



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, June 8, 2025

Sunday of Holy Pentecost

Transfer of the Relics of St. Theodore the Commander

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Festal (John 20:19-23)

Mode of the Week: Festal / της Εορτής

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

Today, June 8

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of Holy Pentecost
Honoring of Graduates at the end of the Divine Liturgy
12:00pm Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost
Coffee Fellowship after the Vespers
1:30pm Bible Study

Tuesday, June 10

5:30pm Great Vespers honoring Sts. Bartholomew and Barnabas
6:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class in the Library/Zoom

Wed. June 11—Sat. June 14

Metropolis Clergy-Laity Conference in Charleston, South Carolina

Sunday, June 15

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of All Saints (Father's Day)
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
1:00pm Youth Greek Dance

Monday, June 16

Beginning of the Apostles Fast (through June 28)

Tuesday, June 17

5:15pm Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, June 18

5:30pm Divin Liturgy honoring St. Jude the Apostle
6:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class in the Library/Zoom

Saturday, June 21

3:45pm Byzantine Chant Class in the Library
5:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday, June 22

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 2nd Sunday of Matthew
Coffee Fellowship after the Divine Liturgy
12:30pm Cross Dive Meeting
12:45pm Bible Study

Tuesday, June 24

9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Wednesday, June 25

5:30pm Vespers
6:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class in the Library/Zoom

Saturday, June 28

4:30pm Wedding of Lindsey Holland and Gray Yates

Sunday, June 29

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of Sts. Peter and Paul
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
1:00pm Youth Greek Dance

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (6/15) George Saratsiotis, Isabelle Saratsiotis; (6/22) Pete Tsamolias, Charles Glotzbach
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (6/15) Gray Yates; (6/22) Natalia Saratsiotis; (6/29) Chad Ridley; (7/6) John A.
Upcoming Ushers: (6/10) Cristina L.; (6/15) Cheryl S.; (6/18) Cristina L.; (6/21) Charles G.; (6/22) Sarah D., Natalia S
Upcoming Video Operators: (6/15) David Z.; (6/22) David N./Gray Y.; (6/29) Harry B.; (7/6) OPEN; (7/13) David Z.
Fellowship Hosts: (6/15) Ladies of Parish Council; (6/22) Chad Ridley; (6/29) Mandi Saratsiotis; (7/6) Marcella C.

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

*Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος αὐτῶν,
καὶ εἰς τὰ πέρατα τῆς οἰκουμένης τὰ ῥήματα
αὐτῶν.*

*Στίχ. Οἱ οὐρανοὶ διηγοῦνται δόξαν Θεοῦ,
ποιήσιν δὲ χειρῶν αὐτοῦ ἀναγγέλλει τὸ
στερέωμα.*

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Πράξεων τῶν Ἀποστόλων τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἐν τῷ συμπληροῦσθαι τὴν ἡμέραν τῆς πεντηκοστῆς ἦσαν ἅπαντες ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐπὶ τὸ αὐτό. καὶ ἐγένετο ἄφνω ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἦχος ὥσπερ φερομένης πνοῆς βιαίας, καὶ ἐπλήρωσεν ὅλον τὸν οἶκον οὗ ἦσαν καθήμενοι· καὶ ὤφθησαν αὐτοῖς διαμεριζόμεναι γλῶσσαι ὥσει πυρός, ἐκάθισέ τε ἐφ’ ἓνα ἕκαστον αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπλήσθησαν ἅπαντες Πνεύματος Ἁγίου, καὶ ἤρξαντο λαλεῖν ἑτέραις γλώσσαις καθὼς τὸ Πνεῦμα ἐδίδου αὐτοῖς ἀποφθέγγεσθαι. Ἦσαν δὲ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ κατοικοῦντες Ἰουδαῖοι, ἄνδρες εὐλαβεῖς ἀπὸ παντὸς ἔθνους τῶν ὑπὸ τὸν οὐρανόν· γενομένης δὲ τῆς φωνῆς ταύτης συνῆλθε τὸ πλῆθος καὶ συνεχύθη, ὅτι ἤκουον εἰς ἕκαστος τῇ ἰδίᾳ διαλέκτῳ λαλούντων αὐτῶν. ἐξίσταντο δὲ πάντες καὶ ἐθαύμαζον λέγοντες πρὸς ἀλλήλους· οὐκ ἰδοὺ πάντες οὗτοί εἰσιν οἱ λαοῦντες Γαλιλαῖοι; καὶ πῶς ἡμεῖς ἀκούομεν ἕκαστος τῇ ἰδίᾳ διαλέκτῳ ἡμῶν ἐν ᾗ ἐγεννήθημεν, Πάρθοι καὶ Μηδοὶ καὶ Ἑλαμίται, καὶ οἱ κατοικοῦντες τὴν Μεσοποταμίαν, Ἰουδαίαν τε καὶ Καππαδοκίαν, Πόντον καὶ τὴν Ἀσίαν, Φρυγίαν τε καὶ Παμφυλίαν, Αἴγυπτον καὶ τὰ μέρη τῆς Λιβύης τῆς κατὰ Κυρήνην, καὶ οἱ ἐπιδημοῦντες Ῥωμαῖοι, Ἰουδαῖοί τε καὶ προσήλυτοι, Κρήτες καὶ Ἀραβες, ἀκούομεν λαλούντων αὐτῶν ταῖς ἡμετέραις γλώσσαις τὰ μεγαλεῖα τοῦ Θεοῦ;

*Their proclamation went forth into all
the earth, and their words to the ends of
the world.*

*Verse: The heavens declare the glory of
God; the firmament shows the creation
of His hands.*

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*The reading is from the Acts of the
Apostles. (2:1-11)*

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When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. John (7:37-52, 8:12)

Sunday of Holy Pentecost

Τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ μεγάλῃ τῆς ἑορτῆς εἰστήκει ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἔκραξε λέγων· ἐάν τις διψᾷ, ἐρχέσθω πρὸς με καὶ πινέτω. ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμέ, καθὼς εἶπεν ἡ γραφή, ποταμοὶ ἐκ τῆς κοιλίας αὐτοῦ ρέουσιν ὕδατος ζῶντος. τοῦτο δὲ εἶπε περὶ τοῦ Πνεύματος οὗ ἔμελλον λαμβάνειν οἱ πιστεύοντες εἰς αὐτόν· οὐπω γὰρ ἦν Πνεῦμα Ἅγιον, ὅτι Ἰησοῦς οὐδέπω ἐδοξάσθη. Πολλοὶ οὖν ἐκ τοῦ ὄχλου ἀκούσαντες τὸν λόγον ἔλεγον· οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ προφήτης· ἄλλοι ἔλεγον· οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ Χριστός· ἄλλοι ἔλεγον· μὴ γὰρ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας ὁ Χριστὸς ἔρχεται; οὐχὶ ἡ γραφή εἶπεν ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος Δαυὶδ καὶ ἀπὸ Βηθλεὲμ τῆς κώμης, ὅπου ἦν Δαυΐδ, ὁ Χριστὸς ἔρχεται; σχίσμα οὖν ἐν τῷ ὄχλῳ ἐγένετο δι’ αὐτόν. τινὲς δὲ ᾔθελον ἐξ αὐτῶν πιάσαι αὐτόν, ἀλλ’ οὐδεὶς ἐπέβαλεν ἐπ’ αὐτόν τὰς χεῖρας. Ἦλθον οὖν οἱ ὑπηρέται πρὸς τοὺς ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ Φαρισαίους, καὶ εἶπον αὐτοῖς ἐκεῖνοι· διατί οὐκ ἠγάγετε αὐτόν; ἀπεκρίθησαν οἱ ὑπηρέται· οὐδέποτε οὕτως ἐλάλησεν ἄνθρωπος, ὥς οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος. ἀπεκρίθησαν οὖν αὐτοῖς οἱ Φαρισαῖοι· μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς πεπλάνησθε; μὴ τις ἐκ τῶν ἀρχόντων ἐπίστευσεν εἰς αὐτόν ἢ ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων; ἀλλ’ ὁ ὄχλος οὗτος ὁ μὴ γινώσκων τὸν νόμον ἐπικατάρατοί εἰσι! λέγει Νικόδημος πρὸς αὐτούς, ὁ ἐλθὼν νυκτὸς πρὸς αὐτόν, εἷς ὢν ἐξ αὐτῶν· μὴ ὁ νόμος ἡμῶν κρίνει τὸν ἄνθρωπον, ἐὰν μὴ ἀκούσῃ παρ’ αὐτοῦ πρότερον καὶ γινῶ τί ποιεῖ; ἀπεκρίθησαν καὶ εἶπον αὐτῷ· μὴ καὶ σὺ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας εἶ; ἐρεύνησον καὶ ἴδε ὅτι προφήτης ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας οὐκ ἐγήγερται. Πάλιν οὖν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐλάλησε λέγων· ἐγὼ εἰμι τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου· ὁ ἀκολουθῶν ἐμοὶ οὐ μὴ περιπατήσει ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ, ἀλλ’ ἔξει τὸ φῶς τῆς ζωῆς.

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, “If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me as the scripture has said, out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.” Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Holy Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some of the people said, “This is really the prophet.” Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?” So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. The officers then went back to the chief priest and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why did you not bring him?” The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this man!” The Pharisees answered them, “Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed.” Nikodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, “Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?” They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee.” Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

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 June 8, 2025

Ushers on Duty: Charles Glotzbach, Jim Lekas

Video: Cristina L.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Aleca Hortman (Greek); Mike Cantrell (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Cristina Lekas/Natalia Saratsiotis

PC Member On-Duty: Jim Lekas



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Sunday of Holy Pentecost (Κυριακή της Πεντηκοστής)

After the Saviour's Ascension into the Heavens, the eleven Apostles and the rest of His disciples, the God-loving women who followed after Him from the beginning, His Mother, the most holy Virgin Mary, and His brethren-all together about 120 souls returned from the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem. Entering into the house where they gathered, they went into the upper room, and there they persevered in prayer and supplication, awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit, as their Divine Teacher had promised them. In the meanwhile, they chose Matthias, who was elected to take the place of Judas among the Apostles.

Thus, on this day, the seventh Sunday of Pascha, the tenth day after the Ascension and the fiftieth day after Pascha, at the third hour of the day from the rising of the sun, there suddenly came a sound from Heaven, as when a mighty wind blows, and it filled the whole house where the Apostles and the rest with them were gathered. Immediately after the sound, there appeared tongues of fire that divided and rested upon the head of each one. Filled with the Spirit, all those present began speaking not in their native tongue, but in other tongues and dialects, as the Holy Spirit instructed them.

In celebration of Pentecost and the Descent of the Holy Spirit, there is no fasting this coming week.

- + Transfer of the relics of the Holy Great-Martyr Theodore the Commander (Θεόδωρος του Στρατηλάτου) (+319)
- + Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos and the Archangel Michael in Sosthenio district of Constantinople
- + The Holy Martyrs Nicander (Νικάνδρος) and Marcian Μαρκιανός) at Dorostolum in Moesia (+297)
- + The Holy Martyr Kalliopi (Καλλιόπη) at Rome (+250)
- + The Devout Naucrati (Ναυκράτιος), brother of St. Basil the Great (+4th Century)
- + The Holy New Martyr Theophanes (Θεοφάνης) in Constantinople (+1559)

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 Pentecost (Ευλογητός ει, Plagal 4th Mode):

Blessed are You, O Christ our God. You made the fishermen all-wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them You drew the world into Your net. O Lover of mankind, glory to You. (Sung before and after the Small Entrance, Greek text in hymnal on pg. 172)

- Special Small Entrance Hymn (Υψώθητι, Κύριε, 2nd Mode):

Be exalted, O Lord, in Your power; we will sing and praise Your mighty deeds. Save us, O good Comforter. We sing to You, Alleluia.

- The Hymn of the Holy Cross is not sung today due to it being one of the Great Feasts.

- The Kontakion of Pentecost (Ότε καταβάς, Plagal 4th Mode):

When the Most High God came down and confused the tongues, He divided the nations. When He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity. And with one voice we glorify the all-holy Spirit. (Greek text in hymnal on pg. 274)

- Instead of “Agios o Theos” (Όσοι εις Χριστόν, 1st Mode):

You who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ, Alleluia. (Greek text in hymnal on pg. 292)

- Instead of “Axion Estin” (Μη της φθοράς, Grave Mode):

When you conceived, you experienced no deflowerment. You lent your flesh to the Logos, through whom all things were made. Therefore we magnify you, Virgin Theotokos, Mother who knew no man, space and holder of your Maker, who is uncontainable and infinite.

- Communion Hymn (Το πνεύμα σου):

Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. Alleluia. (Psalm 142)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily

Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday, June 8: Pentecost—No Fasting:

John 20:19-23; Acts 2:1-11; John 7:37-52, 8:12

Monday, June 9: Mon. of the Holy Spirit—No Fasting:

Ephesians 5:8-19; Matthew 18:10-20

Tuesday, June 10—No Fasting:

Romans 1:1-7, 13-17; Matthew 4:23-25, 5:1-13

Wednesday, June 11: St. Bartholomew—No Fasting:

Luke 10:16-21; Acts 11:19-30; Luke 10:16-21

Thursday, June 12—No Fasting:

Romans 1:28-32, 2:1-9; Matthew 5:27-32

Friday, June 13—No Fasting:

Romans 2:14-28; Matthew 5:33-41

Saturday, June 14—No Fasting:

Romans 1:7-12; Matthew 5:42-48

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, Karl, Colin, Mitch, Rinne, Michael, Christian, Paul, Lucas, Leo, Nicholas, Kevin, Andy, Karen, Vera, Adam, Debbie, Alberto, Sadith, Richelle, Marion, Paul, George, Christina, Eric, Kristen, Diane, Lydia

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Franklin (+May 21), Virginia (+May 24)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Betty, 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 Emma, Nate, Sophia, Susan, Tammy and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

St. Cyril of Jerusalem, summarizing what has occurred with the coming of Pentecost and the descent of the Holy Spirit: “And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit’ (Acts 2:3-4). They partook of fire, not of burning but of saving fire; of fire which consumes the thorns of sins, but gives luster to the soul. This is now coming upon you also, and that to strip away and consume your sins which are like thorns, and to brighten yet more that precious possession of your souls, and to give you grace; for He gave it then to the Apostles. And He sat upon them in the form of fiery tongues, that they might crown themselves with new and spiritual diadems by fiery tongues upon their heads. A fiery sword barred of old the gates of Paradise; a fiery tongue which brought salvation restored the gift.”

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

June 8: Kalie Crouse Newman

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

June 8: Alexa Econompoulos, Elizabeth Zoumberis

June 9: James Bennette

June 10: Tony Paglieri

June 11: Sophia McDowell

June 12: Matthew Deskins

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

June 9: Erzebet and John Santon

June 12: Elizabeth and Tony Zoumberis

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

Announcements:

* The **Kneeling Vespers** will follow the Divine Liturgy today. As one body, we will kneel liturgically for the first time since Pascha.

* **Youth/Young Adults:** We are honoring our high school and post-secondary graduates today at the end of the Divine Liturgy: Tammi Cantrell, Mary Elizabeth Hollowell, Sofia Lekas, Tammy McDowell, and Nate Schwartzkopf. Congratulations!

* The next **Introduction to the Orthodox Church** class will take place this Tuesday, June 10 at 6:30pm in the Church Library/on Zoom. The topic will be “The Divine Liturgy.” If you would like a recording of the previous session or be included on the email list for the class, please contact Fr. Theodore.

* The **Orthodox Book Study** has completed our reading of our previous book. The next book study will begin on Thursday, July 10.

* There will be a meeting for this year’s **Cross Dive** that will take place after the Divine Liturgy/Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, June 22. If you have previously served on this committee or would like to serve on this committee, we would love for you to attend! Also, mark your calendars for the 4th Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive which is on September 13, 2025.

* Fr. Theodore along with others in Holy Cross’s Leadership will be attending the **Metropolis Clergy Laity Conference** this coming week in Charleston, SC. In particular, **Fr. Theodore will be out of town** from Wednesday through Saturday. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact him on his cell at 770-256-0290 so that he can arrange for pastoral care. Please pray for the leadership of our Church, both at the local and metropolis level this coming week!

* For those traveling this summer, we pray you have a safe and relaxing vacation. As a friendly reminder, we offer LiveStreaming to those who are unable to attend services on our Facebook page.