



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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www.holycrossga.org | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

Sunday, February 18, 2024

17th Sunday of Matthew (of the Canaanite)

St. Leo, Pope of Rome

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Fourth (Luke 24:1-12)

Mode of the Week: Fourth / Τέταρτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, February 18</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Canaanite Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy Greek School (Adult) 12:45pm
<i>Monday, February 19</i>	President's Day—Office Closed
<i>Tuesday, February 20</i>	5:15pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Wednesday, February 21</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Adult Study Class: Orthodoxy 101 in the Parish House 6:30pm Choir Practice in the Church
<i>Saturday, February 24</i>	8:30am Holy Cross Community Event (Cantrell Center 5k) 4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, February 25</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee (beginning of the Triodion) Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion Three Year Memorial Service for Sophia Tsamolias at the end of the Liturgy Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:15pm Handmaidens/Altar Servers Meeting in the Church 12:45pm Youth Greek School / Adult Bible Study 2:00pm Youth Outing (Macon Rocks)
<i>Wednesday, February 28</i>	4:45pm Vespers 5:30pm Adult Study Class: Orthodoxy 101 in the Library
<i>Sunday, March 3</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Prodigal Son Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:45pm Adult Greek School/Youth and Young Adult Dance Practice
<i>Wednesday, March 6</i>	6:30pm Choir Practice (<i>tentative time/date</i>)
<i>Saturday, March 9</i>	8:30am Divine Liturgy and Memorial Service for the 1 st Saturday of the Souls 11:00am Greek Spring Fling (until 7:00pm)
<i>Sunday, March 10</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on Judgement Sunday (Cheesefare) Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after Liturgy 12:30pm General Assembly in the Parish House

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (2/25) Pete Tsamolias, Sarah Drakopoulos; (3/3) Kostas Iakovidis, Rene Esquivel
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (2/25) Jim Lekas; (3/3) John Apostolou; (3/10) Maria Spicer; (3/17) Sarah D.
Upcoming Ushers: (2/21) Cristina L.; (2/24) Melanie M.; (2/25) Cheryl and Erick S.; (2/28) Tassie C.
Upcoming Video Operators: (2/25) Cristina Lekas; (3/3) David Z.; (3/9) David N.; (3/10+3/16) Natalia S.
Fellowship Hosts: (2/25) Eleni Adams; (3/3) Rodica Cazacu; (3/10) Helen Vardy; (3/17) Tassie Cantrell

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

Ὡς ἐμεγαλύνθη τὰ ἔργα σου,
Κύριε· πάντα ἐν σοφίᾳ
ἐποίησας.

Στίχ. Εὐλόγει, ἡ ψυχὴ μου, τὸν
Κύριον. Κύριε ὁ Θεός μου,
ἐμεγαλύνθησ σου σφόδρα.

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Πρὸς Κορινθίους Β' Ἐπιστολῆς
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἀδελφοί, ὑμεῖς ἐστε ναὸς Θεοῦ
ζῶντος, καθὼς εἶπεν ὁ Θεὸς ὅτι
ἐνοικήσω ἐν αὐτοῖς καὶ
ἐμπεριπατήσω, καὶ ἔσομαι
αὐτῶν Θεός, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔσονται
μοι λαός. Διὸ ἐξέλθετε ἐκ
μέσου αὐτῶν καὶ ἀφορίσθητε,
λέγει Κύριος, καὶ ἀκαθάρτου
μὴ ἄπτεσθε, καὶ γὰρ εἰσδέξομαι
ὑμᾶς, καὶ ἔσομαι ὑμῖν εἰς
πατέρα, καὶ ὑμεῖς ἔσεσθέ μοι
εἰς υἱοὺς καὶ θυγατέρας, λέγει
Κύριος παντοκράτωρ. Ταύτας
οὖν ἔχοντες τὰς ἐπαγγελίας,
ἀγαπητοί, καθαρίσωμεν
ἑαυτοὺς ἀπὸ παντὸς μολυσμοῦ
σαρκὸς καὶ πνεύματος,
ἐπιτελοῦντες ἁγιωσύνην ἐν
φόβῳ Θεοῦ.

*O Lord, Your works shall be
magnified greatly; You made
all things in wisdom.*

*Verse: Bless the Lord, O my
soul. O Lord my God, You are
magnified exceedingly.*

(Psalm 103)

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*The reading is from Paul's
Second Letter to the
Corinthians. (6:16-18, 7:1)*

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Brethren, you are the temple
of the living God; as God said,
"I will live in them and move
among them, and I will be
their God, and they shall be
my people. Therefore come
out from them, and be
separate from them, says the
Lord, and touch nothing
unclean; then I will welcome
you, and I will be a father to
you, and you shall be my sons
and daughters, says the Lord
Almighty." Since we have
these promises, beloved, let us
cleanse ourselves from every
defilement of body and spirit,
and make holiness perfect in
the fear of God.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (15:21-28)

17th Sunday of Matthew (of the Canaanite Woman)

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ ἐξῆλθεν ὁ
Ἰησοῦς εἰς τὰ μέρη Τύρου καὶ
Σιδῶνος. καὶ ἰδοὺ γυνὴ Χαναναία
ἀπὸ τῶν ὀρίων ἐκείνων
ἐξεληλυθῆσα ἐκράυγασεν αὐτῷ
λέγουσα· Ἐλέησόν με, Κύριε, υἱὲ
Δαυὶδ· ἡ θυγάτηρ μου κακῶς
δαιμονίζεται. ὁ δὲ οὐκ ἀπεκρίθη
αὐτῇ λόγον. καὶ προσελθόντες οἱ
μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἠρώτουν αὐτὸν
λέγοντες· Απόλυσον αὐτήν, ὅτι
κράζει ὀπισθεν ἡμῶν. ὁ δὲ
ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπεν· Οὐκ
ἀπεστάλην εἰ μὴ εἰς τὰ πρόβατα
τὰ ἀπολωλότα οἴκου Ἰσραὴλ. ἡ
δὲ ἐλθοῦσα προσεκύνησεν αὐτῷ
λέγουσα· Κύριε, βοήθει μοι. ὁ δὲ
ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπεν· Οὐκ ἔστι
καλὸν λαβεῖν τὸν ἄρτον τῶν
τέκνων καὶ βαλεῖν τοῖς
κυναρίοις. ἡ δὲ εἶπε· Ναί, Κύριε,
καὶ γὰρ τὰ κυνάρια ἐσθίει ἀπὸ
τῶν ψιγίων τῶν πιπτόντων ἀπὸ
τῆς τραπέζης τῶν κυρίων αὐτῶν.
τότε ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν
αὐτῇ· Ὡ γύναι, μεγάλη σου ἡ
πίστις! γενηθήτω σοι ὡς θέλεις.
καὶ ἰάθη ἡ θυγάτηρ αὐτῆς ἀπὸ
τῆς ὥρας ἐκείνης.

At that time, Jesus went to
the district of Tyre and Sidon.
And behold, a Canaanite
woman from that region came
out and cried, "Have mercy
on me, O Lord, Son of David;
my daughter is severely
possessed by a demon." But
he did not answer her a word.
And his disciples came and
begged him, saying, "Send her
away, for she is crying after
us." He answered, "I was sent
only to the lost sheep of the
house of Israel." But she came
and knelt before him, saying,
"Lord, help me." And he
answered, "It is not fair to
take the children's bread and
throw it to the dogs." She
said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the
dogs eat the crumbs that fall
from their master's table."
Then Jesus answered her, "O
woman, great is your faith! Be
it done for you as you desire."
And her daughter was healed
instantly.

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 February 18, 2024

Ushers on Duty: Eleni and Norm Adams

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

Epistle Readers: Pete Tsamolias (Greek); Cleo Bennette (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Despina Passias

PC Member On-Duty: Gray Yates



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Our Father among the Saints, Leo, Pope of Rome (+461)

According to some, this Saint was born in Rome, but according to others in Tyrrenia (Tuscany), and was consecrated to the archiepiscopal throne of Rome in 440. In 448, when Saint Flavian, Archbishop of Constantinople, summoned Eutyches, an archimandrite in Constantinople, to give account for his teaching that there was only one nature in Christ after the Incarnation, Eutyches appealed to Saint Leo in Rome. After Saint Leo had carefully examined Eutyches's teachings, he wrote an epistle to Saint Flavian, setting forth the Orthodox teaching of the person of Christ, and His two natures, and also counseling Flavian that, should Eutyches sincerely repent of his error, he should be received back with all good will. At the Council held in Ephesus in 449, which was presided over by Dioscorus, Patriarch of Alexandria (and which Saint Leo, in a letter to the holy Empress Pulcheria in 451, was the first to call "The Robber Council"), Dioscorus, having military might behind him, did not allow Saint Leo's epistle to Flavian to be read, although repeatedly asked to do so; even before the Robber Council was held, Dioscorus had uncanonically received the unrepentant Eutyches back into communion. Because Saint Leo had many cares in Rome owing to the wars of Attila the Hun and other barbarians, in 451 he sent four delegates to the Fourth Ecumenical Council, where 630 Fathers gathered in Chalcedon during the reign of Marcian, to condemn the teachings of Eutyches and those who supported him. Saint Leo's epistle to Flavian was read at the Fourth Council, and was confirmed by the Holy Fathers as the Orthodox teaching on the incarnate person of our Lord; it is also called the "Tome of Leo."

- + The Holy Martyrs Leo and Parygorios in Patara, Lycia (+258)

- + Our Devout Father Agapitos of Sinaus (+324)

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 (Το φαίδροπον, Fourth Mode):

When the women disciples of the Lord heard the Angel joyously proclaim the resurrection, they cast aside the ancestral verdict, and boasting in glory they said to the Apostles, "Death has been despoiled! Christ God has risen, granting the great mercy to the world!" (Sung before and after the Small Entrance. Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 110)

- 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 (2/18—No Fasting): Luke 24:1-12; II Corinthians 6:16-18, 7:1; Matthew 15:21-28

Monday (2/19—No Fasting): I Peter 2:21-25, 3:1-9; Mark 12:13-17

Tuesday (2/20—No Fasting): I Peter 3:10-22; Mark 12:18-27

Wednesday (2/21—Strict Fast): I Peter 4:1-11; Mark 12:28-37

Thursday (2/22—No Fasting): I Peter 4:12-19, 5:1-5; Mark 12:38-44

Friday (2/23—Strict Fast): II Peter 1:1-10; Mark 13:1-8

Saturday (2/24—No Fasting): Luke 7:17-30; II Corinthians 4:6-15; Matthew 11:2-15

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, Bill, Virginia, Karl, Colin, Mitch, Rinne, Michael

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Julie G., 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, Malachi, Nate, Schyler and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

St. Theophan the Recluse on the Mystery of Mysteries: "When going to the Holy Mysteries, go with simplicity of heart, in full faith that you will receive the Lord within yourself, and with the proper reverence towards this. What your state of mind should be after this, leave it to the Lord Himself. Many desire ahead of time to receive this or that from Holy Communion, and then, not seeing what they wanted, they are troubled, and even their faith in the power of the Mystery is shaken. The fault lies not with the Mystery, but with superficial assumptions. Do not promise yourself anything. Leave everything to the Lord, asking a single mercy from Him — to strengthen you in every kind of good so that you will be acceptable to Him. The fruit of Communion most often has a taste of sweet peace in the heart; sometimes it brings enlightenment to thought and inspiration to one's devotion to the Lord; sometimes almost nothing is apparent, but afterward in one's affairs there is a noted a great strength and steadfastness in the diligence one has promised."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

February 23: Pamela Gorgonia Poulos

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

February 18: Lincoln Wells

February 22: John Apostolou, Diana-Maria Cazacu

February 23: Nicholas Poulos

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:

* **YOUTH:** Rock Climbing at Macon Rocks next Sunday, February 25 after Youth Greek School!

* The **Introduction to the Orthodox Church** class will meet this Wednesday at 6:30pm in the Parish House. The topic will be "Prayer." Please contact Fr. Theodore for more information.

*As a reminder, the **Bookstore** is open on Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 to 5:00. The Church is also open for lighting candles/prayer at the same time.

***GREEK SPRING FLING** will be March 9th. We are asking all GOYANS, YA & NSYA to help set-up on Friday, March 8th @ 6pm and all day Saturday, March 9th. We will set-up on Saturday at 7am - 8:30, pause set-up for church services and then continue after Liturgy. Hours for the Spring Fling are 11am-7pm. For our Social 60+ Group, you are more than welcome to come help or simply come and enjoy the ambiance. For those that can help out, please go to the link to sign up: volunteersignup.org/YTLFE. If you have any questions, please contact one of the festival chairmen.

* **Holy Cross Parish Outing:** please save the date for the upcoming event on Saturday, February 24: the Cantrell Center 5k.

* **Greek Dancing** for the youth and young adults will resume on Sunday, March 3rd and will take place once a month! If you did not have a chance to contribute towards the traditional costumes over the last couple of Sundays, one can still contribute online by the normal means (Venmo, PayPal, etc) with the notation "Greek Dance."

* **FESTIVAL YARD SIGNS** have been ordered. We were able to order extra signs. These signs will be used each year (the dates will be removable). If you did not order a sign but would still like one, please contact Natalia Saratsiotis. The cost for each sign is \$17 (or you can round up to \$20).

* Please see the link sent by email regarding **Great Lent/Holy Week/Pascha** and ways that one can assist with the many opportunities that the Church places before us during this blessed season. This is a beautiful way to participate and give back to our Holy Cross Church. Thank you in advance!

* **Spring General Assembly** will take place after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, March 10.