

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church

S U M M E R 2 0 2 5 Q U A R T E R L Y B U L L E T I N



859 First Street | Macon, Georgia 31201 | 478.621.0744

SUNDAY SERVICES

*(For services during the week,
please visit our webpage)*

Orthros 9:15am

Divine Liturgy 10:30am

Coffee Fellowship 12:00pm
(following Liturgy)

FIND US ONLINE

www.holycrossga.org

Facebook:
HolyCrossMaconGA

Instagram:
HolyCrossMacon

Father Theodore's Message

*Tongues were confused once because people dared to build the Tower.
Tongues now obtain skill, for the glory of divine knowledge. There,
God condemned the impious for their transgression; here, by the Spirit,
Christ illumined the fishermen. Then, discord was contrived as penalization;
now a new concord has arrived, for the salvation of our souls.
— from the Great Vespers of Pentecost*

My beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we begin the summer months, and June in particular, we have just closed the bright and joyous season of Pascha. However, this festive season does not close with Pascha, but with the celebration of Pentecost – hence why this season is called the season of the Pentecostarion. I thank not only those who have assisted and continue to assist in the Church during the Lenten and Paschal season with the services, the fellowship, the ministries, but I also thank you all who made the effort to partake of the Divine Services in which we worship our good and loving God.



I quoted a hymn from the Great Vespers service of Pentecost because it speaks so clearly of the renewal that occurred and does occur in this great celebration of the Third Person of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Spirit. This renewal of humanity occurs with the sending forth of the Holy Spirit who illumines us who were previously in darkness. As our Lord said, “it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper (the Holy Spirit) will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send him to you.” (John 16:7) Previously, we as humanity dared to build the Tower of Babel, to become like God without God, and God confused the tongues of the people to humble them. With the coming forth of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, we have the reversal of the Babel experience, the blessing of the faithful people working *together* with God.

Over these last few months, we have had the great joy of watching the walls of our Holy Cross Church become adorned with Holy Iconography. Glory to God! The adorning of the walls with iconography is something we have anticipated for many, many years and is really the crown jewel of Project Agape, the master plan and project to “orthodoxify” the interior of our church. Over the course of the installation of the iconography back in March, it was wonderful to observe Ari and his team faithfully work. Their work was not done simply as “work” in a worldly or human sense. As with every other part of Project Agape, it was done with care, diligence, and most importantly, prayer. The words of the “Prayer before any Work” summarize beautifully the prayerful approach: *Lord Jesus Christ, our God, You have said, “Apart from me You can do nothing.” In faith we embrace Your words, Lord, and we entreat Your goodness. Help us to carry out the work we are about to begin, and to bring it to completion. To You we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.* Truly, all of the work of Project Agape could not happen without our Lord’s blessing from above and with this prayerful spirit.

When we embark on anything in our lives, whether it be a big project, such as an iconography project, or a smaller thing, such as making dinner for your family, there is a common denominator. We can either do something with God or without God, either with His blessing, or without it. We can choose to be like those impious ones in Babylon building their tower filled with pride so that “they can make a name for themselves” (Genesis 11:4). Or, we can choose to be like those faithful ones we see both through the Old Testament (such as Daniel, Elijah, or Abraham) and the New Testament (such as the Theotokos and the Holy Apostles) doing all things in the Holy Spirit with humility. What is the other common denominator that we see between those building the tower and the faithful ones of Holy Scripture? In the Babel experience, we see people who are not shaped by worship. In so many other places in Holy Scripture, we observe faithful men and women who are shaped by their worship of God. Worship is the alpha and omega, the beginning and end of everything in our Christian life. If we are growing and being transfigured as worshipful beings, everything we do in life can become sacramental - an encounter with God. Of course, this does not mean that it becomes a Sacrament (capital S - like Communion, Baptism, etc.). This means that whatever we do, be it prayer, be it making dinner, be it taking an exam at school, can be shaped and transfigured by our worshipful life in Christ. With an approach like those at Babel, life becomes mundane, without meaning, and our work becomes temporal, fleeting, soul-less. With the approach of Pentecost, doing it with, for, and imbued with God, true life and joy come forth, and our work becomes holy. We see faithful men, women, and children, who live lives that are imbued with this holiness. Let us emulate them, and let us especially emulate their desire to do all things with a worshipful spirit to the Glory of God!

In Christ’s Service,

Fr. Theodore
frtheodore@holycrossga.org

A Note from the Parish Council President

Natalia Saratsiotis, President | natalia.saratsiotis@gmail.com

Father Theodore & Fellow Parishioners,

Iconography is here...Glory to God! I would like to start off by thanking Emily Dermatas for her leadership and the Planning Committee (Cleo Bennette, Cristina Lekas, Kathye Patras, Cheryl Stefanis and Gray Yates) for their tireless efforts and ensuring every aspect was carefully considered and protocol followed. Thank you to Father Theodore for your guidance and steadfast support of this important effort. Many may not realize the countless hours this team has devoted to Holy Cross, and I personally am thankful to you all for bringing iconography into our church.

As we move forward with the final phase (the North and South walls), we are launching our Iconography Campaign to raise the necessary funds. Spyros Dermatas, Jim Lekas and Gray Yates have taken on this tremendous responsibility. Thank you to these men along with the Planning Committee for taking on this next endeavor. We deeply appreciate your commitment to this next chapter.

Each time I step into the church, it brings a new and moving experience. Many of you know that I have been Orthodox since birth. I continue to learn more and more about our faith every day. This is all thanks to the teachings of Father Theodore, and now, by the grace of God, the iconography that adorns the Altar and West Wall of our beautiful church.

The icons that adorn the Altar and West wall are not unfamiliar. We have seen the icons whether Father has placed them on the Solea or in the Narthex for us to venerate. And yet, seeing them on the walls, permanently part of the sacred space, feels profoundly different. In the short time that we have had the Iconography, I have had many conversations with many different people, including my niece, Caroline. Though we try not to speak during the service, she often whispers questions to me about the saints and scenes she sees. These moments have opened a wonderful dialogue, allowing me to share what I know about our faith.

I, too, am asking questions like Caroline is asking me. I have had several conversations with Emily about the various icons, and even at my age, I am still learning. What an incredible opportunity we've been given to engage in such discussion and continue growing in our Orthodox faith. How powerful is it that Father Theodore is able to give his homily while referencing the icons on the wall?

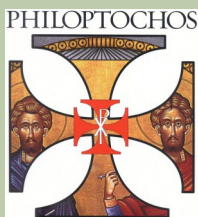
I have been very honest with everyone that I struggle with change. I was nervous about this phase (worried that it wouldn't look good, the size wouldn't be right, etc.). I am so happy that all my worries were just that...worries! I am also happy that my worries were wrong! Meeting Ari Kovaci and his team was such a joy! As I watched them, I knew from the minute they started that they were the right choice! Watching them in action was inspiring! I loved every minute of them being here, and I am excited to have them come back. The team has been given a gift, and they executed it with natural ease! They definitely put my concerns at ease.

So I leave you with this thought...*Every day is an opportunity to learn!* Let's not take this beautiful offering that the Planning Committee has brought to us for granted. Have those meaningful conversations. Ask questions. Deepen your understanding of Orthodox Christianity! What a blessing it is to grow in faith...together!

In Christ's love,
Natalia Saratsiotis

2025 PARISH COUNCIL

Natalia Saratsiotis, President
Jim Lekas, Vice-President
John Apostolou, Treasurer
Maria Spicer, Assistant Treasurer
Chad Ridley, Secretary
Sarah Drakopoulos, Assistant Secretary
Gray Yates, Member-at-Large



Our Mission:
*To promote charitable, benevolent and philanthropic outreach;
to preserve the sanctity of life and family;
and to perpetuate and promote our Orthodox faith and traditions.*

Dear Fr. Theodore and Holy Cross Parishioners,

I'd like to thank Eleni Adams, chairwoman of our Lenten Luncheon, and her team, for organizing such a lovely afternoon. With your generosity, \$400 was raised with all proceeds going to support Hellenic College Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, our wonderful Orthodox College and Seminary (which offers multiple degree track options beyond the study of Theology!). I would also like to thank Cheryl Schwartzkopf and her team for organizing the delicious and celebratory Palm Sunday Fish Luncheon for our parishioners and guests.

We recently had the pleasure of packing over 600 bags of food in a "double shift" at the Backpack Ministry headquarters. These bags are given to local students to take home on Fridays after school to supplement their nutritional needs until they're back at school on Monday. Our Philoptochos ladies typically help on the "school side," distributing the bags to the classrooms. It was amazing to be on the "packing side" of this incredible and logistically complicated ministry! We will continue volunteering with them when the school year starts again in the late summer.

Several ladies from the community had a fabulous time at Kathy's for our Spring Social Gathering! We thank Kathy for her gracious hospitality and for the fun! There were card games, great food, and a lot of laughs. This June 1st - July 31st we are partnering with the Kolbe Center, our local crisis pregnancy center, in efforts to reach their goal of 3,000 packs of donated diapers for our area moms and babies! The drop off basket will be in the Narthex through July. Thank you for in advance for bringing in diapers!

Finally, it has been my blessing and honor to serve as the Philoptochos President. We recently had elections and I am grateful to everyone who was elected to the Board. Sarah Drakopoulos will be representing our Philoptochos Chapter at this summer's Biennial Metropolis of Atlanta Clergy Laity in Charleston, SC. She will surely have wonderful things to report when she returns and ideas to bring to our group.

One last time, please accept my personal and genuine invitation to join the Philoptochos Society if you haven't already! Membership is "rolling," and we need as many women as we can to act as our Risen Lord's hands and feet, loving our neighbor and caring for the poor as Christ commands us to!

With sisterly love,
Cleo Bennette



Several parishioners volunteered for a "double" shift at the Backpack Ministry HQ packing over 600 weekend food bags for local kids.



Philoptochos participated in the National Orthodox Baby Shower, benefitting local community pregnancy resource centers and it was a great success! The items were donated to the Kolbe Center in downtown Macon. We thank Helen Vardy for organizing this event!



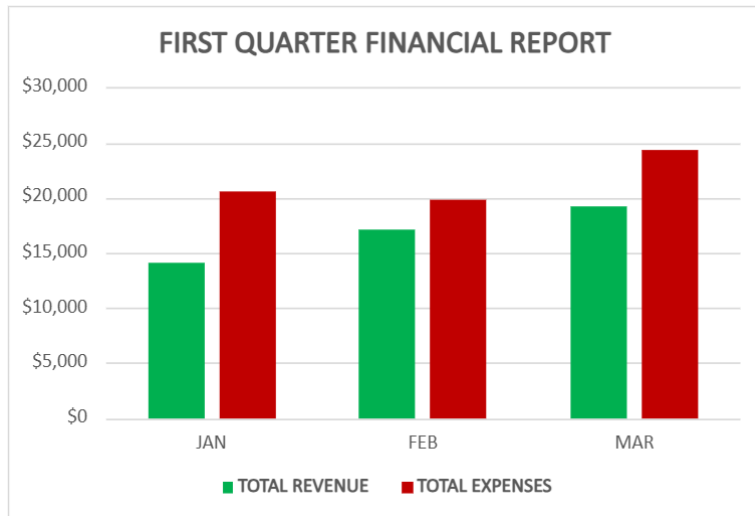
2025-2026 Philoptochos Board

President: Sarah Drakopoulos
1st VP: Helen Vardy
2nd VP: Pam Poulos
Treasurer: Maria Bronisevsky
Asst. Treasurer: Denna Bradford
Rec. Secretary: Cheryl Schwartzkopf
Corr. Secretary: Antigone Michalakos
Advisor: Cleo Bennette



Philoptochos members on Palm Sunday and the Lenten Luncheon 2025.

FINANCIAL REPORT



FIRST QUARTER (JAN-MAR)

	JAN	FEB	MAR
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 14,138.63	\$ 17,095.21	\$ 19,174.80
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 20,616.08	\$ 19,893.17	\$ 24,312.13
NET/DEFICIT	\$ (6,477.45)	\$ (2,797.96)	\$ (5,137.33)

**Thank you for all your contributions
and continued support
toward the growth
and future of our Parish!**

Please visit our web page at:
www.holycrossga.org

The Offering link will give you all the
options available for any financial
giving.

Venmo & PayPal
@HolyCrossMacon
CashApp \$HolyCrossMacon



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

TASSIE CANTRELL, CHARLES GLOTZBACH & BETH ZOUMBERTS

As we reflect on the first quarter of 2025, Holy Cross joyfully acknowledges 40 committed Stewards and 33 additional contributors among our total of 121 Family Units. May God richly bless each and every one of you who have made stewardship a priority in your spiritual journey. To those who have not yet joined, we warmly encourage you to prayerfully consider becoming part of this sacred effort. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference.

With 100% participation, our parish will not only thrive but also become a more vibrant witness of Christ's love. Together, let us build a stronger, more united Holy Cross—one where every family shares in the blessings and responsibilities of stewardship. Stewardship is a beautiful way to express your gratitude to God for the many blessings in your life. By intentionally offering a portion of your first fruits, you make a personal commitment to place God first—an act that takes thoughtfulness, faith, and sometimes even courage. Most importantly, it should always be done with a joyful heart.

Stewardship Pledge cards are available in the Narthex, next to the Sunday service bulletins. If you have not completed the form, please fill out the card and place it in the box in the Narthex.

Or by mail:
Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
Attention: Treasurer
859 First Street
Macon, GA 31201-6876

Or use this link to download a form:
www.holycrossga.org/stewardship

BUILDING COMMITTEE

JIM LEKAS, ALEX SARATSIOTIS, DAVID ZOUMBERTS

We hope everyone had a wonderful Pascha! The building committee has continued to focus on keeping our church property maintained and beautiful. Currently the roof of the church house near the back door is being worked on to fix an ongoing leak. It should be completed soon.

We recently had an expert come in and assess the stability and integrity of the back building. The results were very promising, showing that this building was well built, with steel beams and solid brick throughout. We now know that we have a very solid structure in which we can work with if we want to. Stay tuned for more updates on this in the future.

Hope everyone has a great upcoming summer!



Erick and Cheryl Schwartzkopf
Youth Ministry Directors
schwartzecn@yahoo.com

Dear Fr. Theodore and Fellow Parishioners,

The Holy Cross Youth were vital participants in celebrating Holy Week, Pascha, and making the Spring Fling such a success! We are looking forward this summer to celebrating our High School graduates, splashing at Rigby's and attending St. Stephen's Summer Camp!

Glory to God in All Things,

Erick and Cheryl Schwartzkopf



Upcoming Dates to Note:

We'll be honoring our high school and college graduates on June 8, 2025.

The First Day of the 2025-2026 Sunday School year will be the first Sunday after the Cross Dive on September 21, 2025.

Dear Holy Cross Family,

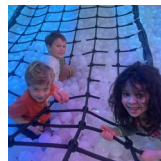
I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our wonderful teachers, Mr. Gray and Mrs. Helen, for their dedication to the teaching ministry. Through thoughtful discussions, creative lessons, and meaningful art projects, they have helped deepen our students' understanding of this year's curriculum theme: "Epistles, Feasts, and Sacraments."

Our children's lives in Christ are truly enriched by their guidance, and I am confident that our teachers feel equally blessed by the presence and spirit of our youth.

Love in Christ,
Presvytera Stacey



Honoring our Sunday School Teachers



YOUTH OUTING TO URBAN AIR IN FEBRUARY



SATURDAY OF LAZARUS YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT



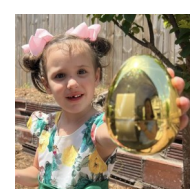
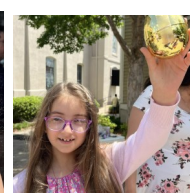
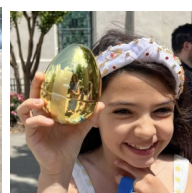
SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY ICON PROCESSION



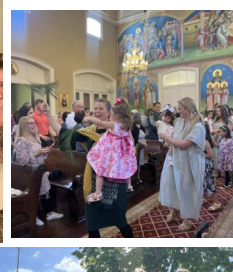
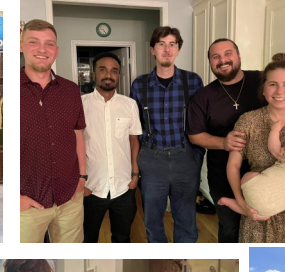
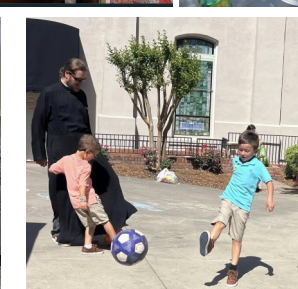
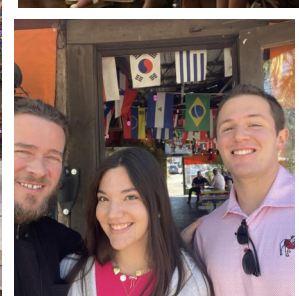
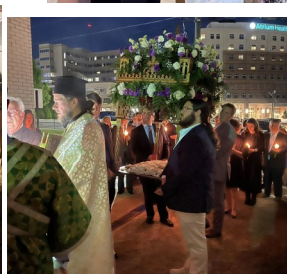
PICKLEBALL FUN WITH THE YOUTH!



ICE CREAM SUNDAES AND SMILES!

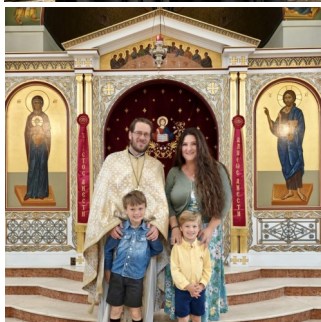


HOLY CROSS HIGHLIGHTS





In honor of his graduation from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology 10 years ago, Fr. Theodore and Presvytera Stacey celebrated Commencement Week at HCHC and attended alumni gatherings. Also pictured here, the Hierarchical Great Vespers with the bestowal of the Alumni Crosses, presided by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America at Holy Cross Chapel.



Fr. Theodore represented Holy Cross at the Christ Church (oldest church in Macon!) Bicentennial celebration (pictured with the Ehmers' friend and neighbor, retired Episcopal priest, Fr. Gary Abbott)



On February 28th, Fr. Theodore was the "Chaplain of the Day" at the Georgia State House of Representatives.



On March 23rd, our Parish welcomed Heirodeacon Fr. Sava to our parish from St. Simeon the Myrrh-Bearer Serbian Orthodox Church in Charlotte! He generously gave a presentation about Monasticism and joined us for Great Vespers and The Divine Liturgy the following day.



On March 15, our community was invited to the "Living Orthodoxy" Lenten Retreat at St. Innocent Orthodox Church, which featured guest speaker Dr. Eve Tibbs. Following the retreat, Fr. Theodore together with Fr. Theophan Buck participated in the Great Vespers for St. Gregory Palamas

American Red Cross

BLOOD DRIVE

JULY 23RD
3PM—7PM | PARISH HOUSE
Give Blood • Give Life

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO SCHEDULE YOUR
APPOINTMENT TODAY!
PLEASE CONSIDER
SIGNING UP AND
DONATING BLOOD!



4TH! ANNUAL PAN-ORTHODOX

CROSS DIVE

MACON, GA
HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

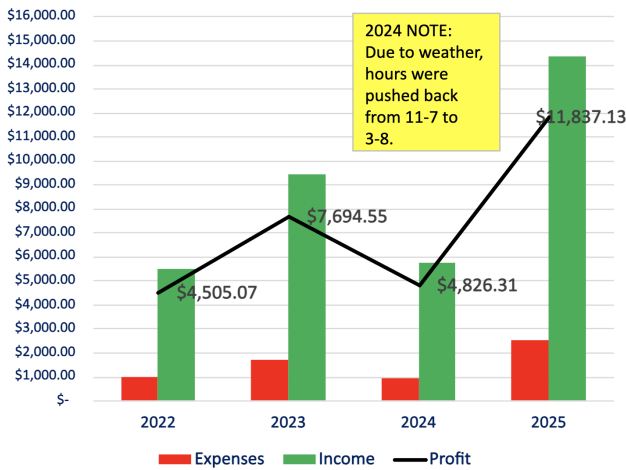
SEPT. 13, 2025
SAVE THE DATE!



**Want to be on the
Cross Dive Planning
Committee??
Let Fr. Theodore know!**

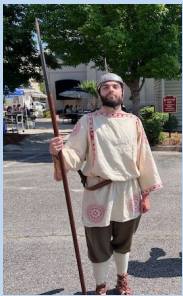
* GREEK SPRING FLING *

Spring Fling Financial Report



Thank You for Making the Greek Spring Fling a Success!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who came out to support and help during our Greek Spring Fling! This special one-day event gave us the opportunity to remind Central Georgia about our delicious homemade Greek food. We were also grateful to open the doors of our church, allowing guests to experience the beauty of our sanctuary and the stunning iconography that adorns our walls. Events like this are only possible because of the many dedicated hands that work behind the scenes—thank you for your time, talent and generosity. Be sure to mark your calendars for our biggest festival of the year: the **Central Georgia Greek Festival**, happening **October 24–26, 2025**. Help us spread the word—we can't wait to see you there!



Mark Your Calendars:
Central Georgia Greek Festival
October 24–26, 2025

PROJECT AGAPE PHASE IV: ICONOGRAPHY

Planning Committee: Emily Dermatas (Chairperson), Cleo Bennette, Cristina Lekas, Kathye Patras, Cheryl Stefanis

Project Agape Phase IV: Iconography has officially begun! On March 10th, Iconographer, Aristidis Kovaci, and his team arrived in Macon to begin installation of the Holy Altar Wall and West Wall. Steve Ard (Ard Construction) completed the installation of corner pieces which were placed above the Diakonikon and Proskomidi in the Holy Altar. Icons will also be written for these pieces in the future. Both the Holy Altar Wall and the West Wall were completed March 28th just in time for Pascha! Our icons remind us of the company of the “great cloud of witnesses” and help us experience the presence of heaven in our everyday worship. The Planning Committee is so blessed and thankful to have had the guidance of His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios, His Eminence Metropolitan Sevastianos, Frank Boardman (AIA), Chairman of Parish Facilities Committee, and our own Father Theodore in the careful planning of this Iconography project. We also want to thank the many parishioners who welcomed Ari and his team with philoxenia and true Southern hospitality. The North and South Walls will be installed and completed Spring 2026. For further information and how to donate, please visit www.holycrossga.org/iconography to view the Iconography project. You have the opportunity to sponsor an entire icon(s) or donate towards a specific icon(s). Pledge cards are available in the Narthex or visit the website for more details.

“Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31



HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBPAGE?

Our website offers detailed information about each icon that is (or will be) adorning our walls. Scan QR code to the left for more info.

FRIENDS & FAMILY CAMPAIGN

Have you submitted your 5 names and addresses? If not, there is still time. Either pick up a form in the Narthex or scan the QR Code to the right.



HOLY SACRAMENTS & SERVICES



On Saturday, March 1st, Mary Elizabeth Hollowell was received into the Holy Orthodox Church by Baptism and Chrismation! She has taken the baptismal name of Maria and her godmother/sponsor is Eleni Katsoudas from the Annunciation Cathedral in Atlanta.



On April 19th, immediately after the Proti-Anastasi (First Announcement of the Resurrection) Liturgy, Sebastian Wolfe was received into the Holy Orthodox Church by Baptism and Chrismation! He has taken the baptismal name of Seraphim and his godfather/sponsor is Haris Sorovigas.



On April 9th, we celebrated the 40-day churching of Schlyer Johnson and baby Henry.

Congratulations & God Grant You Many Years!



Happy 100th Birthday to Christine Nicholas! Our parishioners along with her family helped her celebrate her special day. We wish you many years, Chronia Polla!



We are so proud of our Greek School Students who participated in the Greek Independence Day Celebration on March 23rd. They recited poems and celebrated our heritage by wearing traditional costumes. We thank Antigone Michalakakis, our Greek Dance Instructor and Maria Bronisevsky, our Greek School Teacher. We also thank their assistants: Theo Drakopoulos, Joanna Patronis and Jessica Webb. We also thank the parents for their support!

PC ON DUTY, EPISTLE READERS & FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE

DATE	PC MEMBER ON DUTY	GREEK READER	ENGLISH READER	FELLOWSHIP HOST
June 1	Sarah Drakopoulos	Pete Tsamolias	René Esquivel	Sarah Drakopoulos
June 8	Chad Ridley	Aleca Hortman	Mike Cantrell	Cristina Lekas & Natalia Saratsiotis
June 15	Gray Yates	George Saratsiotis	Isabelle Saratsiotis	Ladies of the Parish Council
June 22	Natalia Saratsiotis	Pete Tsamolias	Charles Glotzbach	Chad Ridley
June 29	Jim Lekas	Chad Ridley	Carter Zoumberis	Mandi Saratsiotis
July 6	John Apostolou	George Saratsiotis	Beth Zoumberis	Marcela Chiorescu
July 13	Maria Spicer	Helen Troupas	Richard Stewart	Cheryl Schwartzkopf
July 20	Sarah Drakopoulos	Pete Tsamolias	Cheryl Schwartzkopf	Antigone Michalakakis
July 27	Chad Ridley	Chad Ridley	Nicholas True	Beth Zoumberis
August 3	Gray Yates	Haris Sorovigas	Caroline Saratsiotis	Need Someone—Still Available
August 10	Natalia Saratsiotis	Pete Tsamolias	Cleo Bennette	Ehmer Family
August 17	Jim Lekas	George Saratsiotis	Sarah Drakopoulos	Philoptochos (Panagiri)
August 24	John Apostolou	Kostas Iakovidis	Chrissy Zdrakas	Haris Sorovigas
August 31	Maria Spicer	Aleca Hortman	Nicholas True	Georgia Saratsiotis

BIRTHDAYS, NAME DAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

If you would like your birthday, Name Day, and/or anniversary listed in our weekly bulletins or if there is a correction that needs to be made, please email the office and we will add it to our master list. Please email office@holycrossga.org for any corrections.

June		7.14	*Tassie Cantrell (B)	*Marianna Lane (N)	
6.01	*Alexandra Stefanis (B)	7.15	*René Esquivel (B)	*Paige Crouse (N)	
	*Justin Lane (N)	7.17	*Marina Deskins (N)	*Peter Tsamolias (N)	
	*Erick & Cheryl Schwartzkopf (A)		*Anthony Nicholas Odom (N)	*Maria McCluskey (N)	
6.02	*Leo Economopoulos (B)	7.20	*Louis Bennette (N)	*Mary Katherine Saratsiotis (N)	
6.04	*Mary Gordy (N)		*Cleo Bennette (N)	*Chloe Morris (N)	
6.05	*Isabelle Saratsiotis (B)		*Paula and Jimmy Cacavias (A)	*Maria Murphy (N)	
6.06	*Danai & René Equivel (A)	7.21	*Diane Berkner (B)	*Mariana Filimon (N)	
6.07	*Chloe Morris (B)		*Alex Sorovigas (B)	*Lisa Needham (N)	
	*Haris Sorovigas (B)		*John Sorovigas (B)	*Mary Klaire Zoumberis (N)	
6.08	*Kalie Crouse Newman (N)	7.22	*Holly & Tony Economopoulos (A)	*Marie-Louise Saratsiotis (N)	
	*Elizabeth Zoumberis (B)		*Mary Monika Robinson (N)	*Ron Sprouse (N)	
	*Alexa Economopoulos (B)		*Marcela Chiorescu (N)	*Indie Day Morris (N)	
6.09	*James Bennette (B)		*Joan Cabral (N)	*Maria Mahoney (N)	
	*Erzebet & John Santon (A)		*René Antonio Esquivel, Jr. (B)	*Maria Bronisevsky (N)	
6.10	*Tony Paglieri (B)		*Evan Nanaj (N)	*Mary Elizabeth Hollowell (N)	
6.11	*Sophia McDowell (B)		*Milijana Hansee (N)	8.16	*Lisa Needham (B)
6.12	*Matthew Deskins (B)		*Afrodite Berberidis (B)	8.17	*Sofia Lekas (B)
	*Elizabeth & Tony Zoumberis (A)	7.24	*Eleni Adams (B)		*Nikitis Zoumberis (B)
6.15	*Isabelle Saratsiotis		*Christine Sprouse (N)	8.19	*Despina & Arty Passias (A)
6.16	*Henry Goss (B)	7.26	*Vivi Iakovidis (N)	8.20	*Tommy “Samuel” Roden (N)
6.17	*Father John Stefero (B)	7.27	*Pete Nicholas (N)	8.23	*Angelika Passias (B)
	*Georgios Tarasidis (B)		*Hazel Dunbar (N)	8.24	*Cristina and Jim Lekas (A)
	*Chrissy Holland (B)		*Daniela Peterson (B)	8.26	*Natalia Saratsiotis (N)
6.19	*Danny “Jude” McBride (N)		*Ethan “Panteleimon” Pellegrino (N)		*Natalia Lane (N)
6.21	*Ethan Pellegrino (B)	7.30	*Emily and Spyros Dermatas (A)		*Maria McCluskey (B)
6.24	*Chrissy and Guy Holland (A)		*Maria and Bob McCluskey (A)		*Jason Spicer (B)
	*Jessica Holland (N)	August		8.27	*CJ Newberry (N)
	*Marissa Goss (B)	8.02	*Lee Hornbaker (B)		*Kostas Berberidis (B)
6.25	*Lori Crouse Noblitt (B)	8.03	*Georgia Saratsiotis (B)	8.28	*George Iakovidis (B)
	*George Drakopoulos (B)	8.04	*Dimitris Karras (B)	8.30	*Alex Saratsiotis (N)
	*Maria & Tim Murphy (A)	8.05	*Pamela Poulos (B)		*Mandi Saratsiotis (N)
6.26	*Chrissy and Tom Zdrakas (A)		*James Scarborough (B)		*Aleca Hortman (N)
6.28	*Mina & Richard Stewart (A)	8.08	*Joachim Ehmer (B)		*Alexia Passias (N)
6.29	*Lee Hornbaker (N)	8.10	*Lori Crouse Noblitt (N)		*Alexandra Stefanis (N)
6.30	*Jessica Webb (B)		*Panayiotis Drakopoulos (B)	8.31	*Mariana & Dragos Filimon (A)
			*Nate Schwartzkopf (B)		*John Greene (B)
July		8.11	*Jim Lekas (B)		
7.02	*Arty Passias (B)	8.12	*Marcela & Cornelius Chiorescu (A)		
7.03	*Emily Dermatas (B)	8.13	*Presvytera Stacey Ehmer (B)		
7.04	*Tammy McDowell (B)	8.15	*Marcela Chiorescu (B)		
7.07	*Dominic Economopoulos (N)		*Paula Cacavias (N)		
	*Jordan Perry (B)		*Mary Hornbaker (N)		
7.08	*Paul Syribey (B)		*Maria Spicer (N)		
7.10	*Amalia Emily Dermatas (N)		*Panayiotis Drakopoulos (N)		
7.13	*Nicholas Michalakakis (B)		*Despina Passias (N)		

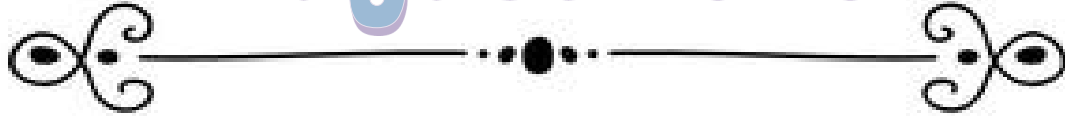
June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Fathers of the 1st Council 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 1:00pm Youth Greek Dance	2	3	4	5	6	7 Saturday of Souls 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy & Memorial Service 3:00pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers + Picnic @ St. Philothea in Athens
8 Holy Pentecost 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy Honoring of Graduates following Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Kneeling Vespers 1:00pm Fellowship 1:30pm Bible Study	9	10 5:30pm Great Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy	11 Sts. Bartholomew & Barnabas	12	13	14
Metropolis Clergy Laity (Charleston, South Carolina)						
15 Sunday of All Saints Father's Day 9:15 am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 1:00pm Youth Greek Dance	16 Start of Apostles Fast	17 5:15pm Parish Council Meeting	18 5:30pm Divine Liturgy honoring St. Jude 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy	19 St. Jude the Apostle	20	21 3:45pm Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
Clergy Laity						
22 2nd Sunday of Matthew 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Cross Dive Meeting 12:45pm Bible Study	23	24 Birth of St. John the Baptist 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy	25 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy	26	27	28
St. Stephen's Summer Camp @ Diakonia Center ~ Week 1						
29 Sts. Peter & Paul 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 1:00pm Youth Greek Dance	30 Synaxis of the Twelve Holy Apostles					
St. Stephen's (Wk 2)						
		Fasting Guide as prescribed by the Church:	<i>This color denotes a Strict Fast Day (basically, vegan/dry eating)</i>	<i>This color denotes an Oil + Wine permissible Fasting day, yet still vegan</i>	<i>This color denotes a Fish permissible Fasting Day, but without meat and dairy products</i>	<i>This color denotes a Cheese permissible Fasting Day, but without meat products</i>

July 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy	3	4 Independence Day OFFICE CLOSED	5
St. Stephen's Summer Camp @ Diakonia Center ~ Week 2					
6 4th Sunday of Matthew 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy Doxology for Independence Day 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Bible Study	7	8	9 5:30pm Vespers 6:15pm Chant Class	10 11:00am Orthodox Book Study	11 12 3:45pm Intro to Orthodoxy 5:00pm Great Vespers
St. Stephen's Summer Camp @ Diakonia Center ~ Week 3					
13 Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 1:00pm Youth Greek Dance	14	15 5:15pm Parish Council Meeting	16 5:30pm Great Vespers 6:30pm Divine Liturgy honoring St. Marina	17 St. Marina 11:00am Orthodox Book Study	18 8:00am Pastitsio Prep For the Festival (continued on Saturday if not finished)
St. Stephen's Summer Camp @ Diakonia Center ~ Week 4					
20 Prophet Elias 6th Sunday of Matthew 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Bible Study	21	22 St. Mary Magdalene 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy	23 3:00pm-7:00pm Blood Drive 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy	24	25 Dormition of St. Anna 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy
St. Stephen's Summer Camp @ Diakonia Center ~ Week 5					
27 7th Sunday of Matthew 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 1:00pm Youth Greek Dance	28	29	30 5:30pm Vespers 6:15pm Chant Class	31 11:00am Orthodox Book Study	
		Fasting Guide as prescribed by the Church:	<i>This color denotes a Strict Fast Day (basically, vegan/dry eating)</i>	<i>This color denotes an Oil +Wine permissible Fasting day, yet still vegan</i>	<i>This color denotes a Fish permissible Fasting Day, but without meat and dairy products</i>
					<i>This color denotes a Cheese permissible Fasting Day, but without meat products</i>

August 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Beginning of Dormition Fast Procession of the Holy Cross 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 6:00pm Small Paraklesis	2 3:45pm Intro to Orthodoxy 5:00pm Great Vespers
3 8th Sunday of Matthew 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy / Backpack Blessing for Teachers & Students 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Bible Study	4	5 Great Vespers @ Holy Transfiguration in Marietta, GA	6 Transfiguration of Christ 9:30am Orthros 10:30 Divine Liturgy	7 11:00am Orthodox Book Study 5:30pm Great Paraklesis	8 5:00pm Small Paraklesis	9 3:45pm Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
10 9th Sunday of Matthew 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 1:00pm Parish Council Meeting & Youth Greek Dance	11	12 5:30pm Great Paraklesis 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy	13 5:00pm Small Paraklesis	14 6:00pm Great Vespers	15 The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary 9:30am Orthros 10:30 Divine Liturgy	16 8:00am Spanakopita Prep for Festival 5:00pm Great Vespers
17 10th Sunday of Matthew 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Panagiri sponsored by Philoptochos	18	19	20 Prophet Samuel 5:00pm Orthros 6:00pm Divine Liturgy	21 11:00am Orthodox Book Study	22	23 Panagia Prousiotissa 9:30am Orthros 10:30 Divine Liturgy 3:45pm Intro to Orthodoxy
24 11th Sunday of Matthew 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Bible Study 1:00pm Youth Greek Dance	25	26 Sts. Adrian & Natalia 6:00pm Divine Liturgy	27	28 11:00am Orthodox Book Study	29 Beheading of St. John the Baptist 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy	30 3:45pm Intro to Orthodoxy 5:00 Great Vespers
31 12th Sunday of Matthew 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship		Fasting Guide as prescribed by the Church:	<i>This color</i> <i>denotes a Strict Fast</i> <i>Day (basically,</i> <i>vegan/dry eating)</i>	<i>This color</i> <i>denotes an Oil +Wine</i> <i>permissible</i> <i>Fasting day, yet still</i> <i>vegan</i>	<i>This color</i> <i>denotes a Fish</i> <i>permissible</i> <i>Fasting Day, but</i> <i>without meat and dairy</i> <i>products</i>	<i>This color</i> <i>denotes a Cheese</i> <i>permissible</i> <i>Fasting Day, but</i> <i>without meat</i> <i>products</i>

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
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