HOLY CROSS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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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)

Upcoming Schedule

Today, January 14
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
12:45pm Greek School (Youth)/Adult Bible Study
2:15pm Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday—OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, January 15

Wednesday, January 17
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

Saturday, January 20
4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class
5:00pm Great Vespers
6:00pm Young Adult Ministry Gathering (see details in announcements)

Sunday, January 21
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

Wednesday, January 24
5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of St. Gregory the Theologian
6:30pm Adult Study Class: Orthodoxy 101 in the Library

Saturday, January 27
4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class
5:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday, January 28
9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 13th 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

Tuesday, January 30
9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Three Hierarchs

Wednesday, January 31
5:30pm Vespers
6:30pm Adult Study Class: Orthodoxy 101 in the Library

Thursday, February 1
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 I; (1/20) Maria S; (1/21) Charles G, Sarah D; (1/24) Cristina L; (1/27) Maria S
Upcoming Video Operators: (1/21) Gray V, David N; (1/28) Cristina I; (1/30) Cristina L; (2/2) Joanna P
Fellowship Hosts: (1/21) Cristina Lekas; (1/28) Dani Esquivel; (2/4) Parish Council; (2/11) Cleo Benette

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, γίνοις τῷ Βασιλείῳ 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!
Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
Verse: Rejoice greatly in the Lord, O righteous ones. (Psalm 32)

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.

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, the territory 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."
Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week’s Daily Scripture Readings and fasting Guidance:

Sunday (1/14—No Fasting): John 21:11-14; Ephesians 4:17-32; Matthew 4:12-37
Tuesday (1/16—No Fasting): Acts 12:11-11; John 21:24-25
Friday (1/19—Strict Fast): Galatians 2:22-26, 6:1-2; Matthew 19:16-26
Saturday (1/20—No Fasting): II Corinthians 4:16-5; Luke 16:7-23

Today Our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:
- Leave-taking (Aposiosis) 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 in the next year.
- The Holy Fathers who were slaughtered at Raithu (+5th Century)
- 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 among the middle of the fifth century and were massacred by the same tribe of Blemmyes. Raitha was a city at the southern tip of the Sinaitic peninsula.
- Our Devout Father Theodoulos, son of St. Nilus of Sinai (+5th Century)
- Our Devout Father Stephan, founder of the Monastery of Chonaklasos (+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. 3 in the Hymnal):
- Hymn of Theophany (Ev Ioðókína, First Mode):
  As You were baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, then the adoration of the Trinity became manifest, for the voice of the Lord bore witness to You, naming You the Beloved Son; and the worship of the Trinity became manifest, for the voice of the Lord 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. (Stand before the Small Entrance and after the Resurrectional Hymn, Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 208)
- Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Kartelosia to Sto Simvoli ovo, Grace Mode):
  You destroyed death by Your Cross, You opened Paradise to those who have fallen asleep. Your Holy Cross.
- Hymn of the Holy Cross (Svraon Kýpá, 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 (Mleðthóyn, Kýpá, Plagal #4 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 (Eηaparqíns stímpou, 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 all Your divine servants: O Christ our God: You came and shone forth, O Light unapproachable. (Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 248)

Prayer Requests:
- Fr. Syneon (parish priest supported by our parish).
- Panteleimon, Michael, Kassiani, Michael, Dimitrios, Georgia, Pavlos, Maria, Betty, Irene, Valerie, Dianna, Keith, Jeannie, Dawn, Kenneth, Hermione, Emmanuel, Mary, Kar, Helen, Nikki, Mena, Austin, Kiley, Garrett, Carolina, Maria, Laurie, Lindsey, Randy, Martha, Effie, Christina, Ashley, Foster, Peggy, Lynn, Dimitri, Stelanos, Brian, Katerina, Lin, Kathy, Bill, Virginia, Karl, Colin, Mitch, Rinne

Prayers for those recently reposed:
- Samuel/Bob (+December 7), Sophia (+December 7), Ethalia (+December 17)

Prayers for Expecting Mothers:
- Hannah, Emily, Lourdes, Meryvah, S.

Prayers for Military Personnel and their Families:
- Aubriana Butchko, Kyle Glotzbach, Robert Ice, Aaron Vrhatoes, Aleksander Zajac

Prayers for our Catechumens and the Orthodox Church:
- Bobbie, CJ, Ethan, Jane, 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 Polita, Many Years!

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!
- January 15: Katie Crouse
- January 16: Aimee, 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:
- “As a reminder, the Bookstore is open on Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 to 5:00.

*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 “Exschatology,” 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!

*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 Brinsvevsoky on how to sign up if you are unsure.

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

Young Adult Ministry: House Blessing and Potluck at Christina Danforth’s house this coming Saturday, January 21 at 6:00pm. Pastitsio will be provided! Please RSVP with Christina Danforth.

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