

# Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church

FALL 2024 QUARTERLY BULLETIN



859 First Street | Macon, Georgia 31201 | 478.621.0744

## SUNDAY SERVICES

*(For services during the week,  
please visit our webpage)*

Orthros 9:15am

Divine Liturgy 10:30am

Coffee Fellowship 12:00pm  
(following Liturgy)

## FIND US ONLINE

[www.holycrossga.org](http://www.holycrossga.org)

Facebook:  
HolyCrossMaconGA

Instagram:  
HolyCrossOfMacon

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# Father Theodore's Message

*O Cross, you are the guardian of the whole world. \* O Cross, you are the height of the Church's beauty. \* O Cross, you are what strengthened the Emperors. \* O Cross, the believers' firm support. \* O Cross, the glory of Angels \* and the defeat of the demons.  
Exapostilarion on September 14, the Elevation of the Holy Cross*



My beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we come to the month of September, we will be surrounded by words of praise for the Holy Cross. Our parish has the great honor of being named after the Life-Giving Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. We will celebrate the Name Day of our parish in a twofold manner. First, we will have a Holy Vigil to celebrate the feast on the evening of Friday, September 13, starting at 7:00pm. We will celebrate with great reverence the Great Vespers, Orthros, and Divine Liturgy that evening. If you've never been to a vigil, this is a great opportunity to experience this very traditional celebration! On Sunday, September 15, we will celebrate a Festal Orthros and Divine Liturgy followed by a Panagiri/Celebration and then the 3rd Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive. It should be a wonderful weekend!

Yet, we do not only honor the Holy Cross in mid-September. The Holy Cross is something that should be a part of our life, in our thought process every day. What are some practical ways that we can honor the Cross day to day? Let me share with you some thoughts!

*Wear a cross* - When we were baptized and/or chrismated, we received a cross to wear from our Godparent. We should wear this cross or a similar cross all the time! This reminds us of the day that we began our journey in Christ and the necessity for us to pick up our cross daily as we are instructed to in Holy Scripture.

*Cross yourself correctly* - Sometimes it may be easy for us to take crossing ourselves for granted. There is even a bit of a joke about haphazardly making the cross "like a bouzouki" (look it up if you don't get the image!) Tracing ourselves with the sign of the Cross is something attested to by the Fathers from the earliest centuries. When we cross ourselves, it is a powerful physical movement attesting to trust in our Lord who was crucified and resurrected for our sake and for our salvation. It is also a beautiful witness of our faith to those who might see us cross ourselves!

*Begin/end activities with the Cross* - In particular, at the beginning and ending of a journey, it is beautiful to cross ourselves and either ask for our Lord's protection or thank Him for a safe journey. This same rule can be applied to when we begin and complete a meal, begin and complete the reading of the Bible, or even when we begin and complete a run through the park!

*Make the sign of the Cross passing an Orthodox Church* - When we pass by the front of an Orthodox Church, we should cross ourselves as an acknowledgement that we are passing by the place where we worship our God, that place which is set apart. We should also consider that in the same manner, we should cross ourselves when passing through the middle of the Church. This is out of respect and reverence to the reserve sacrament of Holy Communion which is always present on the Holy Altar.

*Fast on Fridays (in addition to Wednesdays)* - Fridays are almost always fasting days as this is the day that our Lord was crucified on the Cross. On that day, that object of torture, the cross, became a sign of victory, the *Holy Cross*. Our fast encourages us to not betray our Lord as did Judas (on Holy Wednesday), but to put our own often selfish and earthly desires aside and to focus on what is truly needful.

*Read the Holy Scriptures and see the image of the Holy Cross* - If we are attentive to our reading of the Bible, we see the cross present in many other places beyond the Crucifixion. It is prefigured in the Old Testament. It is spoken of by Christ during His ministry. And as we read further in the New Testament, it is no longer a thing of foolishness and weakness but the power of God to us who read Holy Scripture as Christians and place our hope in Him.

As members of the parish of the Holy Cross, let us reflect upon all of the ways that the Cross of Christ is ever-present in our lives. Not as a sign of defeat, but as a sign of our Lord's love, power, and conquering of death! Considering these examples I have shared with you, strive to make the Holy Cross a daily part and reflection of your life as an Orthodox Christian as this contributes to, as we recite at every Divine Liturgy, to wholly "commit ourselves and one another to Christ our God!"

Through the power of Your Cross, save us, O Lord!

In Christ's Service,



Fr. Theodore

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# A Note from the Parish Council President

Natalia Saratsiotis, President | natalia.saratsiotis@gmail.com

Fr. Theodore and Fellow Parishioners,

With summer drawing to a close, we look forward to the new beginnings the Ecclesiastical New Year brings. Our church community has thrived through fellowship, worship, and service, and this new year offers us the opportunity to deepen our bonds and expand our impact.

I am excited to report that we had six students attend St. Stephens Summer Camp. I am proud of these students for attending and strengthening their faith. Several years ago, the Corey Robinson Scholarship Fund was created to assist our youth who attend the camp. Each year, the parish assists students with a partial amount to be applied to their registration. We have had one fundraiser during coffee hour to add to these funds. Be on the lookout for more opportunities to donate to this meaningful initiative in October.

This summer, we had our second Movie and a Dinner night in the Parish House. This was a nice evening where we were able to relax, enjoy delicious Gyros from Greek Corner Deli and a movie with popcorn. Afterwards, several of us went to Fall Line Brewery to extend our fellowship. We need more nights like this so we can learn more about each other.

We are excited to be hosting our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cross Dive along with our Parish's Name Day Celebration. Please make sure you check out our webpage at [holycrossga.org/cross-dive](http://holycrossga.org/cross-dive) and purchase your ticket today. This year, we are doing things differently. Orthros and Divine Liturgy will begin earlier on this day. We will have the luncheon at our church in the Parish House/Courtyard, and then, we will move over to Kathy Patras' home to have the Agiasmo/Blessing of the Waters and Cross Dive. We invite everyone to stay afterwards and enjoy the evening.

One of our biggest events where we can not only share our culture but also our faith is the Central Georgia Greek Festival. Be sure to have your calendars marked for October 25-27 and tell your friends. We will be prepping Dolmades on September 21<sup>st</sup> and need your help for this. We will have a pastry date where we box all the pastries...please be on the lookout for that. All hands on deck are needed the day before the festival begins to help set up. Raffle tickets are currently being sold. If you need more tickets, please let me know. If we can sell them all before the festival, that is an extra man we can have during the festival! T-Shirts are also being sold. Visit our website to purchase a t-shirt today: [holycrossga.org/greek-festival](http://holycrossga.org/greek-festival) or see the email that has been sent. As always, if you have any questions concerning the festival, please contact a chairman: Harry Bennette, Mike Cantrell, Jim Lekas, David Zoumberis or myself.

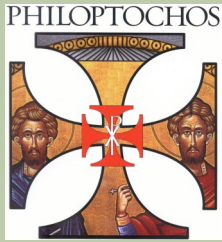
As we end the calendar year, it is time to think about the ongoing future of Holy Cross. We have three people coming off the Parish Council: John Apostolou, Melanie Moye and myself. If you are interested in serving on the Parish Council, please contact me. As a reminder, you must be a member of Holy Cross for at least one year. We will have a General Assembly on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Please make every effort to attend this meeting as it involves the future of Holy Cross.

Wishing you a blessed Ecclesiastical year filled with joy and happiness for you and your loved ones. I encourage you to take part in our church activities and grow together in faith.

In Christ's love,  
Natalia Saratsiotis

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

Natalia Saratsiotis, President  
Jim Lekas, Vice-President  
Sarah Drakopoulos, Secretary  
Melanie Moye, Assistant Secretary  
John Apostolou, Treasurer  
Maria Spicer, Assistant Treasurer  
Gray Yates, Member-at-Large



## Our Mission:

To promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach;  
to preserve the sanctity of life and family;  
and to perpetuate and promote our Orthodox faith and traditions.

Dear Fr. Theodore and Holy Cross Parishioners,

Happy New Ecclesiastical Year, now that September 1st has come! I hope that everyone has enjoyed their summer and is ready to start back up with the various church events that we participate in every year. I want to thank Maria McCluskey again for hosting a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship at her home this summer. Our "Dip Party" was enjoyed by all the ladies. We each brought an appetizer/dip to share along with a refreshing "dip" in her pool. Also thank you to Presvytera Stacey for organizing this lovely evening.

A huge thank you to Helen Vardy and her dedicated committee for organizing the Annual Panagiri this year. It was such an exciting time for all of us. We were also so fortunate to have the beautiful icon of Panagia Prousiotissa, Patroness of our Philoptochos, with us in celebration of the Feast. Thank you to everyone!! Additionally, I thank those who brought Fanouropites and donated to the Metropolis Youth and the continued work of the Philoptochos in the basket collection on August 25th.

Again this year our Philoptochos will be participating in the Back Pack Buddies Ministry. We were assigned to Union Elementary School again this year. If you are not familiar with this ministry, we are just a small part in the amazing logistics feat of delivering over 2,200 hungry area children a grocery bag of food on Friday afternoons to have over the weekend, which fills a nutrition gap until they are back at school for meals throughout the week. We always look forward to being a part of this needed local ministry.

Please accept my personal and genuine invitation to join the Philoptochos Society if you have not already! I will have the simple membership form at our upcoming meeting. Each of you has a spiritual gift to share within this ministry as we continue to serve friends in need.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting on Sunday, September 8th.

Your sister in Christ,  
Cleo

### 2024-2025 Philoptochos Board

President: Cleo Bennette  
1st VP: Helen Vardy  
2nd VP: Emily Dermatas  
Treasurer: Maria Bronisevsky  
Rec. Secretary: Beth Zoumberis  
Corr. Secretary: Rodica Cazacu  
Member at Large: Denna Bradford  
Advisor: Sarah Drakopoulos



We had a splash at the "Dip Party," our Philoptochos summer social gathering on July 13th. We thank Maria McCluskey for her generous hospitality!

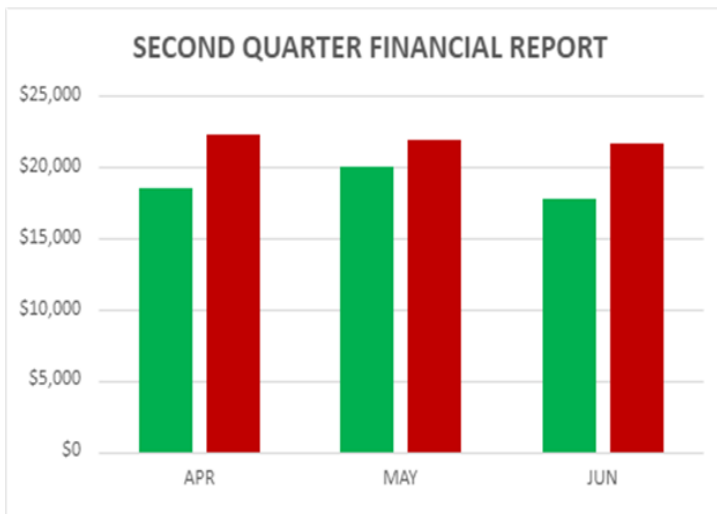


Many thanks to Helen Vardy and her team for a wonderful Panagiri on August 19th!



Members of Philoptochos shared a beautiful offering for St. Fanourios Sunday, August 25th. A second tray was passed that was for both Holy Cross and the Youth of the Metropolis of Atlanta. Thank you to those who made a Fanouropita.

## FINANCIAL REPORT



	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	\$ 18,550.76	\$ 20,002.93	\$ 17,766.51
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$ 22,253.18	\$ 21,902.70	\$ 21,621.33
<b>NET/DEFICIT</b>	\$ (3,702.42)	\$ (1,899.77)	\$ (3,854.82)

**Thank you for all your contributions  
and continued support  
toward the growth  
and future of our Parish!**

Please visit our web page at:  
**[www.holycrossga.org](http://www.holycrossga.org)**

The Offering link will give you all the options  
available for any financial giving.

**Venmo & PayPal @HolyCrossMacon**  
**CashApp \$HolyCrossMacon**

John Apostolou & Maria Spicer, 2024 PC  
Treasurer & Assistant Treasurer

### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

#### 3RD QUARTER (ENDING JUNE 30TH)

**TASSIE CANTRELL, SPYROS DERMATAS, CHARLES GLOTZBACH & BETH ZOUMBERIS**

The Stewardship Committee conducted a mid-year outreach in July. As of August 2024, our Holy Cross Parish is blessed with 57 families who have sent in their Stewardship Commitment Cards. This is up from the 38 families reported last quarter! Thanks to all of you who put your faith into action by submitting a pledge card. It is so encouraging to see the members of our church joining together in their support; each family or individual, committing on purpose. May God Bless us all as we strive to do our best, to give back and to support our Holy Cross, with a joy and peace in our hearts.

#### **OUR GOAL: 100% PARTICIPATION**

**We now have 57 committed stewards out of 106 families!** So, if you have not joined our Group of Active Stewards by submitting your Commitment Card, what are you waiting for? It is not too late to do this small act that helps and strengthens our parish so much. You play an integral role in this – whether it is through your time, your talents or your treasures. Your written pledge card addresses all three of these.

Participating actively in the life of the Church helps us all in our walk of faith. At times of need, we encourage and support one another. When times are good, we are thankful for our many blessings and cheer each other on. There is no other place like Holy Cross. Holy Cross is our church home and our church family is very special. As we learn and grow in Christ, it is our prayer that He will continue to bring blessings upon our beloved Holy Cross and each and every one of Her parishioners.

If you are not certain whether you have submitted your Stewardship Commitment Card, check with our Treasurer, John Apostolou, or Assistant Treasurer, Maria Spicer. Stewardship Pledges are a trifold pamphlet and are located in the Narthex of the church next to the bulletins you get for Sunday service.

**May I give On-line?** On-line giving is available through:

**Venmo: @HolyCrossMacon**  
**CashApp: \$HolyCrossMacon**

Yours in Christ, The Stewardship Committee

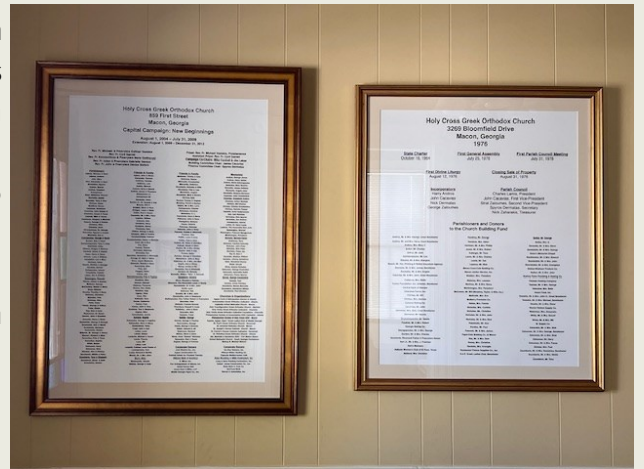
## PLANNING COMMITTEE

CLEO BENNETTE, EMILY DERMATAS, ROZA HARRIS, CRISTINA LEKAS, KATHYE PATRAS, & CHERYL STEFANIS

The Planning Committee is finalizing the details for the installation of the first part of Project Agape Phase IV: Iconography. Installation will include the Holy Altar and West (Back) Wall and will begin November 2024. Project Agape Phase IV: Iconography will be completed over the next three years. Parishioners have been asked to recommend names of Family/Friends to be notified about the Iconography project by September 9, 2024. Names may be submitted online or on forms available in the Narthex. Letters and brochures will be mailed out to Family/Friends this fall. Brochures will also be available at our Central Georgia Greek Festival to be held October 25-27. There will also be information about our Iconography project on our Holy Cross website. A QR code will be placed on the brochure and Family/Friends letter with further details and how to donate. Hard copies of all information from our website will also be available.

Two Wall Plaques have been placed in the Parish House commemorating “New Beginnings” donors and 1976 Capital Campaign donors. As you can see, we are continuing to grow and are so thankful to many faithful who contributed and continue to contribute to Holy Cross through the years!

Glory be to God for all His continued blessings on our Holy Cross Church!



## BUILDING COMMITTEE

JIM LEKAS, ALEX SARATSIOTIS & DAVID ZOUMBERTIS



Hope everyone had a wonderful and productive summer. It's hard to believe it came and went so fast! Work has begun for the Subsurface drain that should alleviate the water issue in the grassy area. We are currently waiting for an estimate to remove bricks and debris from the church's crawl space and smooth the dirt so a 6-mil vapor barrier can be installed. All of this is directed towards decreasing the moisture problems we are having in the church. We also obtained an estimate for a patio awning for the courtyard; however, we have tabled that for now until we have our first Five Year Planning meeting. We are excited to see what ideas they have moving forward for the future for our church! Anyone with questions or concerns, please contact someone on the Building Committee.

# Youth

Erick and Cheryl Schwartzkopf  
Youth Ministry Directors  
schwartzecn@yahoo.com



On June 9th, after the Divine Liturgy, we honored our 2024 Graduates! Fr. Theodore prayed for God's blessings in their future endeavors and they each received an icon as a gift from their Holy Cross family. Our High School Grads are Nadia Cazacu, Panos Drakopoulos, Angelika Passias, Mary Emma Ridley, and Mary Katherine Saratsiotis. Our College/Grad Program Grads are Paige Crouse, Christina Danforth (not pictured), Marissa Goss (not pictured), and CJ Newberry.



After the Divine Liturgy for Prophet Elias on July 20th, some of our Youth enjoyed a "Dessert Basics with Thea (Aunt) Joanna" class! With clean hands, they worked hard to cut, bake, and decorate sugar cookies, carefully layer a variety of fresh ingredients into beautiful and unique trifles, and observe the rizogalo (rice pudding) process.



Fr. Theodore enjoyed an afternoon visit with the youth and Metropolitan Alexios at St. Stephen's Summer Camp this summer! We prayed for the staff, the counselors, and the campers (which came from all around the Metropolis of Atlanta!), that they would have a fruitful week with this year's theme, learning to "Lift Up our Hearts to the Lord"! Those that attended were: Sofia Danforth, Dominic Economopoulos, Caroline Saratsiotis, Isabelle Saratsiotis, Carter Zoumberis and Mary Klaire Zoumberis.



At the end of the Divine Liturgy on July 28th, during the Backpack Blessing, Fr. Theodore blessed the students and educators, praying that God would strengthen them and give them a good beginning!

## Upcoming Holy Cross Youth Events:

**September 8th:** Youth Car Wash Fundraiser after Coffee Hour

**October 20th:** Spaghetti Luncheon - Corey Robinson Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser

**October 30th:** Pumpkin Carving following Vespers

**November 10th:** Annual Sunday School Teachers & Families sponsored Thanksgiving Potluck Coffee Hour

Father Theodore blessed the Sunday School teachers and students on their first day back (August 25). This year's curriculum is: Epistles, Feasts and Sacraments.

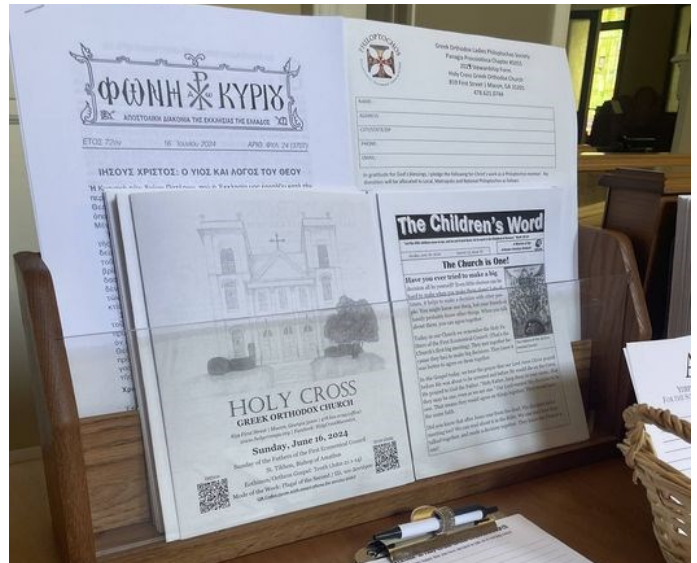
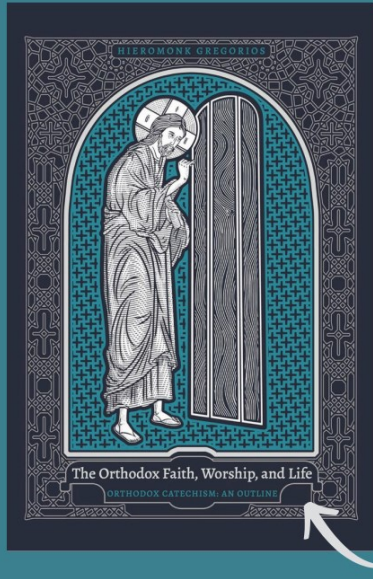


Starting  
Saturday, Sept. 7th:

Intro to  
Orthodoxy  
class:  
"The Basics"

EVERY OTHER  
SATURDAY  
IN THE CHURCH  
LIBRARY

PICK UP YOUR  
COPY IN THE  
HOLY CROSS  
BOOKSTORE!



Information and communicated information - that's a really important thing! As you can see in the photo above, make sure to pick up a bulletin on Sunday when you're at Church. There's a lot of important info in there. Also, make sure you are on our parish's email list - you can sign up quickly here: <https://holycrossga.org/mailling-list/>. You can always find them on our website: <https://holycrossga.org/bulletins/>. Another important place of information and communication is from the Archdiocese and our Metropolis of Atlanta. There is a nice resource on the Archdiocese's website that has email lists that one can sign up for according to one's own needs. I would certainly recommend signing up for the Daily Readings, Orthodox Observer (the newspaper of the Archdiocese), and Metropolis of Atlanta news, at least! Find this all at: <https://www.goarch.org/listserv>



Did you realize that in our bookstore we have many children's books (though, these are great for adults, too) that focus on the Saints and their stories? Here in this photo is an example of some of the Saints we celebrate in July and books about them available in our bookstore. Cristina Lekas does a wonderful job stocking the bookstore with wonderful resources for both children and adults alike. Check it out when you are at the Church for the Divine Services!



You might have noticed a new monitor installed in the "Bridal Parlor" adjoining the narthex a couple of weeks ago. It is a closed-circuit feed which functions solely to stream the current services exactly as they appear on our Facebook livestreams. Whether you are tending to a little one who is crying, in pain after a surgery or procedure and needing a moment to sit comfortably, a nursing mother, or have found yourself in the midst of a coughing spell, we're prayerful that this new tool, used as needed, will help those who need a short reprieve before returning back to the nave for the service. Also, for those with children, don't forget about the books available in this room, as well!



Our Bible Study is marching on nicely, continuing our study of St. Paul's letter to the Romans! We read from Chapter 8 verses, 14-19, where we are reminded that those who are led by the Spirit are heirs with Christ, and our suffering for Christ is nothing compared to His glory. Join us after Divine Liturgy (see calendar for dates)!



Interested in helping out with Sunday School?  
Please contact Presvytera Stacey for more information!





Snapshots from June 12th's Divine Liturgy for the Leave-taking of Great and Holy Pascha as well as the Divine Liturgy and Artoklasia for the Great Feast of the Ascension!

It was a joy to concelebrate with Fr. Zacharias Thornbury of St. Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church in Melbourne, FL, and welcome his family (Godfamily to the Ehmers), for this Great Feast of Holy Pentecost!



On the first Sunday of June, the Archdiocese invites us to commemorate "National Sisterhood of Presvyteres Sunday." Fr. Theodore honored our own Presvytera, Presvytera Stacey, thanking her on behalf of our entire Holy Cross Church family. 'Αξια, she is worthy! May God bless her and all of our presvyteres across the Archdiocese!



Blessed Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord! Fr. Theodore visited and served at Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Marietta for their Name Day Great Vespers and Artoklasia/Blessing of the 5 Loaves on August 6th.



During the Divine Liturgy on August 18th, Fr. Theodore prayed the 50 year memorial prayers for Holy Cross founding member Nick Dermatas and other members of his family. Fr. processed with the visiting Panagia Prousiotissa Icon, and then blessed the Artoklasia/5 Loaves for the Dormition.



If you've been paying attention the last few weeks, you might have noticed that the picture of Fr. Mike had been missing from the wall in the parish house. That's because the picture had been at the calligrapher! Melanie Moye brought it to the attention of the Parish Council that Father Mike is not just a Presbyter (as was listed on the photo), but a Protopresbyter. This is a title of honor given by the Bishop to priests for their many faithful years of service. The Parish Council entrusted Emily Dermatas and the Planning Committee to update the photo with the proper title. Now it's back in its place!



God bless Fr. Mike for his many years of service to Holy Cross. While he can't be with us from Sunday to Sunday anymore for health reasons, we certainly still have his prayers from home for our Holy Cross community that for many years he (and Presvytera Kalliopi) have worked so hard for!

# FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES @ HOLY CROSS

INTERESTED IN ORGANIZING AN OUTING,  
CONTACT PEYTON WARD (20'S/30'S) OR BETH ZOUMBERIS (40'S/50'S)



Our youth (and their parents ) had a great time at our annual Rigby's Water World visit on July 12th!



Nothing beats the crack of the bat and the roar of the crowd. A perfect night for a Holy Cross outing, peanuts, cracker jacks and some good ol' Macon Bacon baseball fun on June 13th!



On July 27th, our 2nd Dinner and a Movie was a success! Afterwards, several parishioners went to Fall Line Brewery to enjoy the evening!



**American Red Cross**  
**BLOOD DRIVE**  
SEPT 25TH & NOV 22ND  
3PM—7PM | PARISH HOUSE  
Give Blood • Give Life

SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
SCHEDULE YOUR  
APPOINTMENT TODAY!  
PLEASE CONSIDER  
SIGNING UP AND  
DONATING BLOOD!



A handful of Not-So-Young-Adults and Social 60+ enjoyed groovy covers from the 60's & 70's at Perry's Heritage Oaks Park outdoor venue on May 31st. It was a casual and relaxing evening with 10/10 weather!

# HOLY SACRAMENTS & SERVICES

## CATECHUMENS



Fr. Theodore blessed seven new Catechumens:  
 Pictured to the left: Jessica (with Theo)  
 Pictured to the right (L-R):  
 Mary Emma, Mary Elizabeth, Sophia,  
 Dakota, Hannah, and Tammy  
 May their journey to Baptism and Chrismation in the Holy Orthodox  
 Church be blessed!

**Congratulations & God Grant You Many Years!**

## FUNERALS



**Ronnie Hortman**  
 February 11, 1964  
 August 19, 2024



**Stephanie Lord**  
 April 6, 1967  
 August 25, 2024

## 50-YEAR MEMORIAL



**Nick Dermatas**  
 July 21, 1921  
 August 18, 1974

**May their  
 memory be  
 eternal!**

**COME & "DIVE"  
 BACK IN!**

**Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church**, along with the AIOPA (Atlanta Inter-Orthodox Parish Association), invite you to our **Name Day** celebration and **3rd Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive!**

**SUNDAY SEPT 15** **\$15 Per Person** (FREE for Clergy, Divers, and Children 8 and under)

For Full Event Details Visit:  
[www.holycrossga.org/cross-dive](http://www.holycrossga.org/cross-dive)

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER!

ALL 9-12TH GRADE BOYS AND GIRLS ELIGIBLE TO DIVE

**17TH ANNUAL CENTRAL GEORGIA GREEK FESTIVAL**  
**OCTOBER 25-27**

Greek Cuisine • Live Music • Dancing • Church Tours  
 PRESENTED BY HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

[HOLYCROSSGA.ORG](http://HOLYCROSSGA.ORG) • DOWNTOWN MACON • 478.621.0744

## Important Dates for the Upcoming Festival

### September:

- 21 ~ Dolmades Prep | 8am | Parish House
- 22 ~ Last Day to order Festival Shirt / Apron

### October:

- 12 ~ Pastry Prep | 9am | Parish House
- 19 ~ Pastry Prep | 9am | Parish House
- 24 ~ Set-up for the Festival | 8am | Church Grounds
- 25 ~ Last minute set-up | 8am | Church Grounds
- Festival Blessing | 10am | Dining Tent
- Festival Begins | 11am -9pm | OPA
- 26 ~ Festival Continues | 11am -9pm | OPA
- 27 ~ Last Day of Festival | 11am -4pm | OPA
- Break Down | 4pm | EVERYONE IS NEEDED!



# PC ON DUTY, EPISTLE READERS & FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE

DATE	PC MEMBER ON DUTY	GREEK READER	ENGLISH READER	FELLOWSHIP HOST
September 1	Maria Spicer	Kostas Iakovidis	René Esquivel	The Lawrence Family
September 8	Jim Lekas	George Saratsiotis	Isabelle Saratsiotis	PC - Scholarship Fundraiser
September 15	John Apostolou	Aleca Hortman	Mike Cantrell	<b>CROSS DIVE</b>
September 22	Natalia Saratsiotis	Pete Tsamolias	James Scarborough	Mandi Saratsiotis
September 29	Sarah Drakopoulos	Helen Troupous	Carter Zoumberis	Helen Vardy
October 6	Melanie Moye	Chad Ridley	Beth Zoumberis	Patsy Zoumberis
October 13	Gray Yates	Kostas Iakovidis	Richard Stewart	<b>NEED SOMEONE</b>
October 20	Natalia Saratsiotis	George Saratsiotis	Cheryl Schwartzkopf	Youth—Scholarship Luncheon
October 27	Jim Lekas	Aleca Hortman	Charles Glotzbach	<b>GREEK FESTIVAL</b>
November 3	John Apostolou	Pete Tsamolias	Caroline Saratsiotis	Kathy Patras
November 10	Maria Spicer	Helen Troupous	Cleo Bennette	Youth Thanksgiving Potluck
November 17	Sarah Drakopoulos	Kostas Iakovidis	Sarah Drakopoulos	GOYA (Maria Murphy)
November 24	Melanie Moye	George Saratsiotis	Chrissy Zdrakas	Maria Bronisevsky (Maria Murphy)

## BIRTHDAYS, NAME DAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

If you would like your birthday, Name Day, and/or anniversary listed in our weekly bulletins or if there is a correction that needs to be made, please email the office and we will add it to our master list. Please email [office@holycrossga.org](mailto:office@holycrossga.org) for any corrections.

### September

9.01 \*Betty Maxwell (B)  
\*Susan Sanders (N)  
\*Paulina & James Stone (A)  
9.03 \*Stacey and Henry Goss (A)  
\*Basil Ehmer (B)  
9.04 \*Presvytera Kalliopi Vastakis (B)  
9.05 \*Bob McCluskey (B)  
9.06 \*Lisa & David Needham (A)  
9.07 \*Kassiani Andros (N)  
9.08 \*Diana-Maria Cazacu (N)  
\*Ana-Maria Filimon (N)  
9.09 \*Joachim Ehmer (N)  
\*Ron & Christine Sproue (A)  
\*Anne Gordy (N)  
9.10 \*Dominic Economopoulos (B)  
9.11 \*Evelynn Zoumberis Neault (N)  
9.12 \*Paula Cacavias (B)  
9.13 \*Mike Nicholas (B)  
\*Greg Spicer (B)  
\*Cornelius Chiorescu (N)  
\*Aristides Paul Vrahiotes (N)  
\*Arti Passias (N)  
9.14 \*Holy Cross GOC (N)  
\*Maggie Bennette (B)  
9.15 \*Christian Morris (B)  
\*Nikitis Zoumberis (N)  
9.17 \*Sofia Lekas (N)  
\*Sofia Danforth (N)  
\*Sophia Zajac (N)  
\*Helen Vardy (B)  
9.20 \*Hannah Brawner (B)  
9.22 \*Kassiani Andros (B)  
\*Hazel Dunbar (B)  
9.23 \*Paulina Stone (N)  
\*Alexia Passias (B)  
\*Dakota McDowell (B)  
9.25 \*Bryan & Juliana Gordy (A)  
9.27 \*Bryan Gordy (B)  
9.28 \*Luke Zoumberis (B)  
9.29 \*Father Theodore Ehmer (B)  
\*Thomas Sotirious Roden (B)

### October

10.02 \*Daniel Filimon (B)  
10.03 \*Mandi Saratsiotis (B)  
\*George Saratsiotis (B)  
\*Mary and Lee Hornbaker (A)  
\*James Morris (B)  
\*Vivi Iakovidis (B)  
10.04 \*Mike Cantrell (B)  
10.08 \*Marina Deskins (B)  
10.10 \*Toula and Pete Tsamolias (A)  
10.11 \*Mandi and Alex Saratsiotis (A)  
\*Melanie Moye (B)  
\*Tony Zoumberis, Sr. (B)  
10.12 \*Marianna Lane (B)  
10.13 \*Maria & Barry Mahoney (A)  
10.16 \*Evelynn Zoumberis (B)  
\*CJ Newberry (N)  
10.17 \*Rodica & George Cazacu (A)  
\*Indie Day Morris (B)  
10.18 \*Lucas Lekas (N)  
\*Luke Zoumberis (N)  
\*Norm Adams (N)  
\*Lukas Esquivel (N)  
10.19 \*Paul & Tammy Vrahiotes (A)  
10.20 \*Chloe & Sean Morris (A)  
10.21 \*Michael Drakopoulos (B)  
\*Juliana Gordy (B)  
10.22 \*Aaron Nicholas Vrahiotes (B)  
10.23 \*Danny McBride (B)  
\*James Scarborough (N)  
10.24 \*Chrissy Zdrakas (B)  
\*Gloria Dixon (B)  
10.25 \*George Cazacu (B)  
10.26 \*David Zoumberis (N)  
\*Dimitris Saratsiotis (N)  
\*James Anthony Bennette (N)  
\*Jimmy Cacavias (B & N)  
\*Toula Tsamolias (N)  
\*Dimitris Karras (N)  
\*Georgia and Dimitris Karras (A)  
\*Paulina Stone (B)  
\*Demetri Kostakis (N)  
\*Washington Morris (N)  
10.28 \*Andreas Tsamolias (B)  
10.29 \*Harry Bennette (B)  
\*Patsy Zoumberis (B)  
\*Hannah Kostakis (B)

10.30 \*Roza Harris (B)  
10.31 \*Tammy Vrahiotes (B)  
\*Nicholas & Pamela Poulos (A)  
\*Mike & Tammi Cantrell (A)

### November

11.01 \*Beth Zoumberis (B)  
\*Milijana Hansee (B)  
11.02 \*Toula Tsamolias (B)  
11.03 \*Eleni Grace Esquivel (B)  
11.04 \*James Stone (B)  
11.08 \*Fr. Michael Vastakis (N)  
\*Sarah Drakopoulos (N)  
\*Michael Drakopoulos (N)  
\*Mike Cantrell (N)  
\*Mikey Cantrell (N)  
\*Mike Nicholas (N)  
\*Angelika Passias (N)  
\*Logan "Michael" Wells (N)  
11.12 \*Marissa Goss (N)  
\*Anthony Nicholas Odom (B)  
11.15 \*Maria Spicer (B)  
\*Barry Mahoney (B)  
11.16 \*Matthew Deskins (N)  
11.18 \*John Paul Syribeys (B)  
11.20 \*Danae Michalakis (B)  
11.24 \*Rodica Cazacu (B)  
11.25 \*Kathy Patras (N)  
\*Irene Ray (N)  
\*Sophia Zajac (B)  
\*Mary Katherine Saratsiotis (N)  
\*Katina Cacavias (N)  
\*Katerina Iakovidis (N)  
11.26 \*Mary Gordy (B)  
\*George Gordy (B)  
11.27 \*Patsy & Nikitis Zoumberis (A)  
11.28 \*Irene and Sam Ray (A)  
\*Mariana Filimon (B)  
\*Tammi Cantrell (B)  
11.29 \*Natalia Saratsiotis (B)  
\*Natalia Lane (B)  
11.30 \*Dana Esquivel (B)  
\*Andrew Adams (N)  
\*Andreas Tsamolias (N)  
\*Daniel Filimon (N)

# September 2024



**Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat**

<p>1 <b>Ecclesiastical New Year</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Greek Dance</p>	<p>2 <b>Labor Day</b> OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 5:30pm Small Paraklesis</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 3:30pm Catechumen's Class / Orthodoxy 201 5:00pm Great Vespers 6:00pm Young Adult Outing</p>
<p>8 <b>Nativity of the Theotokos</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Philoptochos Meeting 12:45pm Bible Study</p>	<p>9 <b>Synaxis of Sts. Joachim &amp; Anna</b> 5:30pm Paraklesis to Sts. Joachim &amp; Anna</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 5:30pm Vespers 6:30 Cross Dive Meeting</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 7:00pm Holy Vigil for the Holy Cross (Vespers, Orthros &amp; Divine Liturgy)</p>	<p>14 <b>Elevation of the Holy Cross</b> <b>Our Parish's Name Day</b></p>
<p>15 <b>Sunday after Holy Cross</b> 8:45am Orthros 10:00am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Luncheon 2:00pm Cross Dive at the Home of Kathy Patras</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 6:45pm Parish Council Meeting</p>	<p>18 5:30pm Small Paraklesis</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 8:00am Dolmades Prep for Festival 3:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class 5:00pm Great Vespers</p>
<p>22 <b>1st Sunday of Luke</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Greek School &amp; Bible Study</p>	<p>23 <b>The Conception of St. John the Baptist</b></p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 3-7pm Blood Drive 5:30pm Great Vespers 6:15pm Adult Study Class</p>	<p>26 <b>St. John the Theologian</b></p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28  <b>Assembly of Bishops Meetings in Atlanta</b></p>
<p>29 <b>2nd Sunday of Luke</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Greek School</p>	<p>30</p>					
<p><b>Assembly of Bishops Meetings in Atlanta</b></p>						
		<p><b>Fasting Guide as prescribed by the Church:</b></p>	<p><i>This color denotes a Strict Fast Day (basically, vegan/dry eating)</i></p>	<p><i>This color denotes an Oil + Wine permissible Fasting day, yet still vegan</i></p>	<p><i>This color denotes a Fish permissible Fasting Day, but without meat and dairy products</i></p>	<p><i>This color denotes a Cheese permissible Fasting Day, but without meat products</i></p>

# October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 5:30pm Small Paraklesis	3	4	5 3:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
		Assembly of Bishops Meetings in Atlanta				
6 <b>3rd Sunday of Luke</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) Honoring of Choir on Church Musician Sunday 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Greek School & Bible Study	7	8	9 5:30pm Vespers 6:15pm Adult Study Class	10	11	12 9:00am Pastry Prep For Festival 5:00pm Great Vespers
13 <b>Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Parish Council Meeting 12:45pm Greek School	14 <b>Columbus Day</b> OFFICE CLOSED	15	16 5:30pm Vespers 6:15pm Adult Study	17	18 <b>St. Luke the Evangelist</b> 5:30pm Divine Liturgy	19 9:00am Pastry Prep For Festival 3:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
20 <b>6th Sunday of Luke</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Greek School & Bible Study	21	22	23	24 9:00am—until Set-up for Festival	25 11am-9pm Festival	26 <b>St. Demetrios</b> 11am-9pm Festival
		Fr. Theodore @ Clergy Meeting Diakonia Center			17th Annual Central Georgia Greek	
27 <b>7th Sunday of Luke</b> 8:00am Orthros 9:00am Divine Liturgy 11am-4pm Festival	28 <b>OXI DAY</b>	29	30 5:30pm Vespers Pumpkin Carving with the Youth following Vespers	31		
Festival						
		<b>Fasting Guide as prescribed by the Church:</b>	<i>This color denotes a Strict Fast Day (basically, vegan/dry eating)</i>	<i>This color denotes an Oil +Wine permissible Fasting day, yet still vegan</i>	<i>This color denotes a Fish permissible Fasting Day, but without meat and dairy products</i>	<i>This color denotes a Cheese permissible Fasting Day, but without meat products</i>

# November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 3:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
3 <b>5th Sunday of Luke</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Greek School & Bible Study	4	5	6 5:30pm Small Paraklesis 6:15pm Adult Study Class	7	8 <b>Archangels Michael &amp; Gabriel</b> 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy	9 <b>St. Nektarios</b> Archangel Michael Awards in Atlanta
10 <b>8th Sunday of Luke</b> <b>St. Arsenios of Cappadoeia</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) Blessing of Veterans 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Greek School	11 <b>Veterans Day</b> OFFICE CLOSED	12 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting	13 5:30pm Vespers 6:15pm Adult Study Class	14 <b>Apostle Philip</b>	15 <b>Start of the Nativity Fast</b>	16 <b>St. Matthew the Evangelist</b> 3:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
17 <b>9th Sunday of Luke</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm General Assembly 12:45pm Greek School	18	19	20 5:30pm Great Vespers	21 <b>Entrance of the Theotokos</b> 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy	22 3-7pm Blood Drive	23 5:00pm Great Vespers
24 <b>13th Sunday of Luke</b> 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Bible Study	25 <b>St. Katherine</b> 5:30pm Divine Liturgy	26	27	28 <b>Thanksgiving</b> OFFICE CLOSED	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30 <b>St. Andrew the First Called Apostle</b>
		<b>Fasting Guide as prescribed by the Church:</b>	<i>This color denotes a Strict Fast Day (basically, vegan/dry eating)</i>	<i>This color denotes an Oil + Wine permissible Fasting day, yet still vegan</i>	<i>This color denotes a Fish permissible Fasting Day, but without meat and dairy products</i>	<i>This color denotes a Cheese permissible Fasting Day, but without meat products</i>

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church  
859 First Street  
Macon, Georgia 31201