



# 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 15, 2024

Sunday after the Holy Cross

St. Nikitas the Great Martyr

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: First (Matthew 28:16-20)

Mode of the Week: Third / Τρίτος

**QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)**

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, September 15</i>	8:45am Orthros 10:00am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday after Holy Cross with procession of the Holy Cross at the end of the Liturgy Panagiri/Luncheon after the Divine Liturgy 2:00pm Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive at Kathy Patras's House
<i>Wednesday, September 18</i>	5:30pm Paraklesis to the Holy and Life-Giving Cross 6:45pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Saturday, September 21</i>	8:00am Festival Prep: Dolmades 3:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class in the Library/Zoom 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, September 22</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Memorial Service for departed members of the Panagakos family at the end of the Liturgy Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy Youth Greek School/Adult Bible Study 12:45pm Youth Greek School/Adult Bible Study
<i>Tuesday, September 24</i>	6:30pm Choir Fellowship in the Parish House
<i>Wednesday, September 25</i>	3:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive in the Parish House (until 7:00pm) 5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of St. John the Theologian 7:00pm Cross Dive Follow-up Meeting
<i>Sunday, September 29</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after Liturgy 12:45pm Adult Greek School
<i>Wednesday, October 2</i>	5:30pm Small Paraklesis 6:30pm Adult Study Class
<i>Saturday, October 5</i>	3:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class in the Library/Zoom 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, October 6</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Honoring of Choir/Chanters on Church Musician Sunday Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:45pm Youth Greek School/Adult Bible Study

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (9/22) Pete Tsamolias, James Scarborough; (9/29) Helen Vardy, Carter Zoumberis  
**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (9/22) Natalia Saratsiotis; (9/29) Sarah Drakopoulos; (10/6) Melanie Moye  
**Upcoming Ushers:** (9/18) James S.; (9/21) David Z.; (9/22) Sarah P.; (9/25) James S.; (9/29) Cristina+Jim L.  
**Upcoming Video Operators:** (9/22) Cristina L.; (9/29) Natalia S.; (10/6) Gray Y. David N.; (10/13) Natalia S.  
**Fellowship Hosts:** (9/22) Mandi Saratsiotis; (9/29) Helen Vardy; (10/6) Patsy Zoumberis; (10/13) 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

Ψάλατε τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῶν, ψάλατε,  
ψάλατε τῷ βασιλεῖ ἡμῶν, ψάλατε.  
Στίχ. Πάντα τὰ ἔθνη κροτήσατε  
χειρας, ἀλαλάξατε τῷ Θεῷ ἐν  
φωνῇ ἀγαλλιάσεως.

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Πρὸς Γαλάτας Ἐπιστολῆς  
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

+++

Ἀδελφοί, εἰδότες ὅτι οὐ δικαιοῦται  
ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ἔργων νόμου ἐὰν μὴ  
διὰ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ  
ἡμεῖς εἰς Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν  
ἐπιστεύσαμεν, ἵνα δικαιωθῶμεν ἐκ  
πίστεως Χριστοῦ καὶ οὐκ ἐξ  
ἔργων νόμου, διότι οὐ  
δικαιωθήσεται ἐξ ἔργων νόμου  
πᾶσα σὰρξ. εἰ δὲ ζητοῦντες  
δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ εὐρέθημεν  
καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοί, ἄρα  
Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος; μὴ  
γένοιτο. εἰ γὰρ ἂ κατέλυσα ταῦτα  
πάλιν οἰκοδομῶ, παραβάτην  
ἐμαυτὸν συνίστημι. ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ  
νόμου νόμῳ ἀπέθανον, ἵνα Θεῷ  
ζῆσω. Χριστῷ συνεσταύρωμαι· ζῶ  
δὲ οὐκέτι ἐγώ, ζῆ δὲ ἐν ἐμοὶ  
Χριστός· ὃ δὲ νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν  
πίστει ζῶ τῇ τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ  
τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ  
παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

*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)*

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*The reading is from Paul's Letter  
to the Galatians. (2:16-20)*

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Brethren, you know that a man is  
not justified by works of the law  
but through faith in Jesus Christ,  
even we have believed in Christ  
Jesus, in order to be justified by  
faith in Christ, and not by works of  
the law, because by works of the  
law shall no one be justified. But  
if, in our endeavor to be justified  
in Christ, we ourselves were found  
to be sinners, is Christ then an  
agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I  
build up again those things which  
I tore down, then I prove myself a  
transgressor. For I through the  
law died to the law, that I might  
live to God. I have been crucified  
with Christ; it is no longer I who  
live, but Christ who lives in me;  
and the life I now live in the flesh I  
live by faith in the Son of God,  
who loved me and gave himself for  
me.

## The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Mark (8:34-38, 9:1)

Sunday after the Holy Cross

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· ὅστις θέλει  
ὀπίσω μου ἀκολουθεῖν,  
ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἀράτω  
τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ  
ἀκολουθείτω μοι. ὃς γὰρ ἂν θέλη  
τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ σῶσαι,  
ἀπολέσει αὐτήν· ὃς δ' ἂν  
ἀπολέσῃ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν  
ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ καὶ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου,  
οὗτος σώσει αὐτήν. τί γὰρ  
ὠφελήσει ἄνθρωπον ἐὰν  
κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον, καὶ  
ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί  
δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα  
τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ; ὃς γὰρ ἐὰν  
ἐπαισχυνθῇ με καὶ τοὺς ἐμοὺς  
λόγους ἐν τῇ γενεᾷ ταύτῃ τῇ  
μοιχαλίδι καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ, καὶ ὁ  
υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου  
ἐπαισχυνθήσεται αὐτὸν ὅταν  
ἔλθῃ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ πατρὸς  
αὐτοῦ μετὰ τῶν ἀγγέλων τῶν  
ἁγίων. Καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν  
λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι εἰσὶ τινες τῶν ὧδε  
ἑστηκότων, οἵτινες οὐ μὴ  
γεύσονται θανάτου ἕως ἂν ἴδωσι  
τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ  
ἐληλυθυῖαν ἐν δυνάμει.

The Lord said: "If anyone  
wishes to come after me, let  
him deny himself and take  
up his cross and follow me.  
For whoever would save his  
life will lose it; and whoever  
loses his life for my sake  
and the gospel's will save it.  
For what does it profit a  
man, to gain the whole  
world and forfeit his life?  
For what can a man give in  
return for his life? For  
whoever is ashamed of me  
and my words in this  
adulterous and sinful  
generation, of him will the  
Son of man also be  
ashamed, when he comes in  
the glory of his Father with  
the holy angels." And he  
said to them, "Truly, I say  
to you, there are some  
standing here who will not  
taste death before they see  
the kingdom of God come  
with power."

# HOLY CROSS

## 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 15, 2024

Ushers on Duty: Sarah Drakopoulos, Maria Spicer

Video: Joanna P.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Aleca Hortman (Greek); Mike Cantrell (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Cross Dive Luncheon

PC Member On-Duty: John Apostolou



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ After-feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross

*This Great Feast was celebrated yesterday, September 14. The after-feast lasts until September 21. We will process the Holy Cross at the end of the Liturgy today.*

+ The Holy Great Martyr Nikitas (+372)

*This Saint was of high birth among the Goths beyond the Danube River. He was taken by Athanaric, pagan ruler of the Goths, and after being tortured, was burned to death for his confession of Christ. According to some, this took place during the reign of Saint Constantine the Great; according to others, under the Emperor Gratian.*

+ Our Devout Father Philotheos the Presbyter and Wonder-worker of Asia Minor (+10<sup>th</sup> Century)

+ Our Devout Father Porphyrios the Mime of Caesarea (+361)

+ The Holy Martyr Maximos (+305)

+ The Holy Two Maiden Martyrs

+ Our Father among the Saints, Symeon, Archbishop of Thessaloniki (+1429)

+ Our Father among the Saints, Bessarion, Archbishop of Larissa (+1499)

+ Our Father among the Saints, Joseph the New, Metropolitan of Timișoara, Romania (+1656)

+ Our Devout Father Gerasimos, founder of the Holy Trinity Monastery in Zagora (+1740)

+ The Holy New Martyr John the Cretan (+1811)

*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 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. (Sung before the Small Entrance and after the Hymn of the Resurrection)

- *Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Ευφραίνέσθω 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 after the Small Entrance, Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 106)

- *The Kontakion of the Holy Cross (Ο υψωθείς εν τω Σταυρώ, Fourth Mode):*

You who were lifted on the cross voluntarily, O Christ our God, bestow Your tender compassions upon Your new community to which You gave Your name. Cause our faithful emperors to be glad in Your power, granting them the victories against their adversaries. And for an ally, Lord, may they have You, peace as their armor, the trophy invincible. (Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 232)

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

### This Week's Daily

**Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:**

**Sunday, September 15—No Fasting:** Matthew 28:16-20; Galatians 2:16-20; Mark 8:34-38, 9:1

**Monday, September 16—No Fasting:** II Corinthians 6:1-10; Luke 7:36-50

**Tuesday, September 17—No Fasting:** II Corinthians 8:16-24, 9:1-5; Luke 3:23-28, 4:1

**Wednesday, September 18—Strict Fast:** II Corinthians 9:12-15, 10:1-7; Luke 4:1-15

**Thursday, September 19—No Fasting:** II Corinthians 10:7-18; Luke 4:16-22

**Friday, September 20—Wine+Oil:** Ephesians 6:10-17; Luke 21:12-19

**Saturday, September 21—No Fasting:** I Corinthians 1:26-31, 2:1-5; John 8:21-30

### 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:

Bill (+August 6), Keath (+August 14), Niko (+August 17), Ronnie (+August 18), Stephanie (+August 25), Michael (+August 27), Cristina (+September 4), Greg (+September 7)

### 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, Josh, 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. Symeon of Thessaloniki** (+1429) whom we honor today, speaking of some of the reasons we light candles in our Holy Churches: "As the burning candle illuminates the darkness, so must the light of Christ within us shine before men that God's name be glorified. And as the candle gives its own light to illuminate a man in the darkness, so also must the light of the virtues, the light of love and peace, characterize a Christian. The wax that melts symbolizes the flame of our love for our fellow men."

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

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

September 15: Nikitis Zoumberis

September 17: Sofia Danforth, Sofia Lekas, Sophia Zajac

### Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

September 15: Christian Morris

September 20: Hannah Bronner

### 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:

\* **TODAY is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive!** We thank Fr. Christos Mars, of the Annunciation Cathedral in Atlanta and the AIOPA (Atlanta Inter-Orthodox Parish Association) President for leading our Divine Services today. We also welcome Fr. Michael Tishel of Holy Transfiguration in Marietta and Dn. George Cassis of Sts. Raphael, Nicholas, and Irene in Cumming. We also thank Chrysostom Griscom for leading the chanting this weekend! After the Liturgy, we will have a Panagiri/Luncheon next door and then proceed to Kathye Patras's House (2225 Lake Haven Court, Lizella, 31052) for the Cross Dive! Even if you haven't registered, we want you to join us! *May God bless our Holy Cross parish as we celebrate our name day this weekend!*

\* **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 TODAY, September 15th.

\* 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.

\* From September 28 to October 2, the Atlanta metropolitan area Orthodox Churches will be hosting the meetings of the **Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops**. The Assembly consists of all of the canonical Orthodox Christian bishops of all the jurisdictions in the United States, headed by Archbishop Elpidophoros. Our parish is invited to participate in the following events: Great Vespers at St. Elias Antiochian Church in Atlanta on Saturday, the Orthros/Liturgy at the Annunciation Cathedral on Sunday (in case you don't attend Liturgy here at our parish) and a Cultural Event on Sunday afternoon at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta. Please see the flyer in the Parish House for more details!

