



# 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, September 1, 2024

Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year

St. Symeon the Stylite

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Tenth (John 21:1-14)

Mode of the Week: First / Πρώτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

Today, September 1

9:15am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Ecclesiastical New Year  
 Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion  
 40 day blessing of Juliana Gordy and baby Emma  
 Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy  
 12:30pm Greek Dance in the Courtyard

Monday, September 2

Labor Day — Office Closed

Wednesday, September 4

5:30pm Small Paraklesis

Saturday, September 7

3:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class in the Library  
 5:00pm Great Vespers  
 6:00pm Young Adult Outing in Macon

Sunday, September 8

9:15am Orthros  
 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Nativity of the Theotokos  
 Sunday School for the Youth following Holy Communion  
 Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy  
 12:30pm Philoptochos Meeting in the Parish House  
 Youth Car-Wash Fundraiser  
 12:45pm Bible Study

Monday, September 9

5:30pm Paraklesis to Sts. Joachim and Anna (on their Feast Day)

Wednesday, September 11

5:30pm Vespers for the Leave-taking of the Nativity of the Theotokos  
 6:30pm Cross Dive Meeting

Friday, September 13

7:00pm Holy Vigil for the Elevation of the Holy Cross (Great Vespers, Orthros with Procession of the Cross, and Divine Liturgy)

Sunday, September 15

8:45am Orthros  
 10:00am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday after Holy Cross with procession of the Holy Cross  
 Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion  
 Panagiri/Luncheon after the Divine Liturgy  
 2:00pm Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive at Kathy Patras's House

Tuesday, September 17

6:45pm Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 18

5:30pm Small Paraklesis

Saturday, September 21

8:00am Festival Prep: Dolmades  
 3:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class in the Library  
 5:00pm Great Vespers

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (9/8) George Saratsiotis, Isabelle Saratsiotis; (9/15) Aleca Hortman, Mike Cantrell  
**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (9/8) Jim Lekas; (9/15) John Apostolou; (9/22) Natalia Saratsiotis; (9/29) Sarah D  
**Upcoming Ushers:** (9/4) Cristina L.; (9/7) OPEN; (9/8) Cleo B., Cristina L.; (9/9+11) James S.; (9/13) Charles G.  
**Upcoming Video Operators:** (9/8) David Z.; (9/9) Cristina L.; (9/13) Natalia S.; (9/15) Joanna P.; (9/22) Cristina L.  
**Fellowship Hosts:** (9/8) Parish Council; (9/15) Panagiri/Cross Dive; (9/22) Mandi Saratsiotis; (9/29) Helen Vardy

### 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

Μέγας ὁ Κύριος ἡμῶν, καὶ μεγάλη  
ἡ ἰσχὺς αὐτοῦ.

Στίχ. Αἰνεῖτε τὸν Κύριον, ὅτι  
ἀγαθὸς Κύριος.

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Πρὸς Τιμόθεον Α' Ἐπιστολῆς  
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, παρακαλῶ  
πρῶτον πάντων ποιῆσθαι  
δεήσεις, προσευχάς, ἐντεύξεις,  
εὐχαριστίας, ὑπὲρ πάντων  
ἀνθρώπων, ὑπὲρ βασιλέων καὶ  
πάντων τῶν ἐν ὑπεροχῇ ὄντων,  
ἵνα ἡρεμον καὶ ἡσύχιον βίον  
διάγωμεν ἐν πάσῃ εὐσεβείᾳ καὶ  
σεμνότητι. τοῦτο γὰρ καλὸν καὶ  
ἀπόδεκτον ἐνώπιον τοῦ σωτῆρος  
ἡμῶν Θεοῦ, ὃς πάντας  
ἀνθρώπους θέλει σωθῆναι καὶ εἰς  
ἐπίγνωσιν ἀληθείας ἐλθεῖν. εἷς  
γὰρ Θεός, εἷς καὶ μεσίτης Θεοῦ  
καὶ ἀνθρώπων, ἄνθρωπος  
Χριστὸς Ἰησοῦς, ὁ δὸς ἑαυτὸν  
ἀντίλυτρον ὑπὲρ πάντων, τὸ  
μαρτύριον καιροῖς ἰδίους, εἰς ὃ  
ἐτέθη ἐγὼ κήρυξ καὶ  
ἀπόστολος, — ἀλήθειαν λέγω ἐν  
Χριστῷ, οὐ ψεύδομαι, —  
διδάσκαλος ἐθνῶν ἐν πίστει καὶ  
ἀληθείᾳ.

Great is our Lord, and great is His  
strength.

Verse: Praise the Lord, for the  
Lord is good. (Psalm 146, 134)

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The reading is from Paul's First  
Letter to Timothy. (2:1-7)

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Timothy, my son, first of all I urge  
that supplications, prayers,  
intercessions, and thanksgivings  
be made for all men, for kings and  
all who are in high positions, that  
we may lead a quiet and peaceable  
life, godly and respectful in every  
way. This is good, and it is  
acceptable in the sight of God our  
Savior, who desires all men to be  
saved and to come to the  
knowledge of the truth. For there  
is one God, and there is one  
mediator between God and men,  
the man Christ Jesus, who gave  
himself as a ransom for all, the  
testimony to which was borne at  
the proper time. For this I was  
appointed a preacher and apostle (I  
am telling the truth in Christ, I am  
not lying), a teacher of the  
Gentiles in faith and truth.

## The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Luke (4:16-22)

Ecclesiastical New Year

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἦλθεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς  
εἰς τὴν Ναζαρέτ, οὗ ἦν  
τεθραμμένος, καὶ εἰσῆλθε κατὰ τὸ  
εἰωθὸς αὐτῷ ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῶν  
σαββάτων εἰς τὴν συναγωγὴν, καὶ  
ἀνέστη ἀναγνῶναι. καὶ ἐπεδόθη  
αὐτῷ βιβλίον Ἡσαίου τοῦ  
προφήτου, καὶ ἀναπτύξας τὸ  
βιβλίον εὔρε τὸν τόπον οὗ ἦν  
γεγραμμένον· Πνεῦμα Κυρίου ἐπ'  
ἐμέ, οὗ εἵνεκεν ἔχρισέ με,  
εὐαγγελίσασθαι πτωχοῖς  
ἀπέσταλκέ με, ἰάσασθαι τοὺς  
συντετριμμένους τὴν καρδίαν,  
κηρῦξαι αἰχμαλώτοις ἄφεςιν καὶ  
τυφλοῖς ἀνάβλεψιν, ἀποστεῖλαι  
τεθραυσμένους ἐν ἀφέσει,  
κηρῦξαι ἐνιαυτὸν Κυρίου δεκτόν.  
καὶ πτύξας τὸ βιβλίον ἀποδοὺς τῷ  
ὑπηρέτῃ ἐκάθισε· καὶ πάντων ἐν  
τῇ συναγωγῇ οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ ἦσαν  
ἀτενίζοντες αὐτῷ. ἤρξατο δὲ  
λέγειν πρὸς αὐτοὺς ὅτι σήμερον  
πεπλήρωται ἡ γραφὴ αὕτη ἐν τοῖς  
ὠσίν ὑμῶν. καὶ πάντες  
ἐμαρτύρουν αὐτῷ καὶ ἐθαύμαζον  
ἐπὶ τοῖς λόγοις τῆς χάριτος τοῖς  
ἐκπορευομένοις ἐκ τοῦ στόματος  
αὐτοῦ.

At that time, Jesus came to  
Nazareth, where he had been  
brought up; and he went to the  
synagogue, as his custom was,  
on the sabbath day. And he  
stood up to read; and there was  
given to him the book of the  
prophet Isaiah. He opened the  
book and found the place  
where it was written, "The  
Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me to  
preach good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim  
release to the captives and  
recovering of sight to the blind,  
to set at liberty those who are  
oppressed, to proclaim the  
acceptable year of the Lord."  
And he closed the book, and  
gave it back to the attendant,  
and sat down; and the eyes of  
all in the synagogue were fixed  
on him. And he began to say to  
them, "Today this scripture has  
been fulfilled in your hearing."  
And all spoke well of him, and  
wondered at the gracious  
words which proceeded out of  
his mouth.

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## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ehmer

Προϊστάμενος/Presiding Priest

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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 September 1, 2024

**Ushers on Duty:** Cleo Bennette, Sarah Drakopoulos

**Video:** Cleo B., Sarah D. **Altar Servers:** All Adult/Youth Servers

**Epistle Readers:** Aleca Hortman (Greek); Rene Esquivel (English)

**Fellowship Host (Thank You!):** Nichole Lawrence

**PC Member On-Duty:** Maria Spicer



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year

*It should be noted that to the present day, the Church has always celebrated the beginning of the New Year on September 1. The service of the Menaion for January 1 is for our Lord's Circumcision and for the memorial of Saint Basil the Great, without any mention of its being the beginning of a new year. Since the completion of each year takes place, as it were, with the harvest and gathering of the crops into storehouses, and we begin anew from henceforth the sowing of seed in the earth for the production of future crops, September is considered the beginning of the New Year. The Church also keeps festival this day, beseeching God for fair weather, seasonable rains, and an abundance of the fruits of the earth. The Holy Scriptures (Lev. 23:24-5 and Num. 29:1-2) also testify that the people of Israel celebrated the feast of the Blowing of the Trumpets on this day, offering hymns of thanksgiving. In addition to all the aforesaid, on this feast we also commemorate our Savior's entry into the synagogue in Nazareth, where He was given the book of the Prophet Isaiah to read, and He opened it and found the place where it is written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, for which cause He hath anointed Me..." (Luke 4:16-30).*

+ Our Devout Father Symeon the Stylite (+459)

+ The Devout St. Martha, mother of St. Symeon; the devout St. Evanthia; and also the repose of Joshua, son of Nun

+ The Holy Forty Women Virgin Martyrs and also their teacher, the Deacon Ammon (+321-323)

+ The Holy Martyrs and Siblings Evodus, Callista, and Hermogenes (+309)

+ Our Devout Father Meletios the New of Mt. Myoupolis (+1105)

+ The Holy New Martyr Angelis (+1680)

*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 (Του λίθου σφραγισθέντος, First Mode):*

The stone having been sealed by the Pharisees and chief priests, \* and Your all-immaculate body being guarded by soldiers, \* You rose on the third day, O Lord and Savior, granting life unto the world. \* Then the powers of the heavens cried out to You, O Giver of Life, and shouted, \* "Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! \* Glory to Your eternal rule! \* Glory to Your plan for saving us, only benevolent God!" (Sung before and after the Small Entrance, Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 98)

- *Hymn of the New Year (Ο πάσης δημιουργός, Second Mode):*

O Fashioner of all creation, who made seasons and years by Your own authority, bless the crown of the year with Your goodness, O Lord, and preserve our rulers and Your city in peace, at the intercession of the Theotokos, and save us.

- *Hymn of the Theotokos (Χαίρε κεχαριτωμένη, Grave Mode):*

Rejoice, Maiden full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos; a haven and protection are you for all of mankind. From you did the Redeemer of the world become incarnate, only you are both a Mother and a Virgin. O Lady ever blessed and ever filled with glory, intercede with Christ God, beseeching Him to grant peace to the universe.

- *Hymn of St. Symeon (Υπομονής στέλος γέγονας, First Mode):*

You became a pillar of patience, O devout one, emulating the forefathers, Job in his sufferings and Joseph in his temptations, and the manner of the bodiless, though you were still in body. O devout father Symeon, intercede with Christ God, to save our souls.

- *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 New Year (Ο των αιώνων, Fourth Mode):*

You, the Creator and the Lord of the ages, O God of all, truly transcending all essence, we earnestly entreat, that You will bless the year, and, O tender-loving Lord, in Your infinite mercy, only Master, save us all who worship and serve You, O our Redeemer, and who cry with fear, "For all Your servants, make fruitful the coming year."

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

### This Week's Daily

**Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:**

**Sunday, September 1: Ecclesiastical New Year—No Fasting:** John 21: 1-14; I Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 4:16-22

**Monday, September 2—No Fasting:** Romans 8:28-39; Matthew 23:13-22

**Tuesday, September 3—No Fasting:** II Corinthians 2:14-17, 3:1-3; Matthew 23:23-28

**Wednesday, September 4—Strict Fast:** II Corinthians 3:4-11; Matthew 23:29-39

**Thursday, September 5: No Fasting:** II Corinthians 4:1-12; Matthew 23:29-39

**Friday, September 6: Miracle of Archangel Michael at Colossae—Wine+Oil:** Hebrews 2:2-10; Luke 10:16-21

**Saturday, September 7—No Fasting:** I Corinthians 2:6-9; 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, Jeannie, Dawn, Kenneth, Mary, Kay, Helen, Nikki, Mena, Austin, Kiley, Garrett, Carolina, Maria, Laurie, Lindsey, Randy, Marina, Effie, Christina, Ashley, Foster, Brian, Bessie, Katerina, Link, Virginia, Karl, Colin, Mitch, Rinne, Michael, Christian, Paul, Lucas, Leo

### Prayers for those recently reposed:

Fotini (+July 25), Matt (+July 28), Bill (+August 6), Keath (+August 14), Niko (+August 17), Ronnie (+August 18), Stephanie (+August 25), Michael (+August 27)

### Prayers for expecting mothers:

Katina B., Julia E., Schyler J.

### 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:

Adam, 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. Isaac the Syrian** on why we strive in the Christian life: "God requires not the doing of the commandments for their own sake, but the correction of the soul, for whose sake He established the commandments."

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

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

September 1: Susan Sanders

September 7: Kassiani Andros

**Birthdays—Happy Birthday!**

September 1: Betty Maxwell

September 3: Basil Ehmer

September 4: Presvytera Kalliopi Vastakis

September 5: Bob McCluskey

**Anniversaries—Congratulations!**

September 1: Paulina and James Stone

September 3: Stacey and Henry Goss

September 6: Lisa and David Needham

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

### Announcements:

\* **Congratulations** to Rob and Bobbie Ice for the birth of their baby boy Orion Nicholas who was born on August 27!

\* Please be sure to save the date for the **3<sup>rd</sup> 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. We will be hosting our Orthodox brothers and sisters from other parishes as well—we need all of our faithful to attend! An email has been sent that contains more information and registration/ticket details— **please signup today!**

\* **FESTIVAL INFO: Raffle tickets:** We are asking each family to sell or purchase a minimum of five books. Contact Natalia to get your raffle tickets today! **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:** Dolmades Prep (Saturday, September 21st) and Pastry Prep (Saturday, October 12th and Saturday, October 19th). Festival Apparel is here, please see the link emailed or scan the QR code in the bookstore. **Apparel:** We are offering 4 different colors again this year: white, sky blue, royal and navy (short and long sleeves). We also have aprons in all the colors except sky blue. Samples of the shirt colors are located in the bookstore. Visit our webpage to order online: holycrossga.org. Deadline for apparel order is September 15th.

\* **Philoptochos News:** The next **Philoptochos Meeting** will be taking place after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, September 8.



\* An important email was sent a few weeks ago 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/Parish House. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask Emily Dermatas.

\* The next **Young Adult Outing** will be taking place this Saturday, September 7 at 6:00pm at Fall Line with board games and fellowship! Come for Vespers at 5:00 and stay for the outing afterwards!

\* The Youth are hosting a **car wash** during the Philoptochos meeting after coffee hour next Sunday, September 8. Deliver your dirty cars to the courtyard and receive them back squeaky clean. Donations will be accepted to support future youth activities. Hope to see you there!