



# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

### Sunday, December 1, 2024

Fourteenth Sunday of Luke  
 The Holy Prophet Nahum

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: First (Matthew 28:16-20)  
 Mode of the Week: Plagal of the Second/Πλ. του Δευτέρου

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, December 1</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion 7-Year Memorial Service for Ion Savu Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:45pm Bible Study/Youth Greek School
<i>Tuesday, December 3</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of Sts. Barbara and John of Damascus
<i>Wednesday, December 4</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of St. Savas the Sanctified 6:30pm Festival Chairmen Meeting in the Parish House
<i>Friday, December 6</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker
<i>Saturday, December 7</i>	3:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, December 8</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion 1-Year Memorial for Bob Dunbar 3-Year Memorial for Eugenia Ghigeanu and 1-Year Memorial for Marin Cazacu 6-Month Memorial for Despina Karpouza 2025 Stewardship Blessing at the end of the Liturgy Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:00pm Parish Council Election in the Parish House 12:45pm Adult Greek School
<i>Wednesday, December 11</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers and Divine Liturgy on the eve of the Feast of St. Spyridon of Trimythous
<i>Friday, December 13</i>	6:30pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Saturday, December 14</i>	9:00am Philoptochos Pastry Tray Pick-Up (through 11:00am) 4:00pm Blessing of the Pets at the Feast of St. Modestos of Jerusalem 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, December 15</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion 1-Year Memorial for Eve McElrath Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:45pm Bible Study/Youth Greek School 2:00pm Philoptochos Christmas Social

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (12/8) George Saratsiotis, Isabelle Saratsiotis; (12/15) Aleca Hortman; Mike Cantrell  
**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (12/8) Natalia Saratsiotis; (12/15) Jim Lekas; (12/22) John Apostolou  
**Upcoming Ushers:** (12/4) James S.; (12/6) Eleni+Norm A.; (12/7) James S.; (12/8) Cleo B., Jim L.; (12/11) Cristina L.  
**Upcoming Video Operators:** (12/6) Cristina L.; (12/8) David Z.; (12/15) Natalia S.; (12/22) Joanna P.; (12/24) David Z.  
**Fellowship Hosts:** (12/8) Rodica Cazacu; (12/15) Jay McElrath; (12/22) Christine+Ron Sprouse; (12/29) Nichole L.

### 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

*Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου καὶ  
εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου.*

*Στίχ. Πρὸς σέ, Κύριε, κεκράζομαι,  
ὁ Θεός μου.*

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*Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς  
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.*

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Ἀδελφοί, ὁ Θεὸς πλούσιος ὢν ἐν ἐλέει, διὰ τὴν πολλὴν ἀγάπην αὐτοῦ ἦν ἡγάπησεν ἡμᾶς, καὶ ὄντας ἡμᾶς νεκροὺς τοῖς παραπτώμασι συνεζωοποίησε τῷ Χριστῷ· χάριτί ἐστε σεσωσμένοι· καὶ συνήγειρε καὶ συνεκάθισεν ἐν τοῖς ἐπουρανίοις ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ, ἵνα ἐνδείξηται ἐν τοῖς αἰῶσι τοῖς ἐπερχομένοις τὸν ὑπερβάλλοντα πλοῦτον τῆς χάριτος αὐτοῦ ἐν χρηστότητι ἐφ' ἡμᾶς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ. τῇ γὰρ χάριτί ἐστε σεσωσμένοι διὰ τῆς πίστεως· καὶ τοῦτο οὐκ ἐξ ὑμῶν, Θεοῦ τὸ δῶρον, οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων, ἵνα μή τις καυχῆσθαι. αὐτοῦ γὰρ ἐσμεν ποίημα, κτισθέντες ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ ἐπὶ ἔργοις ἀγαθοῖς, οἷς προητοίμασεν ὁ Θεὸς ἵνα ἐν αὐτοῖς περιπατήσωμεν.

*O Lord, save Your people, and  
bless Your inheritance.*

*Verse: To You, O Lord, I cry; O  
my God. (Psalm 27)*

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*The reading is from Paul's  
Letter to the Ephesians.*

*(2:4-10)*

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Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God — not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

## The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Luke (18:35-43)

Fourteenth Sunday of Luke

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐγένετο ἐν τῷ ἐγγίξειν τὸν Ἰησοῦν εἰς Ἰεριχὼ τυφλὸς τις ἐκάθητο παρὰ τὴν ὁδὸν προσαιτῶν· ἀκούσας δὲ ὄχλου διαπορευομένου ἐπυνθάνετο τί εἶη ταῦτα. ἀπήγγειλαν δὲ αὐτῷ ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ὁ Ναζωραῖος παρέρχεται. καὶ ἐβόησε λέγων· Ἰησοῦ υἱὲ Δαυίδ, ἐλέησόν με· καὶ οἱ προάγοντες ἐπετίμων αὐτῷ ἵνα σιωπήσῃ· αὐτὸς δὲ πολλῷ μᾶλλον ἔκραζεν· υἱὲ Δαυίδ, ἐλέησόν με. σταθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐκέλευσεν αὐτὸν ἀχθῆναι πρὸς αὐτόν. ἐγγίσαντος δὲ αὐτοῦ ἐπηρώτησεν αὐτὸν λέγων· τί σοι θέλεις ποιῆσω; ὁ δὲ εἶπε· Κύριε, ἵνα ἀναβλέψω. καὶ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἀνάβλεψον· ἡ πίστις σου σέσωκέ σε. καὶ παραχρῆμα ἀνέβλεψε, καὶ ἠκολούθει αὐτῷ δοξάζων τὸν Θεόν· καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ἰδὼν ἔδωκεν αἶνον τῷ Θεῷ.

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

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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 December 1, 2024

**Ushers on Duty:** John Apostolou, Charles Glotzbach

**Video:** Cristina L.

**Altar Servers:** All Adult/Youth Servers

**Epistle Readers:** Kostas Iakovidis (Greek); Rene Esquivel (English)

**Fellowship Host (Thank You!):** Mariana Filimon

**PC Member On-Duty:** Gray Yates



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

+ The Holy Prophet Nahum (Ναούμ) (+7<sup>th</sup> c. BC)

*The Prophet Nahum had Elkesaeus (Elkosh) as his homeland, and was from the tribe of Symeon; he is seventh in order among the twelve Minor Prophets He prophesied during the time of Hezekias, after the destruction of Samaria (721 years before Christ), but before the ten tribes were taken into captivity; he prophesied against Nineveh, the capital of Assyria. His name means "comforter." His book of prophecy is divided into three chapters.*

+ Our Devout Father Philaret (Φιλάρετος) the Merciful (+789)

*Saint Philaret a native of Paphlagonia in Asia Minor, was a virtuous Christian layman who lived in lawful wedlock and raised a family. He was most renowned for his generosity to all in need. With the permission of God, in a short space of time he lost the greater part of his possessions to theft and other misfortunes and was left with nothing but his family, his home, and a little livestock. Yet he continued to give generously to the poor despite the faint-heartedness of his family, who reproached him for giving alms when they were in need themselves; and God, seeing his faith, restored his prosperity to him many times over. He foresaw the day of his death, and reposed in an odour of sanctity in Constantinople in 789.*

+ The Holy Martyr Ananias (Ανανίας) the Persian (+345)

+ Our Devout Father Anthony (Αντώνιος) the New (+865)

+ Our Father among the Saints Onisimos (Ονήσιμος), Archbishop of Ephesus (+107)

+ Our Father among the Saints Theocletos (Θεόκλητος), Archbishop of Sparta and Lakedaemonia (+870)

+ Our Fathers among the Saints Ananias (Ανανίας) and Solochon (Σολόχων), Archbishops of Ephesus

*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 (Αγγλικά δυνάμεις), Plagal Second Mode):*

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary, who was seeking Your immaculate body. Unassailed by Hades, You divested it of spoils. Then You met the Virgin. You granted life. O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You! (*Sung before and after the Small Entrance, Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 118*)

- *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.

- *Kontakion of the Memorial Service (Μνήσθητι, Κύριε, Plagal 4<sup>th</sup> Mode):*

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who has power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

- *The Kontakion of the Preparation for the Nativity of Christ, Η Παρθένος σήμερα, Third Mode):*

On this day the Virgin Maid goes to the grotto to give birth to the pre-eternal Word in an ineffable manner. Dance for joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing. Glorify along with Angels and with the shepherds Him who willed that He appear as a newborn Child, the pre-eternal God. (*Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 240*)

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

### This Week's Daily

**Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:**

**Sunday, December 1—Fish+Wine+Oil:** Matthew 28:16-20; Ephesians 2:4-10; Luke 18:35-43

**Monday, December 2—Fish+Wine+Oil:** I Thessalonians 2:20-3:8; Luke 20:27-44

**Tuesday, December 3—Fish+Wine+Oil:** I Thessalonians 3:8-13; Luke 21:21-19

**Wednesday, December 4: St. Barbara and St. John of Damascus—Wine+Oil:** Matthew 25:1-13; Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-5; Mark 5:24-34

**Thursday, December 5: St. Savas— Fish+Wine+Oil:** Luke 6:17-23; Galatians 5:22-26, 6:1-2; Matthew 11:27-30

**Friday, December 6: St. Nicholas—Wine+Oil:** John 10:1-9; Hebrews 13:17-21; Luke 6:17-23

**Saturday, December 7—Fish+Wine+Oil:** II Corinthians 11:1-6; Luke 13:19-29

### Prayer Requests:

Metropolitan Alexios, Fr. Symeon (mission priest supported by our parish), Fr. Mike, Panteleimon, Michael, Kassiani, Dimitrios, Georgia, Pavlos, Maria, Betty, Irene, Valerie, Dianna, Jeannie, Dawn, Kenneth, Mary, Kay, Helen, Nikki, Austin, Kiley, Garrett, Carolina, Maria, Laurie, Lindsey, Randy, Marina, Effie, Christina, Ashley, Brian, Bessie, Katerina, Link, Virginia, Karl, Colin, Mitch, Rinne, Michael, Christian, Paul, Lucas, Leo, Barry, Nicholas, Jude, Kevin, Andy, Justin, Marianna, George, Natalia, Natalia, Karen, Vera

### Prayers for those recently reposed:

Nicholas (+November 3), Jonathan (+November 3), Robert (+November 7), Presvytera Kalliopi (+November 24)

### 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:

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

### Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

**St. John of Damascus (+749)**, commemorated this week on December 4 with a word of truth: "Wherefore, brethren, let us plant ourselves upon the rock of faith and the Tradition of the Church, removing not the landmarks set by our holy fathers, nor giving room to those who are anxious to introduce novelties and to undermine the structure of God's holy ecumenical and apostolic Church. For if everyone were allowed a free hand, little by little the entire Body of the Church would be destroyed."

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

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

December 4: Erick Schwartzkopf

December 6: Nick Dermatas, Nicholas Poulos, Aaron Nicholas Vrahiotes

### Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

December 3: Anna Kallergis

December 5: Cleo Bennette, Stacey Goss

December 6: George Stefanis, Steven Paul Syribeys, Gray Yates

December 7: Ray Vardy

### Anniversaries—Congratulations!

December 4: Paul and Alyssa Syribeys

(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 as their son Orion Nicholas was baptized yesterday. His Godmother is Christina Danforth. May God bless Orion, his family, and his Godmother!

\* **Youth Greek School** (in the upstairs classroom) and **Bible Study** (in the back coffee hour room) this afternoon at 12:45pm!

\* The next meeting of the **Introduction to the Orthodox Church** class will be this coming Saturday, December 7 at 3:30pm. Topic is Holy Icons, Relics, Vessels, and Vestments.

\* **Festival Chairmen Meeting** will be on December 4th @ 6:30pm. Financials for each booth will be available as well as discussion on what went well and what we can do better for next year. Mark your calendars for the **Spring Fling** (tentatively) April 26th. There are a few **Leftover Items** on the table in the Parish Hallway. If you would like to purchase something, please see a festival chairman. Slips of prices are on the table as well. In addition to what is on the table, we also have a full bucket of feta (not crumbled) and olives by the pound.

\* **Philoptochos (Ladies Philanthropic Group):** Save the date for a Christmas Social Gathering—Sunday, December 15 at 2:00pm.

\* **Youth:** Winter Youth Rally registration is now open (for 7th to 12th graders, December 27-30 in Atlanta). See the website (<https://atlmopolis.org/winter-youth-rally>) for more details. Christmas Caroling on December 19—details to come!

\* **2024 Christmas Card / Poinsettias:** If you would like to participate in the 2024 Christmas Card and/or purchase a poinsettia "In Memory of" or "In Honor of", please fill out the form (scan QR Code - if you need help, please contact Natalia Saratsiotis or Cristina Lekas) and turn in your payment to John Apostolou, Maria Spicer or an usher (please have it marked with your name and Christmas Card / Poinsettias). Christmas Card deadline has passed! Christmas Poinsettia deadline is December 15th.

\* **2025 Fellowship Sign-up:** An email went out with the signup link for next year's coffee hour sign up. Please sign up for a Sunday to host coffee hour (scan QR code). If you wish not to do a Sunday but instead would like to make a donation to cover a Sunday, please contact Maria Bronisevsky. Thank you to everyone who plans on hosting a Fellowship Sunday and to those who are making a monetary contribution.

