + The Holy Fathers who were slaughtered on Mt. Sinai (+296)

These Holy Fathers contested during the reign of Diocletian and were massacred by a barbarian tribe of Arabia and Egypt called the Blemmyes.

- + The 33 Holy Fathers who were slaughtered at Raithu (+5th Century)

These Holy Fathers contested around the middle of the fifth century and were massacred by the same tribe of Blemmyes. Raithu was a city at the southern tip of the Sinai peninsula.

- + Our Devout Father Theodoulos, son of St. Nilus of Sinai (+5th Century)

- + Our Devout Father Stephan, founder of the Monastery of Chenolakkos (+716)

- + The Holy Martyr Agnes

- + Our Devout Father Sava, first Archbishop of Serbia, and founder of the Holy Monastery of Hilandar on Mt. Athos (+1236)

- + Our Devout Mother Nina of Georgia (+335)

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):

- Hymn of Theophany (Ev Iopdávη, First Mode):

As You were baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, then the worship of the Trinity became manifest, for the voice of the Father bore witness to You, naming You the Beloved Son; and the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the certainty of the word. O Christ God, who appeared and illumined the world, glory to You. (Sung before the Small Entrance and after the Resurrectional Hymn, Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 208)

- Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Κατέλυσας τω Σταυρώ σου, 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.

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

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servant, and forgive every sin he has 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 Theophany (Επεράνης σήμερα, Third Mode):

You appeared today to us * on earth, O Master, * and Your light was signed on us * who cry aloud to You and say * with understanding, O Christ our God: You came and shone forth, O Light unapproachable. (Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 248)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily

Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday (1/14—No Fasting): John 21:1-14; Ephesians 4:7-13; Matthew 4:12-17

Monday (1/15—No Fasting): Galatians 5:22-26, 6:1-2; Luke 12:32-40

Tuesday (1/16—No Fasting): Acts 12:1-11; John 21:14-25

Wednesday (1/17—St. Anthony—Wine+Oil): Matthew 11:27-30; Hebrews 13:17-21; Luke 6:17-23

Thursday (1/18—Sts. Athanasios and Cyril—No Fasting): John 10:1-9; Hebrews 13:7-16; Matthew 5:14-19

Friday (1/19—Strict Fast): Galatians 5:22-26, 6:1-2; Matthew 19:16-26

Saturday (1/20—No Fasting): II Corinthians 4:6-15; Luke 6:17-23

Prayer Requests:

Fr. Symeon (mission priest supported by our parish), Panteleimon, Michael, Kassiani, Michael, Dimitrios, Georgia, Pavlos, Maria, Betty, Irene, Valerie, Dianna, Keith, Jeannie, Dawn, Kenneth, 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, Colin, Mitch, Rinne

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Samuel/Bob (+December 7), Sophia (+December 7), Efthalia (+December 17)

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. Anthony the Great, honored this week on January 17: "Men (and women) are often called intelligent wrongly. Intelligent men are not those who are erudite in the sayings and books of the wise men of old, but those who have an intelligent soul and can discriminate between good and evil. They avoid what is sinful and harms the soul; and with deep gratitude to God they resolutely adhere by dint of practice to what is good and benefits the soul. These people alone should truly be called intelligent."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

January 17: Tony Bennette, Tony Economopoulos, René Esquivel, René Esquivel, Jr., Tony Kallergis, Anthony Paul Zoumberis, Tony Zoumberis, Jr., Tony Zoumberis, Sr., January 20: Charles Glotzbach, Effie Morris

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

January 15: Kalie Crouse
January 16: Irene Ray, Caroline Saratsiotis
January 19: Wyatt Morris

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:

*Please see the email that was sent on how to schedule a **House Blessing**. Dates/times are arranged by area (Macon, Warner Robins, etc.) If you need help, please contact Fr. Theodore.

***Orthodoxy 101** will take place this **Wednesday** evening at 6:30pm in the Church Library after the Divine Liturgy honoring St. Anthony the Great. The topic will be "Eschatology" which is the Church's understanding of the "final things" such as life after death and our Lord's Second Coming. Zoom link is available for anyone who would like to join digitally, please contact Fr. Theodore for more info!

*As a reminder, the **Bookstore** is open on Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 to 5:00!

*The **Spring Fling** will be held on Saturday, March 9th from 11am-7pm. We are asking all Young Adults and Not-So-Young Adults to save this date on your calendar. More information to come. Also, the dates for the **17th Annual Central Georgia Greek Festival** have been set: October 25-27, 2024. Please save this date!

*If you have not had a chance to sign up for a Sunday to host **Coffee Hour in 2024**, there are still several Sundays available. Please see Maria Bronisevsky on how to sign up if you are unsure.

* **Not-So-Young-Adults**: please save the dates for upcoming events today, Sunday, Jan 14 (hike after Church) which will be taking place at High Falls at 2:15 and Saturday, Feb 24 (Cantrell 5k).

* **Young Adult Ministry**: House Blessing and Potluck at Christina Danforth's house this coming Saturday, January 20 at 6:00pm. Pastitsio will be provided! Please RSVP with Christina Danforth.

* **YOUTH**: Clean-up Service Project and Sports/Playground Day at Tattnell Park directly after Greek School on Sunday, January 28. Rock climbing coming February, more info to come!