



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Sunday, April 21, 2024

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt
 St. Januarius the Hieromartyr

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

Mode of the Week: Plagal of the First/Πλ. του Πρώτου

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, April 21</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy Youth Greek School/Adult Bible Study 12:45pm Youth Activity: Strawberry Picking 2:00pm
<i>Tuesday, April 23</i>	5:30pm Great Compline 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm Choir Practice
<i>Wednesday, April 24</i>	5:30pm 9 th Hour and Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:15pm Light Lenten Meal and Spiritual Discussion in the Parish House
<i>Saturday, April 27</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Saturday of Lazarus 12:00pm Youth Lenten Breakfast and Mini-Retreat 2:00pm Great Vespers for Palm Sunday
<i>Sunday, April 28</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on Palm Sunday Palm Sunday Luncheon after the Liturgy 7:00pm Bridegroom Orthros for Holy Monday
<i>Monday, April 29</i>	7:00pm Bridegroom Orthros for Holy Tuesday
<i>Tuesday, April 30</i>	7:00pm Bridegroom Orthros for Holy Wednesday (and Hymn of Kassiani)
<i>Wednesday, May 1</i>	9:30am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy on Holy Wednesday 6:00pm Holy Unction and Orthros for Holy Thursday
<i>Thursday, May 2</i>	9:30am Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil on Holy Thursday 6:00pm Orthros of Holy Friday (12 Gospels/Passion)
<i>Friday, May 3</i>	9:30am Royal (Great) Hours 3:00pm Great Vespers of Holy Saturday (Un-nailing Service) 7:00pm Orthros of Holy Saturday (Epitaphios Service)
<i>Saturday, May 4</i>	9:30am Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil on Holy Saturday (Proti-Anastasi) 11:00pm Service of the Resurrection for PASCHA (until approx. 1:30am)
<i>Sunday, May 5</i>	12:00pm Agape Vespers on Great and Holy PASCHA 1:00pm Easter Egg Hunt and Pascha Picnic
<i>Monday, May 6</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy for Bright Monday/Feast of St. George

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (4/28) Kostas Iakovidis, Charles Glotzbach; (Holy Week+Pascha) See Email
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (4/28) Natalia Saratsiotis; (Holy Week) See Email; (5/5) Sarah Drakopoulos
Upcoming Ushers: (4/23) David Z.; (4/24) Cristina L.; (4/27) Norm+Eleni A.; (4/28) Cleo B., Tassie C.
Upcoming Video Operators: (4/24) Natalia S.; (4/27) Natalia S.; (4/28) Natalia S.; (Holy Week) See Email
Fellowship Hosts: (4/28) Philoptochos; (5/5) Pascha Picnic; (5/12) Maria Bronisevsky; (5/19) Sarah Drakopoulos

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

*Σὺ, Κύριε, φυλάζεις ἡμᾶς καὶ
διατηρήσαις ἡμᾶς.*

*Στίχ. Σῶσόν με, Κύριε, ὅτι
ἐκλέλοιπεν ὁσῖος.*

+++

*Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.*

+++

Ἀδελφοί,
Χριστὸς παραγενόμενος
ἀρχιερεὺς τῶν μελλόντων
ἀγαθῶν διὰ τῆς μείζονος καὶ
τελειότερας σκηνῆς, οὐ
χειροποιήτου, τοῦτ' ἔστιν οὐ
ταύτης τῆς κτίσεως, οὐδὲ δι'
αἵματος τράγων καὶ μόσχων,
διὰ δὲ τοῦ ἰδίου αἵματος
εἰσηλθεν ἐφάπαξ εἰς τὰ Ἅγια,
αἰώνιαν λύτρωσιν εὐράμενος. εἰ
γὰρ τὸ αἷμα ταύρων καὶ τράγων
καὶ σποδὸς δαμάλεως
ῥαντίζουσα τοὺς κεκοινωμένους
ἀγιάζει πρὸς τὴν τῆς σαρκὸς
καθαρότητα, πόσω μᾶλλον τὸ
αἷμα τοῦ Χριστοῦ, ὃς διὰ
Πνεύματος αἰωνίου ἑαυτὸν
προσήνεγκεν ἄμωμον τῷ Θεῷ,
καθαριεῖ τὴν συνείδησιν ὑμῶν
ἀπὸ νεκρῶν ἔργων εἰς τὸ
λατρεύειν Θεῷ ζῶντι;

*You shall guard us, O Lord; You
shall preserve us.*

*Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the
holy man has ceased.*

(Psalm 11)

+++

*The reading is from Paul's
Letter to the Hebrews.*

(9:11-14)

+++

Brethren,
when Christ appeared as a high
priest of the good things to
come, then through the greater
and more perfect tent (not made
with hands, that is, not of this
creation) he entered once for all
into the Holy Place, not with the
blood of goats and calves but
with his own blood, thus
securing an eternal redemption.
For if the sprinkling of defiled
persons with the blood of goats
and bulls and with the ashes of a
heifer sanctifies for the
purification of the flesh, how
much more shall the blood of
Christ, who through the eternal
Spirit offered himself without
blemish to God, purify your
conscience from dead works to
serve the living God.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Mark (10:32-45)

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, παραλαβὼν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τοὺς
δώδεκα μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ ἤρξατο αὐτοῖς λέγειν
τὰ μέλλοντα αὐτῷ συμβαίνειν, ὅτι ἰδοὺ
ἀναβαίνομεν εἰς Ἱερουσόλυμα καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ
ἀνθρώπου παραδοθήσεται τοῖς ἀρχιερεῦσι
καὶ γραμματεῦσι, καὶ κατακρινούσιν αὐτὸν
θανάτῳ καὶ παραδώσουσιν αὐτὸν τοῖς
ἔθνεσι, καὶ ἐμπαίζουσιν αὐτῷ καὶ
μαστιγώσουσιν αὐτὸν καὶ ἐμπτύσουσιν αὐτῷ
καὶ ἀποκτενοῦσιν αὐτόν, καὶ τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ
ἀναστήσεται. Καὶ προσπορεύονται αὐτῷ
Ἰάκωβος καὶ Ἰωάννης υἱοὶ Ζεβεδαίου
λέγοντες· διδάσκαλε, θέλομεν ἵνα ὁ ἐὰν
αἰτήσωμεν ποιήσης ἡμῖν. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς·
τί θέλετε ποιησαί με ὑμῖν; οἱ δὲ εἶπον αὐτῷ·
δὸς ἡμῖν ἵνα εἴς ἐκ δεξιῶν σου καὶ εἴς ἐξ
ἐωνύμων σου καθίσωμεν ἐν τῇ δόξῃ σου. ὁ
δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· οὐκ οἴδατε τί
αἰτεῖσθε. δύνασθε πιεῖν τὸ ποτήριον ὃ ἐγὼ
πίνω, καὶ τὸ βάπτισμα ὃ ἐγὼ βαπτίζομαι
βαπτισθῆναι; οἱ δὲ εἶπον αὐτῷ· δυνάμεθα. ὁ
δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· τὸ μὲν ποτήριον ὃ
ἐγὼ πίνω πίεσθε, καὶ τὸ βάπτισμα ὃ ἐγὼ
βαπτίζομαι βαπτισθήσεσθε· τὸ δὲ καθίσει ἐκ
δεξιῶν μου καὶ ἐξ ἐωνύμων οὐκ ἔστιν ἐμὸν
δοῦναι, ἀλλ' οἷς ἠτοίμασται. Καὶ
ἀκούσαντες οἱ δέκα ἤρξαντο ἀγανακτεῖν
περὶ Ἰακώβου καὶ Ἰωάννου. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς
προσκαλεσάμενος αὐτοὺς λέγει αὐτοῖς·
οἴδατε ὅτι οἱ δοκοῦντες ἄρχειν τῶν ἐθνῶν
κατακυριεύουσιν αὐτῶν καὶ οἱ μεγάλοι
αὐτῶν κατεξουσιάζουσιν αὐτῶν· οὐχ οὕτω
δὲ ἔσται ἐν ὑμῖν, ἀλλ' ὃς ἐὰν θέλη γενέσθαι
μέγας ἐν ὑμῖν, ἔσται ὑμῶν διάκονος, καὶ ὃς
ἐὰν θέλη ὑμῶν γενέσθαι πρῶτος, ἔσται
πάντων δοῦλος· καὶ γὰρ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ
ἀνθρώπου οὐκ ἤλθε διακονηθῆναι, ἀλλὰ
διακονῆσαι, καὶ δοῦναι τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ
λύτρον ἀντι πολλῶν.

At that time, Jesus took his twelve
disciples, and he began to tell them what
was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we
are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of
man will be delivered to the chief priests
and the scribes, and they will condemn
him to death, and deliver him to the
Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit
upon him, and scourge him, and kill him;
and after three days he will rise." And
James and John, the sons of Zebedee,
came forward to him, and said to him,
"Teacher, we want you to do for us
whatever we ask of you." And he said to
them, "What do you want me to do for
you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to
sit, one at your right hand and one at your
left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them,
"You do not know what you are asking. Are
you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to
be baptized with the baptism with which I
am baptized?" And they said to him, "We
are able." And Jesus said to them, "The
cup that I drink you will drink; and with
the baptism with which I am baptized, you
will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand
or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is
for those for whom it has been prepared."
And when the ten heard it, they began to
be indignant of James and John. And
Jesus called them to him and said to them,
"You know that those who are supposed to
rule over the Gentiles lord it over them,
and their great men exercise authority over
them. But it shall not be so among you; but
whoever would be great among you must
be your servant, and whoever would be
first among you must be slave of all. For
the Son of man also came not to be served
but to serve, and to give his life as a
ransom for many."

HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ehmer

Προϊστάμενος/Presiding Priest

E-mail: frtheodore@holycrossga.org

Cell: 770.256.0290

Office Days: Tuesday through Friday; call or email Fr. for appointment

Holy Confession: call or email Fr. to schedule

Bulletin for the week of April 21, 2024

Ushers on Duty: Sarah Drakopoulos, Jim Lekas

Video: Natalia Saratsiotis Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Pete Tsamolias (Greek); Cheryl Schwartzkopf (Eng.)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Katerina Iakovidis

PC Member On-Duty: John Apostolou



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ Fifth Sunday of Great Lent: St. Mary of Egypt

The memory of this Saint is celebrated on April 1, where her life is recorded. Since the end of the holy Forty Days is drawing nigh, it has been appointed for this day also, so that if we think it hard to practice a little abstinence forty days, we might be roused by the heroism of her who fasted in the wilderness forty-seven years; and also that the great loving-kindness of God, and His readiness to receive the repentant, might be demonstrated in very deed.

+ The Holy Hieromartyr and Bishop Januarius; the deacons Proculus, Sosius, and Faustus; the reader Desiderius; and Eutychius and Acutius (+305)

These Martyrs contested for piety's sake in Campania of Italy, during the reign of Diocletian (284-305), when Timothy was Proconsul. Saint Januarius was the Bishop of Benevento in Campania; he was arrested and taken to Nola, where he was cast into a burning furnace, from which he came forth unharmed; at Puteoli, together with Proculus, Sosius, and Faustus the deacons, Desiderius, reader of the Church of Benevento, and Eutychius and Acutius, nobles from Puteoli, he was cast to wild beasts, which as they came near the Saints, fell affectionately at their feet. Finally they were all beheaded, about the year 305.

+ The Holy Martyr Alexandra the Queen (+303)

+ The Holy Martyrs Apollo, Isaakios, and Quadratus (+303)

+ Our Father among the Saints, Maximian, Patriarch of Constantinople (+434)

+ Our Devout Father Anastasios of Sinai (+700)

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. Basil (pg. 8 in the Small Book/pg. 37 in the Hymnal):

- *Weekly Hymn of the Resurrection (Τov συνάναρχον Λόγον, Plagal of the First Mode):*

As the Father and Spirit are unoriginate, * so the Word, who was born from the Virgin for us. * Let us praise Him, O believers, and let us worship Him. * For our salvation He was pleased * to be crucified in the flesh, * and to undergo death, * and to resurrect the dead, by His glorious resurrection. (Sung before and after the Small Entrance. Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 114)

- *Hymn of St. Mary (Ev σοι Μητηρ ακριβώς, Plagal of the Fourth Mode):*

In you, O Mother, is preserved undistorted what was made in the image of God; for taking up the cross, you followed Christ and by example taught, that we should overlook the flesh, since it passes away, and instead look after the soul, since it is immortal. And therefore, O devout Mary, your spirit rejoices with the angels. (Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 140)

- *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 of St. Mary of Egypt (4/21—Wine+Oil):

Mark 16:1-8; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 10:32-45

Monday (4/22—Strict Fast): Isaiah 48:17-49:4;

Genesis 27:1-41; Proverbs 19:16-25

Tuesday (4/23—Strict Fast): Isaiah 49:6-10;

Genesis 31:3-16; Proverbs 21:3-21

Wednesday (4/24—Strict Fast): Isaiah 58:1-11;

Genesis 43:26-31, 45:1-16; Proverbs 21:23-22:4

Thursday (4/25—St. Mark the Evangelist—

Wine+Oil): I Peter 5:6-14; Luke 10:16-21

Friday (4/26—Strict Fast): Isaiah 66:10-24; Genesis

49:33-50:26; Proverbs 31:8-31

Lazarus Saturday (4/27—Wine+Oil): Hebrews

12:28-29, 13:1-8; John 11:1-45

Prayer Requests:

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

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Jeffrey (+March 23), Audrey (+April 2)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

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

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

St. Isaac the Syrian (+7th c.), with a message of hope for us who are prone to despair: "Do not fall into despair because of stumbling. I do not mean that you should not feel contrition for them, but that you should not think them incurable. For it is more expedient to be bruised than dead. There is, indeed, a Healer for the man who has stumbled, even He Who on the Cross asked that mercy be shown to His crucifiers, He Who pardoned His murders while He hung on the Cross. 'All manner of sin,' He said, 'and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men,' that is, through repentance."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

April 24: Maggie "Elizabeth" Bennette, Caroline "Elizabeth" Saratsiotis, Elizabeth Saratsiotis, Beth Zoumberis

April 25: Marc Saad

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

April 21: Sofia Danforth, Christine Sprouse, Mina Stewart

April 24: Tony Bennette

April 25: Elizabeth Saratsiotis

April 26: Nadia-Gabriela Cazacu, Jace Johnson, Tony Kallergis

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

April 25: Maria and Greg Spicer

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

Announcements:

* The **Bookstore** will be not be open this coming Wednesday, April 24.

* **Lenten Spiritual Book Discussion** is taking place during the Light Lenten meal after the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy on Wednesdays. We are discussing the book "Thirty Steps to Heaven." Please see the email that was sent or contact Fr. Theodore for more information.

* If you would like to participate in the 2024 **Paschal Lilies** Dedication "In Memory of" or "For the Health of", please see the link that was sent by email. You may also place your payment in the box located in the Narthex (please specify on the memo line Paschal Lilies Dedication). Deadline is next Sunday, Palm Sunday, April 28th. Names will be listed in the Pascha bulletin as well as the following Sunday.

* **Holy Week Postcards** have been mailed to parishioners, family and friends. We have placed extras in a basket in the Narthex and Parish House. Please feel free to take as many and invite your friends and family to come worship with us during Holy Week.

* If you are interested in **LiveStreaming** services, please contact Natalia. It is very simple and she is willing to teach anyone who is willing to learn. We are looking for a few more people to add to the team.

* **Youth:** Strawberry Picking TODAY, April 21 after Greek School at Elliott Farms in Lizella. This coming Lazarus Saturday—Lenten Pancakes and Mini-Retreat after Liturgy!

* **Choir Practice** will be taking place on Tuesday evening at 6:30pm to continue to prepare for Holy Week and Pascha. Please plan on attending if you are in or would like to be in the Choir!

* Philoptochos and Youth are teaming up for a **Donation Drive** to benefit the Rescue Mission of Georgia. Please bring your donations (needs are listed in the flyer sent by email) to drop in the box in the Narthex through Pascha, May 5. The donation truck will come that day to collect our donations!

* Please contact Fr. Theodore by phone or email soon if you are interested in **Holy Confession** before Pascha—the days are running short!