



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



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

Sunday, April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

St. Martin of Rome

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Festal (Mt. 21:1-11, 15-17)

Mode of the Week: Festal / της Εορτής

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

Today, April 13	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on Palm Sunday Procession of the Palms at the end of the Divine Liturgy Palm Sunday Luncheon in the Parish House after the Liturgy Bible Study 12:45pm 7:00pm Orthros of Holy Monday (Bridegroom Service)
Monday, April 14	7:00pm Orthros of Holy Tuesday (Bridegroom Service)
Tuesday, April 15	7:00pm Orthros of Holy Wednesday (Bridegroom Service)
Wednesday, April 16	9:30am 9 th Hour and Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6:00pm Orthros of Holy Thursday and Holy Unction
Thursday, April 17	9:30am Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil on Holy Thursday (Institution of the Holy Eucharist) 6:00pm Orthros of Holy Friday (12 Gospels/Passion Service)
Friday, April 18	9:30am Great/Royal Hours of Holy Friday 3:00pm Great Vespers of Holy Saturday (Apokathilosis/taking down Christ from the Cross) 7:00pm Orthros of Holy Saturday (Epitaphios Service)
Saturday, April 19	9:30am Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil on Holy Saturday (Πρώτη-Ανάσταση, First Announcement of the Resurrection) 12:00pm Holy Baptism of Sebastian Wolfe 11:00pm Pre-Resurrection Service
Sunday, April 20	12:00am Orthros for Great and Holy PASCHA 1:00am Divine Liturgy on Great and Holy PASCHA Festal Fellowship/Breaking of the Fast after the Liturgy in the Parish House 12:00pm Agape Vespers of Pascha 1:00pm Easter Egg Hunt and Pascha Luncheon
Tuesday, April 22	11:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste and See in Macon 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 23	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. George the Trophy-Bearer
Friday, April 25	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of the Life-Giving Spring of the Theotokos and St. Mark the Evangelist
Saturday, April 26	11:00am Spring Fling (until 7:00pm) 5:00pm Great Vespers
Upcoming Epistle Readers: (4/16) See Email; (4/20) George Saratsiotis, Cheryl Schwartzkopf; (4/27) Aleca, Charles Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (4/13p, 14, 15) Natalia S.; (4/16, 20) Chad R.; (4/18) Jim L.; (4/19) Sarah D. Upcoming Ushers: (Holy Week) See Email; (4/20) Erick+Cheryl S.; (4/23) Eleni A.; (4/25) OPEN; (4/27) Cleo, Charles Upcoming Video Operators: (Holy Week) See Email; (4/20) David Z.; (4/23) Norm A.; (4/25) Cristina L. Fellowship Hosts: (4/20) Paschal Luncheon; (4/27) Despina Passias; (5/4) Eleni Adams; (5/13) Maria McCluskey	

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

*Εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος ἐν
ὀνόματι Κυρίου.*

*Στίχ. Ἐξομολογεῖσθε τῷ Κυρίῳ,
ὅτι ἀγαθός, ὅτι εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τὸ
ἔλεος αὐτοῦ.*

+++

*Πρὸς Φιλιππισίους Ἐπιστολῆς
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.*

+++

Ἀδελφοί, χαίρετε ἐν Κυρίῳ
πάντοτε· πάλιν ἐρῶ, χαίρετε. τὸ
ἐπιεικὲς ὑμῶν γνωσθήτω πᾶσιν
ἀνθρώποις. ὁ Κύριος ἐγγύς.
μηδὲν μεριμνᾶτε, ἀλλ’ ἐν παντὶ
τῇ προσευχῇ καὶ τῇ δεήσει μετὰ
εὐχαριστίας τὰ αἰτήματα ὑμῶν
γνωρίζεσθω πρὸς τὸν Θεόν. καὶ ἡ
εἰρήνη τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡ ὑπερέχουσα
πάντα νοῦν φρουρήσει τὰς
καρδίας ὑμῶν καὶ τὰ νοήματα
ὑμῶν ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ. Τὸ
λοιπόν, ἀδελφοί, ὅσα ἐστὶν
ἀληθῆ, ὅσα σεμνά, ὅσα δίκαια,
ὅσα ἀγνά, ὅσα προσφιλῆ, ὅσα
εὖφημα, εἴ τις ἀρετὴ καὶ εἴ τις
ἔπαινος, ταῦτα λογίζεσθε· ἃ καὶ
ἐμάθετε καὶ παρελάβετε καὶ
ἠκούσατε καὶ εἶδετε ἐν ἐμοί,
ταῦτα πράσσετε· καὶ ὁ Θεὸς τῆς
εἰρήνης ἔσται μεθ’ ὑμῶν.

*Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord.*

*Verse: Give thanks to the Lord,
for He is good; for His mercy
endures forever. (Psalm 117)*

+++

*The reading is from Paul’s Letter
to the Philippians. (4:4-9)*

+++

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord
always; again I will say, Rejoice.
Let all men know your
forbearance. The Lord is at hand.
Have no anxiety about anything,
but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving
let your requests be made known
to God. And the peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
will keep your hearts and your
minds in Christ Jesus. Finally,
brethren, whatever is true,
whatever is honorable, whatever
is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely, whatever is
gracious, if there is any
excellence, if there is anything
worthy of praise, think about
these things. What you have
learned and received and heard
and seen in me, do; and the God
of peace will be with you.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. John (12:1-18)

Palm Sunday

Πρὸ ἑξ ἡμερῶν τοῦ πάσχα ἦλθεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς
Βηθανίαν, ὅπου ἦν Λάζαρος ὁ τεθνηκώς, ὃν
ἤγειρεν ἐκ νεκρῶν. ἐποίησαν οὖν αὐτῷ δειπνον
ἐκεῖ, καὶ ἡ Μάρθα διηκόνει· ὁ δὲ Λάζαρος εἷς ἦν
τῶν ἀνακειμένων σὺν αὐτῷ. ἡ οὖν Μαρία,
λαβοῦσα λίτραν μύρου νάρδου πιστικῆς
πολυτίμου, ἠλειψε τοὺς πόδας τοῦ Ἰησοῦ καὶ
ἐξέμαξε ταῖς θριξίν αὐτῆς τοὺς πόδας αὐτοῦ· ἡ δὲ
οἰκία ἐπληρώθη ἐκ τῆς ὁσμῆς τοῦ μύρου. λέγει
οὖν εἷς ἐκ τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ, Ἰούδας Σίμωνος
Ἰσκαριώτης, ὁ μέλλων αὐτὸν παραδιδόναι· διατί
τοῦτο τὸ μύρον οὐκ ἐπράθη τριακοσίων
δηναρίων καὶ ἐδόθη πτωχοῖς; εἶπε δὲ τοῦτο οὐχ
ὅτι περὶ τῶν πτωχῶν ἔμελεν αὐτῷ, ἀλλ’ ὅτι
κλέπτῃς ἦν, καὶ τὸ γλωσσόκομον εἶχε καὶ τὰ
βαλλόμενα ἐβάσταζεν. εἶπεν οὖν ὁ Ἰησοῦς· ἄφες
αὐτήν, εἰς τὴν ἡμέραν τοῦ ἐνταφιασμοῦ μου
τετήρηκεν αὐτό. τοὺς πτωχοὺς γὰρ πάντοτε ἔχετε
μεθ’ ἑαυτῶν, ἐμὲ δὲ οὐ πάντοτε ἔχετε. Ἔγνω οὖν
ὄχλος πολὺς ἐκ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ὅτι ἐκεῖ ἐστί, καὶ
ἦλθον οὐ διὰ τὸν Ἰησοῦν μόνον, ἀλλ’ ἵνα καὶ τὸν
Λάζαρον ἴδωσιν ὃν ἤγειρεν ἐκ νεκρῶν. ἐβουλεύσαντο
δὲ οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς ἵνα καὶ τὸν
Λάζαρον ἀποκτείνωσιν, ὅτι πολλοὶ δι’ αὐτὸν
ὕπηγον τῶν Ἰουδαίων καὶ ἐπίστευον εἰς τὸν
Ἰησοῦν. Τῇ ἐπαύριον ὄχλος πολὺς ὁ ἐλθὼν εἰς
τὴν ἑορτήν, ἀκούσαντες ὅτι ἔρχεται Ἰησοῦς εἰς
Ἱεροσόλυμα, ἔλαβον τὰ βαῖα τῶν φοινίκων καὶ
ἐξῆλθον εἰς ὑπάντησιν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἔκραζον·
ὡσαννά, εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος ἐν ὀνόματι
Κυρίου, ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ. εὐρὼν δὲ ὁ
Ἰησοῦς ὀνάριον ἐκάθισεν ἐπ’ αὐτό, καθὼς ἐστί
γεγραμμένον· μὴ φοβοῦ, θύγατερ Σιών· ἰδοὺ ὁ
βασιλεὺς σου ἔρχεται καθήμενος ἐπὶ πῶλον ὄνου.
Ταῦτα δὲ οὐκ ἔγνωσαν οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ τὸ
πρῶτον, ἀλλ’ ὅτε ἐδοξάσθη ὁ Ἰησοῦς, τότε
ἐμνήσθησαν ὅτι ταῦτα ἦν ἐπ’ αὐτῷ γεγραμμένα,
καὶ ταῦτα ἐποίησαν αὐτῷ. Ἐμαρτύρει οὖν ὁ
ὄχλος ὁ ὢν μετ’ αὐτοῦ ὅτε τὸν Λάζαρον
ἐφώνησεν ἐκ τοῦ μνημείου καὶ ἤγειρεν αὐτὸν ἐκ
νεκρῶν. διὰ τοῦτο καὶ ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ ὁ ὄχλος,
ὅτι ἤκουσαν τοῦτο αὐτὸν πεποιηκέναι τὸ
σημεῖον.

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to
Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had
raised from the dead. There they made him a
supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one
of those at table with him. Mary took a pound
of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed
the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her
hair; and the house was filled with the
fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot,
Simon’s son, one of his disciples (he who was
to betray him), said, “Why was this ointment
not sold for three hundred denarii and given
to the poor?” This he said, not that he cared
for the poor but because he was a thief, and as
he had the money box he used to take what
was put into it. Jesus said, “Let her alone, let
her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor
you always have with you, but you do not
always have me.” When the great crowd of the
Jews learned that he was there, they came, not
only on account of Jesus but also to see
Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead.
So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus
also to death, because on account of him many
of the Jews were going away and believing in
Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had
come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming
to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm
trees and went out to meet him, crying,
“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!”
And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon
it; as it is written, “Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming, sitting on a
donkey’s colt!” His disciples did not
understand this at first; but when Jesus was
glorified, then they remembered that this had
been written of him and had been done to
him. The crowd that had been with him when
he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised
him from the dead bore witness. The reason
why the crowd went to meet him was that they
heard he had done this sign.

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 April 13, 2025

Ushers on Duty: Sarah Drakopoulos, Haris Sorovigas

Video: Cristina L.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Kostas Iakovidis (Greek); Richard Stewart (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Philoptochos

PC Member On-Duty: Sarah Drakopoulos



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Palm Sunday (Κυριακή των Βαίων)—Entry of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem

On Sunday, five days before the Passover of the Law, the Lord came from Bethany to Jerusalem. Sending two of His disciples to bring Him a foal of an ass, He sat thereon and entered into the city. When the multitude there heard that Jesus was coming, they straightway took up the branches of palm trees in their hands, and went forth to meet Him. Others spread their garments on the ground, and yet others cut branches from the trees and strewn them in the way that Jesus was to pass; and all of them together, especially the children, went before and after Him, crying out: "Hosanna: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel" (John 12:13). This is the radiant and glorious festival of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem that we celebrate today.

The branches of the palm trees symbolize Christ's victory over the devil and death. The word Hosanna means "Save, I pray," or "Save, now." The foal of an ass, and Jesus' sitting thereon, and the fact that this animal was untamed and considered unclean according to the Law, signified the former uncleanness and wildness of the nations, and their subjection thereafter to the holy Law of the Gospel.

- + Our Father among the Saints Martin (Ματρίνος) the Confessor, Pope of Rome (+655)
- + The Holy Martyrs Maximus (Μάξιμος), Quintilian (Κυντυλιανός), and Dadas (Δάδας) the Lectors (+284-305)
- + The Holy Martyr Eleftherios (Ελευθέριος) the Persian (+4th Century)
- + The Holy Martyr Theodosios (Θεοδοσίος)
- + The Holy Martyr Zoilos (Ζωίλος) (+4th Century)
- + The Devout Theodosia (Θεοδοσία) the Princess, daughter of Emperor Hadrian (+117)
- + The Venerable Martyr Christopher (Χριστόφορος) of the Great Lavra of St. Savvas the Sanctified

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 (page 8 in the Pew Book):

- *First Hymn of Palm Sunday (Την κοινήν Ανάστασιν, 1st Mode):*

To confirm the general resurrection before Your Passion, You resurrected Lazarus from the dead, O Christ our God. Therefore imitating the children, carrying the symbols of victory, we cry out to You the Victor over death: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are You, the One, who comes in the name of the Lord." (*Sung before and after the Small Entrance, Greek Text in hymnal on pg. 144*)

- *Special Entrance Hymn (Ευλογημένος ο ερχόμενος, 2nd Mode):*

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us. Save us, O Son of God, who sat on a donkey's colt. We sing to You, Alleluia.

- *Second Hymn of Palm Sunday (Συνταφέντες σοι, 4th Mode):*

We were buried with You through Baptism, O Christ our God, and thus by Your Resurrection we have been granted immortal life, and extolling You we cry aloud, "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are You, the One who comes in the name of the Lord." (*Greek Text in hymnal on pg. 148*)

- *Hymn of the Holy Cross is not sung today.*
- *The Kontakion of Palm Sunday (Τω θρόνω εν ουρανῶ, 2nd Mode):*

In heaven upon the throne, on earth upon the colt, You were carried, O Christ our God; and the praise of the Angels, and the hymns of the children, You received as they cried to You, "Blessed are You, the One, who is coming to call Adam back again." (*Greek Text in hymnal on pg. 272*)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily

Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday, April 13: Palm Sunday—Fish, Wiue+Oil:
Matthew 21:1-11, 15-17; Philippians 4:4-9; John 12:1-18

Holy Monday, April 14—Strict Fast:

Matthew 21:18-43; Matthew 24:3-35

Holy Tuesday, April 15—Strict Fast:

Matthew 22:15-46, 23:1-39; Matthew 24:36-51, 25:1-46, 26:1-2

Holy Wednesday, April 16—Strict Fast:

John 12:17-50; Matthew 26:6-16

Holy Thursday, April 17—Wine+Oil:

Luke 22:1-39; I Corinthians 11:23-32; Matthew 26:1-20; John 13:3-17; Matthew 26:21-39; Luke 22:43-44; Matthew

26:40-75, 27:1-2

Holy (Good) Friday, April 18—Strict Fast:

I Corinthians 5:6-8; Matthew 27:62-66

Holy Saturday, April 19—Strict Fast:

Matthew 27:62-66; Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-20

Prayer Requests:

Metropolitan Alexios, Fr. Symeon (mission priest supported by our parish), Fr. Mike, Panteleimon, 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, Nicholas, Kevin, Andy, Karen, Vera, Adam, Debbie, Alberto, Sadith, Richelle, Marion, Paul, George, Christina

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Stella (+March 6), Fr. Jonas (+March 8), Alex (+March 15), John (+March 10), Michael (+April 1), Chaplean (+April 2), Tony (+April 6)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Christina, Julieta, Kalie

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, Sebastian, Sophia, Susan, Tammy and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

St. Cyril of Jerusalem, in his Catechetical Lectures, taught the faithful the following about what we encounter this coming week during Holy Week and the coming of the Resurrection: "Let us consider whether is harder, for a man after having been buried to rise again from the earth, or for a man in the belly of a whale, having come into the great heat of a living creature, to escape corruption. For what man knows not, that the heat of the belly is so great, that even bones which have been swallowed molder away? How then did Jonas, who was three days and three nights in the whale's belly, escape corruption? And, seeing that the nature of all men is such that we cannot live without breathing, as we do, in air, how did he live without a breath of this air for three days? But the Jews make answer and say, The power of God descended with Jonas when he was

tossed about in hell. Does then the Lord grant life to His own servant, by sending His power with him, and can He not grant it to Himself as well? If that is credible, this is credible also; if this is incredible, that also is incredible. For to me both are alike worthy of credence. I believe that Jonas was preserved, for all things are possible with God Matthew 19:26; I believe that Christ also was raised from the dead; for I have many testimonies of this, both from the Divine Scriptures, and from the operative power even at this day of Him who arose—who descended into hell alone, but ascended thence with a great company; for He went down to death, and many bodies of the saints which slept arose [Matthew 27:52] through Him."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

April 15: Leo Economopoulos

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

April 16: Mary Monika Robinson

April 17: Tim Murphy

April 18: Cornelius Chiorescu

April 19: Georgia Karras

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

April 13: Betty and Spencer Maxwell

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

Announcements:

* **Youth:** Please plan to be in and around the Church for the services and for Paschal preparations on Holy Friday (April 18)!

* **Holy Week & Pascha Preparations** - Thank you to everyone who has volunteered—please look out for the reminder emails sent out on Friday mornings.

* **Spring Fling – Saturday, April 26!** (11 AM – 7 PM): Join us for a day of fun, food, and fellowship! We'll be setting up on Friday (April 25th) at 6 PM, and we need helping hands from GOYA, Young Adults, and Not-So-Young Adults to make this event a success. Please sign up using this link: <https://volunteersignup.org/YTLFE>. Mark your calendars and be part of the excitement!

* **Holy Week and Pascha postcards** have been mailed out to everyone. Please feel free to take one or two from the narthex and/or Parish House and invite your family and friends for this most sacred time of the year!

* **Pascha Lilies** - If you would like to participate in the 2025 Paschal Lilies Dedication "In Memory of" or "For the Health of", please go to <https://forms.gle/pXyzieAdAiaKw9Ho8> and complete the form. You may also place your payment in the box located in the Narthex (please specify on the memo line Paschal Lilies Dedication). Deadline is TODAY, April 13th.

* The **Metropolis Clergy-Laity and Philoptochos Conference** will be taking place in Charleston, South Carolina from June 11-15. More details can be found at clergylaity2025.org. Please let Fr. Theodore know if you are planning on attending.

A Very Blessed Holy Week to you all!