



# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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[www.holycrossga.org](http://www.holycrossga.org) | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

### Sunday, August 4, 2024

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew

The Holy Seven Youths of Ephesus

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Sixth (Luke 24:36-53)

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

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, August 4</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Coffee and Fellowship after the Liturgy in the Parish House 12:45pm Bible Study/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
<i>Wednesday, August 7</i>	5:30pm Small Paraklesis 6:30pm Young Adult Outing
<i>Thursday, August 8</i>	5:00pm Great Paraklesis
<i>Friday, August 9</i>	5:30pm Small Paraklesis
<i>Saturday, August 10</i>	8:00am Spanakopita Prep for Festival 3:30pm Orthodoxy 201/Catechumen Class (in the Library/on Zoom) 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, August 11</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Coffee and Fellowship after the Liturgy in the Parish House 12:45pm Bible Study
<i>Monday, August 12</i>	5:30pm Small Paraklesis
<i>Tuesday, August 13</i>	5:00pm Great Paraklesis
<i>Wednesday, August 14</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers and Lamentations for the Dormition of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary
<i>Thursday, August 15</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy for the Dormition of the Theotokos
<i>Saturday, August 17</i>	5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, August 18</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew 50 Year Memorial for Nick Dermatas, father of Spyros, at the end of the Divine Liturgy Artoklasia honoring the visit of the Panagia Prousiotissa icon Panagiri in the House/Courtyard following the Divine Liturgy
<i>Wednesday, August 21</i>	5:45pm Vespers 6:30pm Cross Dive Meeting

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (8/11) George Saratsiotis, Caroline Saratsiotis; (8/18) Pete Tsamolias, Cleo Bennette  
**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (8/11) Sarah Drakopoulos; (8/18) Melanie Moye; (8/25) Gray Yates  
**Upcoming Ushers:** (8/6) OPEN; (8/7) David Z.; (8/8+9) James S.; (8/10) Charles G.; (8/11) Tassie C., James S.  
**Upcoming Video Operators:** (8/6) Joanna P.; (8/11+13) David Z.; (8/14) David N.; (8/15) Joanna P.; (8/18) Natalia  
**Fellowship Hosts:** (8/11) Presvytera Stacey; (8/18) Philoptochos; (8/25) Beth Zoumberis; (9/1) OPEN

### 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

Σύ, Κύριε, φυλάζεις ἡμᾶς καὶ  
διατηρήσεις ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. Σῶσόν με, Κύριε, ὅτι  
ἐκλέλοιπεν ὁσῖος.

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Πρὸς Ρωμαίους Ἐπιστολῆς  
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἀδελφοί, ἔχοντες δὲ χαρίσματα κατὰ τὴν χάριν τὴν δοθεῖσαν ἡμῖν διάφορα, εἴτε προφητείαν, κατὰ τὴν ἀναλογίαν τῆς πίστεως, εἴτε διακονίαν, ἐν τῇ διακονίᾳ, εἴτε ὁ διδάσκων, ἐν τῇ διδασκαλίᾳ, εἴτε ὁ παρακαλῶν, ἐν τῇ παρακλήσει, ὁ μεταδιδούς, ἐν ἀπλότητι, ὁ προϊστάμενος, ἐν σπουδῇ, ὁ ἐλεῶν, ἐν ἰλαρότητι. Ἡ ἀγάπη ἀνυπόκριτος. ἀποστυγοῦντες τὸ πονηρόν, κολλώμενοι τῷ ἀγαθῷ, τῇ φιλαδελφίᾳ εἰς ἀλλήλους φιλόστοργοι, τῇ τιμῇ ἀλλήλους προηγούμενοι, τῇ σπουδῇ μὴ ὀκνηροί, τῷ πνεύματι ζέοντες, τῷ Κυρίῳ δουλεύοντες, τῇ ἐλπίδι χαίροντες, τῇ θλίψει ὑπομένοντες, τῇ προσευχῇ προσκαρτεροῦντες, ταῖς χρείαις τῶν ἁγίων κοινωνοῦντες, τὴν φιλοξενίαν διώκοντες. εὐλογεῖτε τοὺς διώκοντάς ὑμᾶς, εὐλογεῖτε καὶ μὴ καταρᾶσθε.

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

*Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the holy man has ceased. (Psalm 11)*

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*The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Romans. (12:6-14)*

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Brethren, having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

## The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (9:1-8)

Sixth Sunday of Matthew

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ ἐμβὰς ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς πλοῖον διεπέρασε καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς τὴν ἰδίαν πόλιν. Καὶ ἰδοὺ προσέφερον αὐτῷ παραλυτικὸν ἐπὶ κλίνης βεβλημένον· καὶ ἰδὼν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὴν πίστιν αὐτῶν εἶπε τῷ παραλυτικῷ· θάρσει, τέκνον· ἀφέωνταί σοι αἱ ἁμαρτίαι σου. καὶ ἰδοὺ τινες τῶν γραμματέων εἶπον ἐν ἑαυτοῖς· οὗτος βλασφημεῖ. καὶ ἰδὼν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὰς ἐνθυμήσεις αὐτῶν εἶπεν· ἵνα τί ὑμεῖς ἐνθυμεῖσθε πονηρὰ ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ὑμῶν; τί γὰρ ἐστὶν εὐκοπώτερον, εἰπεῖν, ἀφέωνταί σοι αἱ ἁμαρτίαι, ἢ εἰπεῖν, ἔγειρε καὶ περιπάτει; ἵνα δὲ εἰδῆτε ὅτι ἐξουσίαν ἔχει ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἀφιέναι ἁμαρτίας — τότε λέγει τῷ παραλυτικῷ· ἐγερθεὶς ἄρῳν σου τὴν κλίνην καὶ ὕπαγε εἰς τὸν οἶκόν σου. καὶ ἐγερθεὶς ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὸν οἶκόν αὐτοῦ. ἰδόντες δὲ οἱ ὄχλοι ἐθαύμασαν καὶ ἐδόξασαν τὸν Θεὸν τὸν δόντα ἐξουσίαν τοιαύτην τοῖς ἀνθρώποις.

At that time, getting into a boat Jesus crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, seeing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say 'Rise and walk?' But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins," he then said to the paralytic — "Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

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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 August 4, 2024

Ushers on Duty: Tassie Cantrell, Jim Lekas

Video: Cristina Lekas

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Aleca Hortman (Greek); Nadia Cazacu (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Cheryl Schwartzkopf

PC Member On-Duty: Maria Spicer



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + The Seven Holy Youths of Ephesus: Maximilian, Exacustodian, Jamblichus, Martinian, Dionysius, John, and Constantine

*The Seven Youths hid themselves in a certain cave near Ephesus in the year 250, to escape the persecution of Decius. By divine grace, a sleep came upon them and they slept for 184 years, until the reign of Saint Theodosius the Younger, when the doctrine of the resurrection was being assailed by heretics. They then awoke, that is, were resurrected, confirming in the sight of all the bodily resurrection; and again after a short time, by divine command, they reposed in the Lord in the year 434.*

- + Commemoration of the recovery of the relics of the Holy Martyr Evdokia

*The Holy Martyr Evdokia was a native of Anatolia, living in the fourth century. The army of the Persian emperor Sapor took her into captivity with 9,000 Christians. Since she knew the Holy Scriptures well, she instructed the prisoners. The saint also preached to the Persian women and converted many of them to Christianity. For this she was subjected to lengthy and fierce tortures and then beheaded.*

- + The Holy Martyr Thathuel
- + The Holy Martyr Ia and those with her in Persia (+363)
- + The Holy Martyr Protasius in Cologne, Germany
- + The Holy Martyr and Confessor Agabius, Bishop of Verona in Italy (+250)
- + Our Devout Father Euphronios of Tours (+573)

*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 (Τov σννάναρχον 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 in hymnal pg. 114)

- *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 Kontakion of the Transfiguration (Επι του ορουσ μετεμορφώθησ, Grave Mode):*

Upon the mountain were You transfigured, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they were able, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified they might understand that Your Passion was deliberate, and declare to the world that in truth You are the Father's radiance. (Greek text in hymnal pg. 284)

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

### This Week's Daily

#### Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

**Sunday, August 4—Wine+Oil:** Luke 24:36-53; Romans 12:6-14; Matthew 9:1-8

**Monday, August 5—Strict Fast:** I Peter 1:1-25, 2:1-10; Matthew 13:54-58

**Tuesday, August 6: Transfiguration of Christ—Fish, Wine+Oil:** Luke 9:28-36; II Peter 1:10-19; Matthew 17:1-9

**Wednesday, August 7—Strict Fast:** I Corinthians 7:12-24; Mark 9:2-9

**Thursday, August 8—Strict Fast:** I Corinthians 7:24-35; Matthew 15:12-21

**Friday, August 9—Strict Fast:** Acts 1:12-17, 21-26; Matthew 15:29-31

**Saturday, August 10—Wine+Oil:** Romans 12:1-3; Matthew 10:37-42, 11:1

### 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:

Nancy (+July 12), Fotini (+July 25), Matt (+July 28)

#### Prayers for expecting mothers:

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, Dakota, Hannah, Jessica, Mary Emma, Mary Elizabeth, Nate, Schyler, Sophia, Susan, Tammy and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

### Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

**St. Cyril of Alexandria** on the Theotokos: "I have been amazed that some are utterly in doubt as to whether or not the Holy Virgin is able to be called the Mother of God (Theotokos). For if our Lord Jesus Christ is God, how should the Holy Virgin who bore him not be the Mother of God?"

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

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

August 10: Lori Crouse

#### Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

August 4: Dimitris Karras

August 5: Pamela Poulos

August 7: James Scarborough

August 8: Joachim Ehmer

August 10: Panayiotis Drakopoulos, Nate Schwartzkopf

### 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:

\* **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.

\* The next meeting of the **Catechumen/Orthodoxy 201 Class** will take place on Saturday, August 10 at 3:30pm in the Library with the topic of "Fasting in a healthy manner." Contact Fr. Theodore for more information.

\* There will be a **Young Adult** get-together this coming Wednesday evening after the Paraklesis service. The tentative plan is to do axe-throwing in Downtown Macon at around 6:30. Come to the Paraklesis and stay for the fellowship afterwards!

\* **FESTIVAL INFO:** Raffle tickets are here, and they are ready to be sold! We are asking each family to sell or purchase a minimum of five books. Contact Natalia to get your raffle tickets today! 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. **Committee Chairmen:** Start looking for parishioners to help in your area. If you have any concerns for your area, please contact one of the Festival Chairmen. Other dates to mark on your calendar: Spanakopita Prep (this coming Saturday, Aug. 10) and Dolmades Prep (Sept 21).

\* An important email was sent last week 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. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask Emily Dermatas.

\* The Philoptochos invites us to mark your calendar for our **annual Panagiri** on Sunday, August 18. A link to RSVP was sent by email. You can also contact Helen Vardy for more details.

\* **The Dormition Fast** has begun as we honor the Theotokos. Please see the schedule for the Paraklesis services as we pray for the health and salvation of the faithful. There are forms in the narthex to add names of your loved ones for the physical and spiritual health. No need to fill out a second form if you have already turned one in at another service!

\* Please be sure to save the date for the **3rd Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive** on Sunday, September 15. We will begin with Orthros and Liturgy at the Church, celebrate with a Panagiri/Celebration for our Church's Name Day after the service and conclude with the Cross Dive at Lake Tobo!

