



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Sunday, July 21, 2024

4th Sunday of Matthew

Sts. John and Symeon of Emesa

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

Mode of the Week: Third / Τρίτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, July 21</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 4 th Sunday of Matthew Coffee and Fellowship after the Liturgy in the Parish House 12:30pm Festival Chairman Meeting in the Parish House 12:45pm Greek Dance in the Courtyard
<i>Tuesday, July 23</i>	3:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive in the Parish House (until 7:00pm)
<i>Wednesday, July 24</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers for the Dormition of St. Anna 6:30pm Byzantine Chant Class (in the Chapel)
<i>Thursday, July 25</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Dormition of St. Anna
<i>Friday, July 26</i>	4:30pm Orthros 5:30pm Divine Liturgy on the Feast of St. Paraskevi the Great Martyr
<i>Saturday, July 27</i>	3:30pm Orthodoxy 201 Class in the Library/on Zoom 5:00pm Great Vespers 6:00pm Parish Fellowship: Dinner and Movie in the Parish House
<i>Sunday, July 28</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 5 th Sunday of Matthew Blessing of Students for the New School Year at the end of the Liturgy Coffee and Fellowship after the Liturgy in the Parish House 12:45pm Bible Study
<i>Wednesday, July 31</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of the Procession of the Cross 6:30pm Byzantine Chant Class
<i>Thursday, August 1</i>	5:30pm Small Paraklesis (Beginning of the Dormition Fast)
<i>Friday, August 2</i>	5:30pm Great Paraklesis
<i>Saturday, August 3</i>	5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, August 4</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 6 th Sunday of Matthew Coffee and Fellowship after the Liturgy in the Parish House 12:45pm Greek Dance in the Courtyard
<i>Monday, August 5</i>	6:00pm Great Vespers for the Transfiguration (at Holy Transfiguration, Marietta)
<i>Tuesday, August 6</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Transfiguration of Christ
Upcoming Epistle Readers: (7/28) Pete Tsamolias, Charles Glotzbach; (8/4) Aleca Hortman, Diana Cazacu	
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (7/28) John Apostolou; (8/4) Maria Spicer; (8/11) Sarah Drakopoulos	
Upcoming Ushers: (7/24) David Z.; (7/25) Sarah D.; (7/26) James S.; (7/27) Tassie C.; (7/28) John A., Sarah D.	
Upcoming Video Operators: (7/25) Joanna P.; (7/28) Gray Y./David N.; (8/1) Cristina L.; (8/4) Cristina L.	
Fellowship Hosts: (7/28) Marcela Chiorescu; (8/4) Cheryl Schwartzkopf; (8/11) OPEN; (8/18) Philoptochos	

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 offered only to 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

Ψάλατε τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῶν, ψάλατε,
ψάλατε τῷ βασιλεῖ ἡμῶν, ψάλατε.

Στίχ. Πάντα τὰ ἔθνη κροτήσατε
χειρας, ἀλαλάξατε τῷ Θεῷ ἐν
φωνῇ ἀγαλλιᾶσεως.

+++

Πρὸς Ρωμαίους Ἐπιστολῆς
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

+++

Ἀδελφοί, ἐλευθερωθέντες ἀπὸ τῆς
ἀμαρτίας ἐδουλώθητε τῇ
δικαιοσύνῃ. ἀνθρώπινον λέγω διὰ
τὴν ἀσθένειαν τῆς σαρκὸς ὑμῶν.
ὡσπερ γὰρ παρεστήσατε τὰ μέλη
ὑμῶν δοῦλα τῇ ἀκαθαρσίᾳ καὶ τῇ
ἀνομίᾳ εἰς τὴν ἀνομίαν, οὕτω νῦν
παραστήσατε τὰ μέλη ὑμῶν
δοῦλα τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ εἰς
ἀγιασμόν. ὅτε γὰρ δοῦλοι ἦτε τῆς
ἀμαρτίας, ἐλεύθεροι ἦτε τῇ
δικαιοσύνῃ. τίνα οὖν καρπὸν
εἶχετε τότε ἐφ' οἷς νῦν
ἐπαισχύνεσθε; τὸ γὰρ τέλος
ἐκείνων θάνατος. νυνὶ δὲ
ἐλευθερωθέντες ἀπὸ τῆς ἀμαρτίας
δουλωθέντες δὲ τῷ Θεῷ ἔχετε τὸν
καρπὸν ὑμῶν εἰς ἀγιασμόν, τὸ δὲ
τέλος ζωὴν αἰώνιον. τὰ γὰρ
ὀψώνια τῆς ἀμαρτίας θάνατος, τὸ
δὲ χάρισμα τοῦ Θεοῦ ζωὴ αἰώνιος
ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τῷ Κυρίῳ ἡμῶν.

*Sing praises to God; sing praises;
sing praises to our King; sing
praises.*

*Verse: Oh, clap your hands, all
you nations; shout to God with the
voice of rejoicing. (Psalm 46)*

+++

*The reading is from Paul's Letter
to the Romans. (6:18-23)*

+++

Brethren, having been set free
from sin, you have become slaves
of righteousness. I am speaking in
human terms, because of the
weakness of your flesh. For just as
you once yielded your members to
impurity and to greater and
greater iniquity, so now yield your
members to righteousness for
sanctification. When you were
slaves of sin, you were free in
regard to righteousness. But then
what return did you get from the
things of which you are now
ashamed? The end of those things
is death. But now that you have
been set free from sin and have
become slaves of God, the return
you get is sanctification and its
end, eternal life. For the wages of
sin is death, but the free gift of
God is eternal life in Christ Jesus
our Lord.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (8:5-13)

Fourth Sunday of Matthew

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, εἰσελθόντι τῷ
Ἰησοῦ εἰς Καπερναοὺμ προσῆλθεν
αὐτῷ ἑκατόνταρχος παρακαλῶν
αὐτὸν καὶ λέγων· Κύριε, ὁ παῖς μου
βέβληται ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ παραλυτικός,
δεινῶς βασανιζόμενος. καὶ λέγει
αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἐγὼ ἐλθὼν
θεραπεύσω αὐτόν. καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ
ἑκατόνταρχος ἔφη· Κύριε, οὐκ εἰμι
ικανὸς ἵνα μου ὑπὸ τὴν στέγην
εἰσέλθῃς· ἀλλὰ μόνον εἰπέ λόγῳ, καὶ
ἰαθήσεται ὁ παῖς μου. καὶ γὰρ ἐγὼ
ἄνθρωπός εἰμι ὑπὸ ἐξουσίαν, ἔχων
ὑπ' ἐμαυτὸν στρατιώτας, καὶ λέγω
τούτῳ, πορεύθητι, καὶ πορεύεται, καὶ
ἄλλῳ, ἔρχου, καὶ ἔρχεται, καὶ τῷ
δούλῳ μου, ποίησον τοῦτο, καὶ
ποιεῖ. ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς
ἐθαύμασε καὶ εἶπε τοῖς
ἀκολουθοῦσιν· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν,
οὐδὲ ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ τοσαύτην πίστιν
εὔρον. λέγω δὲ ὑμῖν ὅτι πολλοὶ ἀπὸ
ἀνατολῶν καὶ δυσμῶν ἤξουσι καὶ
ἀνακλιθήσονται μετὰ Ἀβραὰμ καὶ
Ἰσαὰκ καὶ Ἰακώβ ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν
οὐρανῶν, οἱ δὲ υἱοὶ τῆς βασιλείας
ἐκβληθήσονται εἰς τὸ σκότος τὸ
ἐξώτερον· ἐκεῖ ἔσται ὁ κλαυθμὸς καὶ
ὁ βρυγμὸς τῶν ὀδόντων. καὶ εἶπεν ὁ
Ἰησοῦς τῷ ἑκατοντάρχῳ· ὕπαγε, καὶ
ὡς ἐπίστευσας γενηθήτω σοι. καὶ
ἰάθη ὁ παῖς αὐτοῦ ἐν τῇ ὥρᾳ ἐκείνῃ.

At that time, as Jesus entered
Capernaum, a centurion came
forward to him, beseeching him
and saying, "Lord, my servant is
lying paralyzed at home, in
terrible distress." And he said to
him, "I will come and heal him."
But the centurion answered him,
"Lord, I am not worthy to have
you come under my roof; but only
say the word, and my servant will
be healed. For I am a man under
authority, with soldiers under me;
and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes,
and to another, 'Come,' and he
comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,'
and he does it." When Jesus heard
him, he marveled, and said to
those who followed him, "Truly, I
say to you, not even in Israel have
I found such faith. I tell you, many
will come from east and west and
sit at table with Abraham, Isaac,
and Jacob in the kingdom of
heaven, while the sons of the
kingdom will be thrown into the
outer darkness; there men will
weep and gnash their teeth." And
to the centurion Jesus said, "Go;
be it done for you as you have
believed." And the servant was
healed at that very moment.

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 July 21, 2024

Ushers on Duty: Cleo Bennette, Jim Lekas

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

Epistle Readers: George Saratsiotis (Greek); Cheryl Schwartzkopf (Eng)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Patsy Zoumberis

PC Member On-Duty: Jim Lekas



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Our Devout Fathers John and Symeon of Emesa, Fools for Christ (+570)

These Saints were from the city of Edessa in Mesopotamia and flourished during the reign of Justin the Younger (565-578). After a pilgrimage to Jerusalem they were moved with a desire to forsake the world; they were tonsured monks by the Abbot Nicon, and soon after left the monastery to struggle together in the wilderness near the Dead Sea. When they had passed a little more than thirty years together in silence and prayer, Symeon, having reached the heights of dispassion, departed for Emesa in Syria, where he passed the rest of his life playing the fool, saving many souls from sin while hiding his sanctity with seemingly senseless behavior. He reposed in 570; by the providence of God, John, who had remained in the wilderness, departed soon after.

- + The Holy Martyr Acakius of Cappadocia, the Holy Martyrs Theophilus, Trophimos, and the Thirteen with them; The Holy Martyrs Justus and Matthew; The Holy Martyr Eugene (+305)

- + Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos in the District of Armatius in Constantinople

- + The Holy Three Martyrs of Melitene

- + The Holy Martyrs George and Theodore

- + The Holy Hieromartyr Bargadesian, Deacon at Arbela in Assyria (+354)

- + Our Devout Father Parthenios, Bishop of Radobysdion, Arta (+1777)

- + Our Devout Mother Wastrada, female monastic, mother of St. Gregory of Utrecht (+760)

- + The Holy Martyr Julia of Troyes (+272)

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 (Ευφραινέσθω τα ουράνια, Third Mode):*

Let the heavens be glad. Let the earth rejoice exceedingly. For the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead. Out of the belly of Hades, He has rescued us, and to the world He has granted the great mercy. (*Sung before and after the Small Entrance, Greek text in hymnal pg. 106*)

- *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 of the Theotokos (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 in hymnal pg. 224*)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily

Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday, July 21—No Fasting: Luke 24:1-12; Romans

6:18-23; Matthew 8:5-13

Monday, July 22: St. Mary Magdalene—No Fasting:

I Corinthians 9:2-12; Luke 8:1-3

Tuesday, July 23—No Fasting: Romans 14:9-18; Matthew

12:14-16, 22-30

Wednesday, July 24—Strict Fast: Romans 15:7-16;

Matthew 12:38-45

Thursday, July 25: Dormition of St. Anna—No Fasting:

Galatians 4:22-27; Luke 8:16-21

Friday, July 26: St. Paraskevi—Wine+Oil: Galatians

3:23-29, 4:1-5; Mark 5:24-34

Saturday, July 27: St. Panteleimon—No Fasting: Luke

21:12-19; II Timothy 2:1-10; John 15:17-27, 16:1-2

Prayer Requests:

Metropolitan Alexios, 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, Brian, Bessie, Katerina, Link, Bill, Virginia, Karl, Colin, Mitch, Rinne, Michael, Christian, Paul, Lucas

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Evangelia (+June 10), Arthur (+June 20), Nancy (+July 12)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Julie G., Bobbie I.

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. Symeon the Theologian with a timely word in these weeks after having celebrated Pentecost: "The kingdom of heaven suffers violence and the violent take it by force" (Matt. 11:12), since it is 'through many tribulations that we must enter the kingdom' (Acts 14:22) of heaven. The 'kingdom of heaven' consists in partaking of the Holy Spirit, for this is what the saying 'The kingdom of heaven is within you' (Luke 17:21) means. So we must endeavor to receive the Holy Spirit within ourselves and to keep Him."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

July 22: Joan Cabral, Marcela Chiorescu, Milijana Hansee,

Evan Nanaj, Mary Monika Robinson

July 24: Christine Sprouse

July 26: Vivi Iakovidis

July 27: Pete Nicholas, Ethan "Panteleimon" Pellegrino

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

July 21: Diane Berkner

July 22: Rene Anthonis Esquivel, Jr.

July 24: Eleni Adams

July 27: Daniela Peterson

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

July 22: Holly and Tony Economopoulos

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

Announcements:

* **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.

* **Blood Drive** this coming Tuesday from 3-7pm in the Parish House. Walk-in or make an appointment at redcross.org and search for our parish's name!

* **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!

* The next meeting of the **Catechumen/Orthodoxy 201 Class** will take place this coming Saturday, July 27 from 3:30 to 4:45pm in the Library/on Zoom. The topic will be "Tradition and the Feasts of the Church." Contact Fr. Theodore for more information.

* **Byzantine Chant Class** will take place this coming Wednesday, July 24 at 6:30pm after the Great Vespers honoring the Dormition of St. Anna.

* **FESTIVAL INFO:** Sponsorship Program has been emailed. The deadline for this is August 15th. Please share with your family and friends as well as Business Friends. Festival Prep planning has begun. Thank you to everyone who helped prepare Pastitsio. There will be a **Chairman Committee Meeting today** following Divine Liturgy in the big room in the Parish House. Other dates to mark on your calendar: Spanakopita Prep (Aug. 10) and Dolmades Prep (Sept 21).

* We are excited to announce a **Dinner and a Movie Night** for everyone to enjoy *this coming Saturday, July 27th!* For parents with children, we will be providing a babysitter upstairs in the Parish House so you can relax and enjoy the movie! Please let Natalia know if you will be attending and how many children will be attending as well so we can properly prepare.

* An important email was sent Thursday morning regarding our **ICONOGRAPHY PROJECT**. We are kindly asking each parishioner to submit a minimum of five names along with addresses to help build our database. Your participation is crucial to the success of this campaign. To submit names, you can either scan this QR Code or you can pick up a hard copy in the Narthex or Parish House.



* Thank you to all who submitted Pledge Cards either at the beginning of the year or here at this middle of the year. We will ask for God's blessings upon our offerings today!