



# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

### Sunday, May 19, 2024

Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women  
 St. Patrick, Bishop of Prusa

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

Mode of the Week: Second / Δεύτερος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <i>Today, May 19</i>     | 9:15am Orthros<br>10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women<br>Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion (last Sunday for the school year)<br>Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy<br>12:45pm Youth Greek School/Adult Bible Study |
| <i>Tuesday, May 21</i>   | 9:30am Orthros<br>10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of Sts. Constantine and Helen  |
| <i>Wednesday, May 22</i> | 5:45pm Vespers<br>6:30pm Adult Study Class in the Library  |
| <i>Sunday, May 26</i>    | 9:15am Orthros<br>10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Paralytic<br>Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy   |
| <i>Monday, May 27</i>    | Memorial Day – Office Closed   |
| <i>Tuesday, May 28</i>   | 3:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive in the Parish House (until 7:00pm)<br>6:00pm Great Vespers for Mid-Pentecost  |
| <i>Wednesday, May 29</i> | 4:30pm Orthros<br>5:30pm Divine Liturgy on the Feast of Mid-Pentecost<br>6:45pm Adult Study Class in the Library   |
| <i>Thursday, May 30</i>  | 5:30pm Parish Council Meeting  |
| <i>Friday, May 31</i>    | 6:00pm Not-So-Young-Adult Outing (in Perry)  |
| <i>Saturday, June 1</i>  | 5:00pm Great Vespers   |
| <i>Sunday, June 2</i>    | 9:15am Orthros<br>10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman<br>Coffee Fellowship after the Liturgy in the Parish House<br>12:45pm Bible Study  |
| <i>Thursday, June 6</i>  | 5:45pm Vespers<br>6:30pm Byzantine Chant Class in the Chapel   |
| <i>Saturday, June 8</i>  | 3:30pm Catechumen Class (In-Person in the Library/Zoom)<br>5:00pm Great Vespers  |
| <i>Sunday, June 9</i>    | 9:15am Orthros<br>10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Blind Man<br>Honoring of the Graduates at the end of the Liturgy<br>Coffee Fellowship after the Liturgy in the Parish House  |

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (5/26) Pete Tsamolias, James Scarborough; (6/2) Kostas Iakovidis, Rene Esquivel  
**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (5/26) Natalia Saratsiotis; (6/2) Jim Lekas; (6/9) John Apostolou; (6/16) Maria S.  
**Upcoming Ushers:** (5/21) Norm+Eleni A.; (5/22) Cristina L.; (5/26) Maria M., Natalia S.; (5/29) Tassie C.  
**Upcoming Video Operators:** (5/26) Gray Y./David N.; (5/29) Natalia S.; (6/2) Gray/David N.; (6/9) Natalia S.  
**Fellowship Hosts:** (5/26) Maria McCluskey; (6/2) Chad Ridley; (6/9) Patsy Zoumberis; (6/16) Georgia Saratsiotis

### **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

*Ἰσχύς μου καὶ ὕμνησίς μου ὁ Κύριος, καὶ ἐγένετό μοι εἰς σωτηρίαν.*

*Στίχ. Παιδεύων ἐπαίδευσέ με ὁ Κύριος, καὶ τῷ θανάτῳ οὐ παρέδωκέ με.*

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*Πράξεων τῶν Ἀποστόλων τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.*

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Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις, πληθυνόντων τῶν μαθητῶν ἐγένετο γογγυσμὸς τῶν Ἑλληνιστῶν πρὸς τοὺς Ἑβραίους, ὅτι παρεθεωροῦντο ἐν τῇ διακονίᾳ τῇ καθημερινῇ αἱ χῆραι αὐτῶν. προσκαλεσάμενοι δὲ οἱ δώδεκα τὸ πλῆθος τῶν μαθητῶν εἶπον· οὐκ ἄρεστόν ἐστιν ἡμᾶς καταλείψαντας τὸν λόγον τοῦ Θεοῦ διακονεῖν τραπέζαις. ἐπισκέψασθε οὖν, ἀδελφοί, ἄνδρας ἐξ ὑμῶν μαρτυρουμένους ἐπτά, πλήρεις Πνεύματος Ἁγίου καὶ σοφίας, οὓς καταστήσομεν ἐπὶ τῆς χρείας ταύτης· ἡμεῖς δὲ τῇ προσευχῇ καὶ τῇ διακονίᾳ τοῦ λόγου προσκαρτερήσομεν. καὶ ἤρρεσεν ὁ λόγος ἐνώπιον παντὸς τοῦ πλῆθους· καὶ ἐξελέξαντο Στέφανον, ἄνδρα πλήρη πίστεως καὶ Πνεύματος Ἁγίου, καὶ Φίλιππον καὶ Πρόχορον καὶ Νικάνορα καὶ Τίμωνα καὶ Παρμενᾶν καὶ Νικόλαον προσήλυτον Ἀντιοχέα, οὓς ἔστησαν ἐνώπιον τῶν ἀποστόλων, καὶ προσευξάμενοι ἐπέθηκαν αὐτοῖς τὰς χεῖρας. καὶ ὁ λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ ἠύξανε, καὶ ἐπληθύνετο ὁ ἀριθμὸς τῶν μαθητῶν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ σφόδρα, πολὺς τε ὄχλος τῶν Ἰουδαίων ὑπήκουον τῇ πίστει.

*The Lord is my strength and my song, and He became my salvation.*

*Verse: The Lord chastened and corrected me, but He did not give me up to death. (Psalm 117)*

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*The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. (6:1-7)*

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In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

## The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Mark (15:43-16:8)

### Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ ἐλθὼν Ἰωσήφ ὁ ἀπὸ Ἀριμαθαίας, εὐσχήμων βουλευτής, ὃς καὶ αὐτὸς ἦν προσδεχόμενος τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ, τολμήσας εἰσῆλθε πρὸς Πιλάτον καὶ ἠτήσατο τὸ σῶμα τοῦ Ἰησοῦ. ὁ δὲ Πιλάτος ἐθαύμασεν εἰ ἤδη τέθνηκε, καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος τὸν κεντυρίωνα ἐπηρώτησεν αὐτὸν εἰ πάλαι ἀπέθανε· καὶ γνοὺς ἀπὸ τοῦ κεντυρίωνος ἐδωρήσατο τὸ σῶμα τῷ Ἰωσήφ. καὶ ἀγοράσας σινδὸνα καὶ καθελὼν αὐτὸν ἐνείλησε τῇ σινδόνι καὶ κατέθηκεν αὐτὸν ἐν μνημείῳ, ὃ ἦν λελατομημένον ἐκ πέτρας, καὶ προσεκύλισε λίθον ἐπὶ τὴν θύραν τοῦ μνημείου. ἡ δὲ Μαρία ἡ Μαγδαληνὴ καὶ Μαρία Ἰωσή ἐθεώρουν ποῦ τίθεται. Καὶ διαγενομένου τοῦ σαββάτου Μαρία ἡ Μαγδαληνὴ καὶ Μαρία ἡ τοῦ Ἰακώβου καὶ Σαλώμη ἠγόρασαν ἀρώματα ἵνα ἐλθοῦσαι ἀλείψωσιν αὐτόν. καὶ λίαν πρωὶ τῆς μιᾶς σαββάτων ἔρχονται ἐπὶ τὸ μνημεῖον, ἀνατείλαντος τοῦ ἡλίου. καὶ ἔλεγον πρὸς ἑαυτάς· τίς ἀποκυλίσει ἡμῖν τὸν λίθον ἐκ τῆς θύρας τοῦ μνημείου; καὶ ἀναβλέψασαι θεωροῦσιν ὅτι ἀποκεκύλισται ὁ λίθος· ἦν γὰρ μέγας σφόδρα. καὶ εἰσελθοῦσαι εἰς τὸ μνημεῖον εἶδον νεανίσκον καθήμενον ἐν τοῖς δεξιοῖς, περιβεβλημένον στολὴν λευκὴν, καὶ ἐξεθαμβήθησαν. ὁ δὲ λέγει αὐταῖς· μὴ ἐκθαμβεῖσθε· Ἰησοῦν ζητεῖτε τὸν Ναζαρητῶν τὸν ἐσταυρωμένον· ἠγέρθη, οὐκ ἔστιν ὧδε· ἴδε ὁ τόπος ὅπου ἔθηκαν αὐτόν. ἀλλ' ὑπάγετε εἶπατε τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ καὶ τῷ Πέτρῳ ὅτι προάγει ὑμᾶς εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν· ἐκεῖ αὐτὸν ὄψεσθε, καθὼς εἶπεν ὑμῖν. καὶ ἐξελθοῦσαι ἔφυγον ἀπὸ τοῦ μνημείου· εἶχε δὲ αὐτάς τρόμος καὶ ἔκστασις, καὶ οὐδενὶ οὐδὲν εἶπον· ἐφοβοῦντο γάρ.

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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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 May 19, 2024

Ushers on Duty: Charles Glotzbach, Jim Lekas

Video: Cristina Lekas Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Kostas Iakovidis (Greek); Cleo Bennette (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Sarah Drakopoulos

PC Member On-Duty: Gray Yates



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pascha—Commemoration of the Myrrh-bearing Women, Joseph of Arimathea, and Nikodemos

About the beginning of His thirty-second year, when the Lord Jesus was going throughout Galilee, preaching and working miracles, many women who had received of His beneficence left their own homeland and from then on followed after Him. They ministered unto Him out of their own possessions, even until His crucifixion and entombment; and afterwards, neither losing faith in Him after His death, nor fearing the wrath of the Jewish rulers, they came to the sepulchre, bearing the myrrh-oils they had prepared to anoint His body. It is because of the myrrh-oils, that these God-loving women brought to the tomb of Jesus that they are called the Myrrh-bearers. Of those whose names are known are the following: first of all, the most holy Virgin Mary, who in Matthew 27:56 and Mark 15:40 is called "the mother of James and Joses" (these are the sons of Joseph by a previous marriage, and she was therefore their step-mother); Mary Magdalene (celebrated July 22); Mary, the wife of Clopas; Joanna, wife of Chouza, a steward of Herod Antipas; Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and Susanna. As for the names of the rest of them, the evangelists have kept silence.

+ The Holy Hieromartyr Patrick, Bishop of Prusa and those with him: Akakios, Menander, and Polyaenus the Presbyters (+362)

+ Our Righteous Father Memnon the Wonderworker of Egypt (+2<sup>nd</sup> Century)

+ The Holy Martyr Acoluthus of the Thebaid (+303)

+ The Holy Martyr Kyriaki in Nicomedia (+307)

+ The Holy Martyr Theotima of Nicomedia (+311)

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 the Resurrection (Χριστός ανέστη, Plagal 1<sup>st</sup> Mode):

Χριστός ανέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι, ζῶν ἠαρσάμενος.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

- Special Entrance Hymn (Ἐν ἐκκλησίαις, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mode):

Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

- Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Ὅτε κατήλθες, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mode):

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, "O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!"

- Hymns of Myrrh-Bearing Sunday (Ὁ εὐσχήμων Ἰωσήφ, Ταῖς Μυροφόροις, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mode):

When he took down Your immaculate Body from the Cross, the honorable Joseph wrapped it in a clean linen shroud with spices and laid it for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day You arose, O Lord, and granted the world Your great mercy.

The Angel who had come to the sepulcher said to the Myrrh-bearing women, "Ointments are appropriate for mortal men; but Christ is indeed a stranger to decay. Now go proclaim that the Lord has risen and granted the world His great mercy."

- Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σώσον Κύριε, 1<sup>st</sup> 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. (sung in Greek and English)

- The Kontakion of Pascha (Εὐκαὶ ἐν τάφῳ, Plagal 4<sup>th</sup> Mode):

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out "Rejoice" to the Myrrh-bearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection. (Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 274)

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

### This Week's Daily

#### Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

**Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women (5/19—No Fasting):** Luke 24:1-12; Acts 6:1-7; Mark 15:44-16:8

**Monday (5/20—No Fasting):** Acts 6:8-15, 7:1-5, 47-60; John 4:46-54

**Tuesday (5/21—Sts. Constantine and Helen—No Fasting):** John 10:9-16; Acts 26:1, 12-20; John 10:1-9

**Wednesday (5/22—Wine+Oil):** Acts 8:18-25; John 6:35-39

**Thursday (5/23—No Fasting):** Acts 8:26-39; John 6:40-44

**Friday (5/24—Wine+Oil):** Acts 8:40, 9:1-19; John 6:48-54

**Saturday (5/25—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, 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, Stelianos, Brian, Vassilios, Bessie, Katerina, Link, Bill, Virginia, Karl, Colin, Mitch, Rinne, Michael, Christian

### Prayers for those recently reposed:

Audrey (+April 2), Kathy (+April 26), Mary (+May 3)

### 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, Susan and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

### Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

**St. John of Kronstadt** in his homily on Pascha encouraging us all: "He says: I was dead, and behold, I am alive for, evermore, amen; and you also will be alive forever. This is the meaning of the words of Him Who arose: I am the first and the last; I am He that liveth and was dead for you, for your redemption from death, and I; that is: I conquered your death by My innocent death for your sake, and behold, I am also forever and will sit with My Father on His throne; I was not separated from Him, even though I was on earth accomplishing My

great work for you who are subject to sin and death. Therefore, do you also, My followers, work and struggle against sin and do righteous deeds, and where I am, there shall My servant be also—that is, in the eternal Kingdom."

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

#### Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

May 21: Eleni Adams, Denna Bradford, Eleni Dermatas, Kostas Iakovidis, Eleni Saratsiotis, Helen Vardy, Peyton (Constantine) Ward

#### Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

May 19: David Lee Bradford

May 22: Ana-Maria Filimon

May 23: David Zoumberis

#### Anniversaries—Congratulations!

May 22: Steve and Cyndi Douglas

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

### Announcements:

\* As a reminder, there is no kneeling in the Church from the period of Pascha to Pentecost according to the ancient canons.

\* Today is the last day of Sunday School for this year. Big THANKS to our wonderful teachers for their ministry, the parents for bringing their kids, and our bright and inspiring students! We will honor our high school and college GRADS on June 9 (June 2 for those who are unable to be there on 6/9). Start of Sunday School for 2024/2025 is August 25th!

\* After the Vespers this coming Wednesday, we will continue the study of the steps of the "Ladder" with steps 24-26. Please see your email this week for a copy of the reading!

\* The next Red Cross Blood Drive in the Parish House will be next Tuesday, May 28 from 3:00 to 7:00pm. Come, give blood, and stay for the Great Vespers for Mid-Pentecost at 6:00!

\* The Catechumen Class will begin anew on Saturday, June 8. We will meet twice a month of a Saturday from 3:30 to 4:45pm. This is for both those who are learning about the Orthodox Church and those who are already Orthodox who would like to learn more! Contact Fr. Theodore for more information.

**CHRIST IS RISEN!  
TRULY HE IS RISEN!**

**ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!  
ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!**