



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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www.holycrossga.org | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

Sunday, June 9, 2024

Sunday of the Blind Man
 St. Cyril of Alexandria

Eothonon/Orthros Gospel: Eighth (John 20:11-18)

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, June 9</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Blind Man Honoring of our High School and College Graduates at the end of the Liturgy Coffee and Fellowship after the Liturgy in the Parish House Greek Dance Practice during Coffee Fellowship
<i>Wednesday, June 12</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Leave-taking of Pascha 6:00pm Great Vespers for the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ 7:00pm Byzantine Chant Class (short recap from previous class)
<i>Thursday, June 13</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord 7:00pm Parish Outing at Macon Bacon Baseball Game
<i>Saturday, June 15</i>	5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, June 16</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Holy Fathers Coffee and Fellowship (for Father's Day!) after the Liturgy in the Parish House 12:45pm Bible Study
<i>Tuesday, June 18</i>	5:30pm Parish Council Meeting 7:00pm Cross Dive Meeting (in the Parish House)
<i>Wednesday, June 19</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Byzantine Chant Class (in the Chapel)
<i>Friday, June 21</i>	4:00pm Youth Outing to Rigby's (until 6:00pm)
<i>Saturday, June 22</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy and Memorial Service on the Saturday of Souls 3:30pm Catechumen Class (for newcomers and parishioners) 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, June 23</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on Holy Pentecost 12:00pm Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Vespers
<i>Monday, June 24</i>	6:00pm Divine Liturgy on the Monday of the Holy Spirit
<i>Wednesday, June 26</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Byzantine Chant Class (in the Chapel)

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (6/16) George Saratsiotis, Panos Drakopoulos; (6/23) Kostas Iakovidis, James S.
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (6/16) Maria Spicer; (6/23) Sarah D.; (6/30) Melanie Moye; (7/7) Gray Yates
Upcoming Ushers: (6/12am) Norm+Eleni A.; (6/12pm) David Z. (6/13) Norm+Eleni A.; (6/15) Maria S.; (6/16) Jim L.
Upcoming Video Operators: (6/12am) Joanna P.; (6/12pm) Cristina L.; (6/13) Joanna P.; (6/16) Cristina L.
Fellowship Hosts: (6/16) Women of Parish Council; (6/23) Cristina Lekas; (6/30) James Scarborough

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!

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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 June 9, 2024

Ushers on Duty: Cleo Bennette, Charles Glotzbach

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

Epistle Readers: Aleca Hortman (Greek); Isabelle Saratsiotis (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Patsy Zoumberis

PC Member On-Duty: Sarah Drakopoulos/Maria Spicer



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ 6th Sunday of Pascha—Sunday of the Blind Man

The Lord Jesus was coming from the Temple on the Sabbath, when, while walking in the way, He saw the blind man mentioned in today's Gospel. This man had been born thus from his mother's womb, that is, he had been born without eyes (see Saint John Chrysostom, Homily LVI on Matthew; Saint Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book V:15; and the second Exorcism of Saint Basil the Great). When the disciples saw this, they asked their Teacher, "Who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" They asked this because when the Lord had healed the paralytic at the Sheep's Pool, He had told him, "Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (John 5:14); so they wondered, if sickness was caused by sin, what sin could have been the cause of his being born without eyes. But the Lord answered that this was for the glory of God. Then the God-man spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle. He anointed the eyes of the blind man and said to him, "Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam." Siloam (which means "sent") was a well-known spring in Jerusalem used by the inhabitants for its waters, which flowed to the eastern side of the city and collected in a large pool called "the Pool of Siloam."

Therefore, the Savior sent the blind man to this pool that he might wash his eyes, which had been anointed with the clay—not that the pool's water had such power, but that the faith and obedience of the one sent might be made manifest, and that the miracle might become more remarkable and known to all, and leave no room for doubt. Thus, the blind man believed in Jesus' words, obeyed His command, went and washed himself, and returned, no longer blind, but having eyes and seeing. This was the greatest miracle that our Lord had yet worked; as the man healed of his blindness himself testified, "Since time began, never was it heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind," although the Lord had already healed the blind eyes of many. Because he now had eyes, some even doubted that he was the same person (John 9:8-9); and it was still lively in their remembrance when Christ came to the tomb of Lazarus, for they said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have caused that even this man should not have died?" Saint John Chrysostom gives a thorough and brilliant exposition of our Lord's meeting with the woman of Samaria, the healing of the paralytic, and the miracle of the blind man in his commentaries on the Gospel of Saint John.

+ Our Father among the Saints Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria (+444)

Saint Cyril reposed in peace on this day. He is also commemorated along with Saint Athanasios on January 18 (the day of his restoration to his archbishopric in Alexandria after an unjust exile.)

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 1st Mode):

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

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, 2nd 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 (Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον, Plagal 1st 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. (Greek text found in large hymnal on pg. 114)

- Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σῶσον Κύριε, 1st 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 (Ἐὶ καὶ ἐν τάρῳ, Plagal 4th 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, June 9: Sunday of the Blind Man—No Fasting:

John 20:11-18; Acts 16:16-34; John 9:1-38

Monday, June 10—No Fasting: Acts 17:1-9; John 11:47-54

Tuesday, June 11: St. Bartholomew—No Fasting:

Luke 10:16-21; I Corinthians 4:9-16; Matthew 5:14-19

Wednesday, June 12: Leave-taking of Pascha—

Fish+Wine+Oil: Acts 18:22-28; John 12:36-47

Thursday, June 13: Ascension—No Fasting:

Mark 16:9-20; Acts 1:1-12; Luke 24:36-53

Friday, June 14—Wine+Oil: Acts 19:1-8; John 14:1-11

Saturday, June 15—No Fasting: Acts 20:7-12;

John 14:10-21

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, Bessie, Katerina, Link, Bill, Virginia, Karl, Colin, Mitch, Rinne, Michael, Christian, Paul

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Mary (+May 3), Edward (+May 23), Vassilios (+May 29)

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. Leo the Great on our Lord's Ascension, celebrated this coming week: "Accordingly, dearly-beloved, throughout this time which elapsed between the Lord's Resurrection and Ascension, God's Providence had this in view, to teach and impress upon both the eyes and hearts of His own people that the Lord Jesus Christ might be acknowledged to have as truly risen, as He was truly born, suffered, and died. And hence the most blessed Apostles and all the disciples, who had been both bewildered at His death on the cross and backward in believing His Resurrection, were so strengthened by the clearness of the truth that when the Lord entered the heights of heaven, not only were they affected with no sadness, but were even filled with great joy."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

June 11: Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

June 9: James Bennette

June 11: Sophia McDowell

June 12: Matthew Deskins

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

June 9: Zerbe and John Santon

June 11: Jennifer and Adam Kangas

June 12: Elizabeth and Tony Zoumberis

(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.**

* **Bookstore:** The Bookstore is open on Sundays after the Divine Liturgy or by appointment only. If you are interested in making an appointment, please contact Cristina at 478-952-0202.

* **GREEK DANCE:** practice has begun and will be every other Sunday for the time being as we look ahead to the Festival. Bring comfortable shoes if needed. Opa!

* **YOUTH:** We will honor our high school and college GRADS today. **Congratulations to all of our graduates!** The next youth outing is at Rigby's in Warner Robins from 4:00-6:00pm on Friday, June 21. The start of Sunday School for 2024/2025 is Sunday, August 25th!

* The next meeting of the **Catechumen Class** will take place on Saturday, June 22 from 3:30 to 4:45pm in the Library/on Zoom. The subject matter for the summer session is "Orthodoxy 201," which is focused on day to day living as an Orthodox Christian. 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.

* **Byzantine Chant Class** will take place this coming Wednesday after the Great Vespers for the Ascension. This will be a recap of the first lesson from the introductory class. Typically, this class will take place on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to approximately 7:45pm after the evening service. We will be utilizing the textbook "Byzantine Ecclesiastical Music" and studying Byzantine notation from step one. Please contact Fr. Theodore if you are interested.

* **Family Fellowship Night** with the Macon Bacon, Thursday, June 13th at 7pm. Next Parish Fellowship Night will be Saturday, July 27—save the date!

* **Cross Dive Meeting** will be taking place on Tuesday, June 18 at 7:00pm in the Parish House. If you are interested in serving on the committee for the Third Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive, please plan on attending!

* **Bible Study** continues next Sunday from 12:45 to 1:45pm - current topic is the latter half of Romans, chapter 8.

CHRIST IS RISEN!

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!