



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

859 First Street | Macon, Georgia 31201 | 478.621.0744 (office)
www.holycrossga.org | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Sunday after Theophany

Sts. Tatiana of Rome

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Seventh (John 20:1-10)

Mode of the Week: Fourth / Τέταρτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, January 12</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday after Theophany Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Blessing of the 2025 Parish Council at the end of the Liturgy Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:45pm Bible Study/Youth Greek School 1:00pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Tuesday, January 14</i>	11:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste and See in Macon
<i>Wednesday, January 15</i>	5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Choir Practice
<i>Friday, January 17</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Anthony the Great
<i>Saturday, January 18</i>	4:00pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class in the Library/Zoom 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, January 19</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 12 th Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:30pm Philoptochos Meeting 12:45pm Adult Greek School 1:30pm Youth Outing (Ice Skating at the Macon Centerplex) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day — Office Closed
<i>Monday, January 20</i>	
<i>Tuesday, January 21</i>	11:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste and See in Macon 6:30pm Planning Committee Meeting
<i>Wednesday, January 22</i>	3:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive in the Parish House (until 7:00pm) 5:30pm Vespers
<i>Saturday, January 25</i>	10:00am Enthronement of Metropolitan Sevastianos of Atlanta (at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Atlanta)
<i>Sunday, January 26</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 15 th Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 12:45pm Bible Study/Youth Greek School
<i>Tuesday, January 28</i>	11:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste and See in Macon
<i>Wednesday, January 29</i>	5:00pm Great Vespers and Divine Liturgy on the Eve of the Feast of the Three Hierarchs (followed by Choir Practice)

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (1/19)George Saratsiotis, Cheryl Schwartzkopf;(1/26)Aleca Hortman, Charles Glotzbach
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (1/19) Member at Large; (1/26)Parish Council President; (2/2) TBD
Upcoming Ushers: (1/15) Tassie C.; (1/17)Norm+Eleni A.; (1/18) James S.; (1/19) John A, Charles G; (1/22) Charles G
Upcoming Video Operators: (1/17)Cristina Lekas; (1/19) Gray Y., David N.; (1/26) David Z.; (2/2) Natalia S.
Fellowship Hosts: (1/19) Toulia Tsamolias; (1/26) Danai Esquivel; (2/2) Denna Bradford+Irene Ray; (2/9) Natalia S.

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

Γένοιτο, Κύριε, τὸ ἔλεός σου ἐφ’
ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. Ἀγαλλιᾶσθε, δίκαιοι, ἐν
Κυρίῳ.

+++

Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

+++

Ἀδελφοί, ἐνὶ ἐκάστῳ ἡμῶν ἐδόθη ἡ χάρις κατὰ τὸ μέτρον τῆς δωρεᾶς τοῦ Χριστοῦ. διὸ λέγει· ἀναβάς εἰς ὕψος ἠγματούτευσεν αἰχμαλωσίαν καὶ ἔδωκε δόματα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις. τὸ δὲ ἀνέβη τί ἐστὶν εἰ μὴ ὅτι καὶ κατέβη πρῶτον εἰς τὰ κατώτερα μέρη τῆς γῆς; ὁ καταβάς αὐτός ἐστι καὶ ὁ ἀναβάς ὑπεράνω πάντων τῶν οὐρανῶν, ἵνα πληρώσῃ τὰ πάντα. καὶ αὐτὸς ἔδωκε τοὺς μὲν ἀποστόλους, τοὺς δὲ προφήτας, τοὺς δὲ εὐαγγελιστάς, τοὺς δὲ ποιμένας καὶ διδασκάλους, πρὸς τὸν καταρτισμὸν τῶν ἁγίων εἰς ἔργον διακονίας, εἰς οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ σώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ, μέχρι καταντήσωμεν οἱ πάντες εἰς τὴν ἐνότητα τῆς πίστεως καὶ τῆς ἐπιγνώσεως τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ, εἰς ἄνδρα τέλειον, εἰς μέτρον ἡλικίας τοῦ πληρώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

*Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon
us.*

*Verse: Rejoice greatly in the
Lord, O righteous ones. (Psalm
32)*

+++

*The reading is from Paul's Letter
to the Ephesians. (4:7-13)*

+++

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (4:12-17)

Sunday after Theophany

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἀκούσας ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι Ἰωάννης παρεδόθη, ἀνεχώρησεν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν, καὶ καταλιπὼν τὴν Ναζαρέτ ἐλθὼν κατώκησεν εἰς Καπερναοὺμ τὴν παραθαλασσίαν ἐν ὀρίοις Ζαβουλῶν καὶ Νεφθαλείμ, ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸ ῥηθὲν διὰ Ἡσαΐου τοῦ προφήτου λέγοντος· γῆ Ζαβουλῶν καὶ γῆ Νεφθαλείμ, ὁδὸν θαλάσσης, πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου, Γαλιλαία τῶν ἐθνῶν, ὁ λαὸς ὁ καθήμενος ἐν σκότει εἶδε φῶς μέγα, καὶ τοῖς καθημένοις ἐν χώρα καὶ σκιᾷ θανάτου φῶς ἀνέτειλεν αὐτοῖς. Ἀπὸ τότε ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησοῦς κηρῦσσειν καὶ λέγειν· μετανοεῖτε· ἤγγικε γὰρ ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν.

At that time, Jesus when heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles — the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ehmer

Προϊστάμενος/Presiding Priest

E-mail: frtheodore@holycrossga.org

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 January 12, 2025

Ushers on Duty: Cleo Bennette, Jim Lekas

Video: Cristina L.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Pete Tsamolias (Greek); Richard Stewart (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Georgia Saratsiotis

PC Member On-Duty: Natalia Saratsiotis



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + After-feast of the Theophany (Θεοφάνεια) of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

The Feast of Theophany (Epiphany) was celebrated on January 6. The after-feast continues until the leave-taking on January 14.

- + The Holy Martyr Tatiana (Τατιανή) of Rome (+225)

Saint Tatiana was the daughter of a most distinguished consul of Rome. She became a deaconess of the Church, and for her confession of the Faith of Christ, she endured many torments. As she was suffering, angels punished her tormentors with the same torments they inflicted on her, until they cried out that they could no longer endure the scourges invisibly brought upon them. She was beheaded during the reign of Alexander Severus.

- + The Holy Martyr Peter Absalom (Πέτρος Αβεσσαλαμίτης) of Eleutheropolis in Palestine (+309)

- + The Holy Martyr Mertius (Μέρτιος) of Mauretania (+284)

The Holy Martyr Mertius was a soldier. He suffered for Christ in Africa during the reign of Diocletian (284-305). The emperor demanded that he offer sacrifice to idols, and when he refused, gave him over to torture. The saint suffered fierce torments, not making a sound. He was thrown into prison, where he died from hunger and his wounds.

- + The Holy Eight Martyrs from Nicea

- + The Holy Martyr Efthasia (Ευθασία)

- + Our Devout Father Elias (Ηλίας) the Wonderworker (+4th Century)

- + The Holy Martyrs Tygrius (Τίγριος) the Presbyter and Eutropios (Ευτρόπος) the Lector at Constantinople (+405)

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 Theophany (Εν Ιορδάνη, First Mode):

When You were baptized in the River Jordan, O Lord, it was revealed that God is worshiped in Trinity. For the voice of the Father, who had begotten You, also bore witness to You, calling You “beloved Son,” and the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed that what was said is true. In Your epiphany, O Christ God, You appeared and illumined the world. Glory to You! (Sung before the Small Entrance and after the Resurrectional Hymn, Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 208)

- Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Το φαίδρον, Fourth Mode):

When the women disciples of the Lord heard the Angel joyously proclaim the resurrection, they cast aside the ancestral verdict, and boasting in glory they said to the Apostles, “Death has been despoiled! Christ God has risen, granting the great mercy to the world!” (Sung before and after the Small Entrance, Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 110)

- 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 Theophany, (Επεφάνης σήμερον, Fourth Mode):

You revealed yourself today on earth, O Master, and Your light was stamped on us, who in the knowledge of the truth, O Lord, extol Your epiphany. You came; You revealed yourself, O unapproachable Light. (Greek Text found in hymnal on pg.248)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily

Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday, January 12—No Fasting:

John 20:1-10; Ephesians 4:7-13; Matthew 4:12-17

Monday, January 13—No Fasting:

Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-5; Luke 20:1-8

Tuesday, January 14—No Fasting:

Acts 2:38-43; Luke 4:1-15

Wednesday, January 15—Strict Fast:

Galatians 5:22-26, 6:1-2; Luke 12:32-40

Thursday, January 16—No Fasting:

Acts 12:1-11; John 21:14-25

Friday, January 17: St. Anthony the Great—Wine+Oil:

Matthew 11:27-30; Hebrews 13:17-21; Luke 6:17-23

Saturday, January 18: Sts. Athanasios and Cyril—No Fasting:

John 10:1-9; Hebrews 13:7-16; Matthew 5:14-19

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, Karen, Vera, Adam, Debbie

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Claudie (+December 2), Lula Belle (+December 19), Fr. George Makhlouf (+December 20), Fr. Thomas FitzGerald (+December 29)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Katina B., Schyler J.

Prayers for Military Personnel and Their Families:

Aubriana Butchko, Kyle Glotzbach, Robert Ice, Aleksander Zajac

Prayers for our Catechumens and Inquirers into the Orthodox Church:

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

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

St. Nektarios of Aegina (+1920) on spiritual warfare and our engaging with it: “We have within us deeply rooted weaknesses, passions, and defects. This can not all be cut out with one sharp motion, but patience, persistence, care and attention. The path leading to perfection is long. Pray to God so that he will strengthen you. Patiently accept your falls and, having stood up, immediately run to God, not remaining in that place where you have fallen. Do not despair if you keep falling into your old sins. Many of them are strong because they have received the force of habit. Only with the passage of time and with fervor will they be conquered. Don't let anything deprive you of hope.”

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

January 17: Tony Bennette, Tony Economopoulos, Rene Esquivel, Rene Anthonis Esquivel Jr., Tony Kallergis, Antonios Roden, Anthony Paul Zoumberis, Tony Zoumberis Sr, Tony Zoumberis Jr.

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

January 13: Kalie Crouse

January 16: Irene Ray, Caroline Saratsiotis

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:

* The Parish Council Election has been ratified by the Metropolitan and the **2025 Parish Council** will have their “swearing in” and blessing at the end of the Divine Liturgy today. May God bless their ministry our Holy Cross Church!

* **Youth Greek School** will be taking place at 12:45pm in the upstairs classroom. **Bible Study** will take place at the same time in the back coffee hour room.

* **Youth: Youth Outing** will be taking place next Sunday, January 19 after Church and Coffee Fellowship at approximately 1:30pm — Ice Skating at the Macon Centerplex. Youth tickets will be sponsored by the Church—Adults \$10. Save the Date for our Parish level 2025 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival (SJCOF), Sunday, Feb. 2nd, immediately after Divine Liturgy. It's also Godparent Sunday - please make plans from now to have your children's godparents come and witness their presentations if you can! Detailed SJCOF email coming soon.

* **Choir Practice** is schedule for this coming Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30pm. Choir Practice is also schedule for the evening of January 29 after the Divine Liturgy.

* **House Blessings** are continuing after the Feast of Theophany. Signups are taking place online with the link that was sent by email. If you need assistance in signing up, please contact Fr. Theodore or Presvytera Stacey.

* An **Orthodox Book Study** began last week and will be taking place each Tuesday at Taste and See Coffee Shop in Downtown Macon. We are reading “Rediscovering the Goodness of Creation.” Information and a scan of the Introduction was sent by email—feel free to join in even if you could not attend last week! Please contact Father Theodore for additional details.

* The **Enthronement** of our new Metropolitan of Atlanta, **Metropolitan Sevastianos**, will be taking place on Saturday, January 25 at 10:00am at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Atlanta. More information can be found at the website: www.atlmetropolisevents.org.

* For those who still wish to make any **Stewardship Offerings** for 2024, this will still be possible for the first two weeks of January. Please contact the Parish Council Treasurer, John Apostolou, for more information.