



# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



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### Sunday, April 20, 2025

Great and Holy PASCHA

St. Theodore Trichinas

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Festal (Mark 16:1-8)

Mode of the Week: Festal / της Εορτής

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

*Today, April 20*

11:00pm Pre-Resurrection Service  
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  
6:00pm Spring Fling Set-Up

*Saturday, April 26*

11:00am Spring Fling (until 7:00pm)  
5:00pm Great Vespers

*Sunday, April 27*

9:15am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of Thomas  
Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion  
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy  
12:45pm Adult Greek School

*Tuesday, April 29*

11:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste and See in Macon  
7:00pm Planning Committee Meeting

*Wednesday, April 30*

5:30pm Vespers

*Saturday, May 3*

3:45pm Intro to the Orthodox Church Class in the Library/Zoom  
5:00pm Great Vespers

*Sunday, May 4*

9:15am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women  
Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion  
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy  
Philoptochos Elections in the Parish House  
12:45pm Bible Study/Youth Greek School

*Tuesday, May 6*

11:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste and See in Macon

*Wednesday, May 7*

5:30pm Great Vespers for the Feast of St. John the Theologian

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (4/27) Aleca Hortman, Charles Glotzbach; (5/4) Pete Tsamolias, Carolin e Saratsiotis  
**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (4/27) Chad Ridley; (5/4) Jim Lekas; (5/11) John Apostolou; (5/18) Maria Spicer  
**Upcoming Ushers:** (4/23) Eleni A.; (4/25) OPEN; (4/27) Cleo B., Charles G.; (4/30) Charles G.; (5/3) Erick+Cheryl S.  
**Upcoming Video Operators:** (4/23) Norm A.; (4/25) Cristina L.; (4/27) Natalia S./Gray Y.; (5/4) Joanna P.  
**Fellowship Hosts:** (4/27) Despina Passias; (5/4) Eleni Adams; (5/11) Maria McCluskey; (5/18) Maria B., Joanna P.

### 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

Αὕτη ἡ ἡμέρα, ἣν ἐποίησεν ὁ Κύριος·  
ἀγαλλιασώμεθα καὶ εὐφρανθῶμεν ἐν  
αὐτῇ.

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

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Πράξεων τῶν Ἀποστόλων τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Τὸν μὲν πρῶτον λόγον ἐποιησάμην περὶ πάντων, ὦ Θεόφιλε, ὧν ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησοῦς ποιεῖν τε καὶ διδάσκειν ἄχρι ἣς ἡμέρας ἐντειλάμενος τοῖς ἀποστόλοις διὰ πνεύματος ἁγίου οὓς ἐξελέξατο ἀνελήφθη· οἷς καὶ παρέστησεν ἑαυτὸν ζῶντα μετὰ τὸ παθεῖν αὐτὸν ἐν πολλοῖς τεκμηρίοις, δι’ ἡμερῶν τεσσαράκοντα ὀπτανόμενος αὐτοῖς καὶ λέγων τὰ περὶ τῆς βασιλείας τοῦ Θεοῦ. Καὶ συναλιζόμενος παρήγγειλεν αὐτοῖς ἀπὸ Ἱεροσολύμων μὴ χωρίζεσθαι, ἀλλὰ περιμένειν τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν τοῦ πατρὸς ἣν ἠκούσατέ μου· ὅτι Ἰωάννης μὲν ἐβάπτισεν ὕδατι, ὑμεῖς δὲ ἐν πνεύματι βαπτισθήσεσθε ἁγίῳ οὐ μετὰ πολλὰς ταύτας ἡμέρας. Οἱ μὲν οὖν συνελθόντες ἡρώτων αὐτὸν λέγοντες, Κύριε, εἰ ἐν τῷ χρόνῳ τούτῳ ἀποκαθιστάνεις τὴν βασιλείαν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ; εἶπεν δὲ πρὸς αὐτούς, Οὐχ ὑμῶν ἐστιν γινῶναι χρόνους ἢ καιροὺς οὓς ὁ πατὴρ ἔθετο ἐν τῇ ἰδίᾳ ἐξουσίᾳ· ἀλλὰ λήψεσθε δύναμιν ἐπελθόντος τοῦ ἁγίου πνεύματος ἐφ’ ὑμᾶς, καὶ ἔσεσθέ μου μάρτυρες ἐν τε Ἱερουσαλὴμ καὶ ἐν πάσῃ τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ καὶ Σαμαρείᾳ καὶ ἕως ἐσχάτου τῆς γῆς.

*This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein.*  
*Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever. (Ps. 117)*

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*The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. (1:1-8)*

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In the first book, O Theophilos, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

# The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. John (1:1-17)

## Great and Holy Pascha

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ Λόγος, καὶ ὁ Λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν Θεόν, καὶ Θεὸς ἦν ὁ Λόγος. Οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν Θεόν. πάντα δι’ αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἓν ὃ γέγονεν. ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν, καὶ ἡ ζωὴ ἦν τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀνθρώπων. καὶ τὸ φῶς ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ φαίνει, καὶ ἡ σκοτία αὐτὸ οὐ κατέλαβεν. Ἐγένετο ἄνθρωπος ἀπεσταλμένος παρὰ Θεοῦ, ὄνομα αὐτῷ Ἰωάννης· οὗτος ἦλθεν εἰς μαρτυρίαν, ἵνα μαρτυρήσῃ περὶ τοῦ φωτός, ἵνα πάντες πιστεύσωσιν δι’ αὐτοῦ. οὐκ ἦν ἐκεῖνος τὸ φῶς, ἀλλ’ ἵνα μαρτυρήσῃ περὶ τοῦ φωτός. Ἦν τὸ φῶς τὸ ἀληθινόν, ὃ φωτίζει πάντα ἄνθρωπον, ἐρχόμενον εἰς τὸν κόσμον. ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἦν, καὶ ὁ κόσμος δι’ αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ ὁ κόσμος αὐτὸν οὐκ ἔγνω. εἰς τὰ ἴδια ἦλθεν, καὶ οἱ ἴδιοι αὐτὸν οὐ παρέλαβον. ὅσοι δὲ ἔλαβον αὐτόν, ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ἐξουσίαν τέκνα Θεοῦ γενέσθαι, τοῖς πιστεύουσιν εἰς τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ, οἳ οὐκ ἐξ αἱμάτων, οὐδὲ ἐκ θελήματος σαρκός, οὐδὲ ἐκ θελήματος ἀνδρός, ἀλλ’ ἐκ Θεοῦ ἐγεννήθησαν. Καὶ ὁ Λόγος σὰρξ ἐγένετο καὶ ἐσκήνωσεν ἐν ἡμῖν, καὶ ἐθεασάμεθα τὴν δόξαν αὐτοῦ, δόξαν ὡς μονογενοῦς παρὰ πατρός, πλήρης χάριτος καὶ ἀληθείας. Ἰωάννης μαρτυρεῖ περὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ κέκραγεν λέγων· Οὗτος ἦν ὃν εἶπον, Ὁ ὀπίσω μου ἐρχόμενος ἔμπροσθέν μου γέγονεν, ὅτι πρῶτός μου ἦν. Καὶ ἐκ τοῦ πληρώματος αὐτοῦ ἡμεῖς πάντες ἐλάβομεν, καὶ χάριν ἀντὶ χάριτος· ὅτι ὁ νόμος διὰ Μωϋσέως ἐδόθη, ἡ χάρις καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια διὰ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἐγένετο.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.' ") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

# HOLY CROSS

## 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 April 20, 2025**

**Ushers on Duty:** Sarah Drakopoulos, Jim Lekas

**Video:** Natalia S.

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

**Epistle Readers:** George Saratsiotis (Greek); Cheryl Schwartzkopf (Eng)

**Fellowship Host (Thank You!):** Pascha Picnic (Sunday afternoon)

**PC Member On-Duty:** Sarah Drakopoulos



### **Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:**

+ Great and Holy PASCHA (ΠΑΣΧΑ)

*Our Lord, then, was crucified, died, and was buried on Friday, before the setting of the sun, which was the first of His "three days" in the grave; observing the mystical Sabbath, that "seventh day" in which it is said that the Lord "rested from all His works" (Gen. 2:2-3), He passed all of Saturday in the grave; and He arose "while it was yet dark, very early in the morning" on Sunday, the third day, which, according to the Hebrew reckoning, began after sunset on Saturday.*

*As we celebrate today this joyous Resurrection, we greet and embrace one another in Christ, thereby demonstrating our Savior's victory over death and corruption, and the destruction of our ancient enmity with God, and His reconciliation toward us, and our inheritance of life everlasting. The feast itself is called Pascha, which is derived from the Hebrew word which means "passover"; because Christ, Who suffered and arose, has made us to pass over from the curse of Adam and slavery to the devil and death unto our primal freedom and blessedness. In addition, this day of this particular week, which is the first of all the rest, is dedicated to the honor of the Lord; in honor and remembrance of the Resurrection, the Apostles transferred to this day the rest from labor that was formerly assigned to the Sabbath of the ancient Law.*

*All foods allowed during Renewal Week.*

+ Our Devout Father Theodore Trichinas, the "Hair-Shirt Wearer" (+400)

+ The Holy Martyrs Victor, Zotikos, Zeno, Acindynos, Caesarius, Severian, Christopher, Theonas, and Antoninus (+284-305)

+ Our Devout Father John Paleolavriotes, of the "Old Lavra"

+ The Holy Hieromartyr Anastasios of Antioch (+609)

+ The Holy Apostle Zacchaeus, called down from the sycamore tree by Christ (+1<sup>st</sup> c.)

+ The Devout Fathers Athanasios (+1380) and Ioasaf (+1422), builders of the monastery of Meteora

*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):**

- *Hymn of the Resurrection (Χριστός ανέστη, Plagal 1<sup>st</sup> Mode):*

Χριστός ανέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι, ζῶν ἡarisάμενος.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. (*Sung before and after the Small Entrance*)

- *Special Entrance Hymn (Ev ἐκκλησίαις, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mode):*

Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

- *Hypakoe of Pascha (Προλαβούσαι τον ὀρθρον, 4<sup>th</sup> Mode):*

When the women with Mary had come before dawn, and they found that the stone had been rolled away from the sepulcher, they heard from the Angel, "Why do you seek among the dead, as a mortal man, the One who exists in everlasting light? See the grave clothes in the sepulcher. Run and proclaim to the world that the Lord has risen and put death to death; for He is the Son of God who saves the human race."

- *The Hymn of the Holy Cross is not sung today due to the feast.*

- *The Kontakion of Pascha (Εἰ καὶ ἐν τάρῳ, Plagal 4<sup>th</sup> Mode):*

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out "Rejoice" to the Myrrh-bearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection. (*Greek text found in hymnal on pg. 274*)

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

### **This Week's Daily**

#### **Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:**

**Sunday, April 20: Pascha/Easter—No Fasting:**

Mark 16:1-8; Acts 1:1-8; John 1:1-17

**Bright Monday, April 21—No Fasting:**

Acts 1:12-17, 21-26; John 1:18-28

**Bright Tuesday, April 22—No Fasting:**

Acts 2:14-21; Luke 24:12-35

**Bright Wednesday, April 23: St George—No Fasting:**

Luke 21:12-19; Acts 12:1-11; John 1:35-51

**Bright Thursday, April 24—No Fasting:**

Acts 2:38-43; John 3:1-15

**Bright Friday, April 25: Life-Giving Spring of the**

**Theotokos/St. Mark—No Fasting:**

Acts 3:1-8; Luke 10:16-21

**Bright Saturday, April 26—No Fasting:**

Acts 3:11-16; John 3:22-33

### **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, Heather, 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. Melito of Sardis**, in his work "On Pascha": "What is the Pascha? It obtains its name from its characteristic: from suffer (*pathein*) comes suffering (*paschein*). Learn therefore who is the Suffering One, and who shares the suffering of the Suffering One, and why the Lord is present on the earth to clothe Himself with the Suffering One and carry Him off to the heights of heaven. It is He that delivered us from slavery to liberty, from darkness to light, from death to life, from tyranny to eternal royalty; and made us a new priesthood and an eternal people personal to Him. He is the Pascha of our salvation."

**St. Ambrose of Milan** on the Sunday of the Resurrection: "...Now since you are celebrating the holy Pascha, you should know, brethren, what the Pascha is. Pascha means the crossing-over, and so the Festival is called by this name. For it was on

this day that the Children of Israel crossed over out of Egypt, and the Son of God crossed over from this world to His Father. What gain is it to celebrate unless you imitate Him Whom you worship; that is, unless you cross over from Egypt, that is, from the darkness of evil-doing to the light of virtue, from the love of this world to the love of your heavenly home?"

### **Upcoming Celebrations This Week**

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

Pascha: Tassie Cantrell, Chloe Goss, Stacey Goss

April 23: George Cazacu, George Benjamin Davis, George Drakopoulos, George Gordy, Norberto George Hernandez, George Iakovidis, Jace George Johnson, Georgia Karras, George Lane, Tennessee George Morris, George Saratsiotis, Georgia Saratsiotis, Richard George Stewart, Georgios Tarsidis

April 24: Maggie Elizabeth Bennette, Caroline Elizabeth Saratsiotis, Elizabeth Saratsiotis, Beth Zoumberis

April 25: Marc Saad

#### **Birthdays—Happy Birthday!**

April 21: Sofia Danforth, Christine Sprouse, Mina Stewart

April 24: Tony Bennette

April 25: Elizabeth Saratsiotis

April 26: Nadia-Gabriela Cazacu, Jace Johnson, Tony Kallergis

#### **Anniversaries—Congratulations!**

April 25: Maria and Greg Spicer

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

### **Announcements:**

\* **Holy Week & Pascha Preparations** - Thank you to everyone who assisted in these most sacred time of the year. May God bless you and thank you for your efforts to God's glory and for the benefit of our Holy Cross family!

\* The **Orthodox Book Study** will resume this week on Tuesday at 11:00am at Taste and See in Macon. We will be discussing the next section of our book on "How Creation is an icon of Divine Beauty and Love." All are welcome to join, even if you don't have the book!

\* **Spring Fling – this coming 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>.

\* **Pascha Lilies** - Thank you to all who contributed—may God bless your intentions for the health of your loved ones and may the memory be eternal of our departed brothers and sisters in Christ!

\* 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 [clergyalaity2025.org](http://clergyalaity2025.org). Please let Fr. Theodore know if you are planning on attending.

## Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is Risen!

## Αληθώς Ανέστη! Truly He is Risen!