



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



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Sunday, July 13, 2025

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council

Synaxis of Archangel Gabriel

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Fifth (Luke 24:12-35)

Mode of the Week: Fourth / Τέταρτος

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

Today, July 13

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council
Blessing of New Catechumens during the Liturgy
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
1:00pm Youth Greek Dance
Parish Family Fellowship/BYOPicnic at Lake Tobo

Monday, July 14

1:00pm Viewing (at the Church)
2:00pm Funeral for Lee (Pavlos) Hornbaker followed by Burial and Makaria

Tuesday, July 15

5:15pm Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, July 16

5:30pm Great Vespers
6:30pm Divine Liturgy honoring St. Marina the Great Martyr
7:30pm Planning Committee Meeting

Thursday, July 17

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

Friday, July 18

8:00am Pastitsio Prep for the Festival (potentially continued on Saturday)

Sunday, July 20

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of the Holy Prophet Elias (Elijah)
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
12:45pm Bible Study

Tuesday, July 22

9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Mary Magdelene

Wednesday, July 23

3:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive in the Parish House (until 7:00pm)
5:30pm Vespers for the Feast of St. Christina the Martyr
6:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class in the Library/Zoom

Friday, July 25

9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Dormition of St. Anna, mother of the Theotokos

Saturday, July 26

9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Paraskevi
4:00pm Youth Outing at Rigby's Waterpark

Sunday, July 27

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 7th Sunday of Matthew
Memorial Service for members of the Zoumberis Family at the end of the Liturgy
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
1:00pm Youth Greek Dance

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (7/20) Pete Tsamolias, Charles Glotzbach; (7/27) Chad Ridley, Nicholas True
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (7/20) Sarah Drakopoulos; (7/27) Chad Ridley; (8/3) Gray Yates; (8/10) Natalia
Upcoming Ushers: (7/16) Cristina L.; (7/20) John A., Charles G.; (7/22) Sarah D.; (7/23) Charles G.; (7/25) Eleni A.
Upcoming Video Operators: (7/20) Natalia S.; (7/25) Norm A.; (7/27) Gray, David N; (8/1a) Cristina; (8/1p) Natalia
Fellowship Hosts: (7/20) Antigone Michalakakis; (7/27) Beth Zoumberis; (8/3) Ehmers; (8/10) Planning Committee

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

Εὐφράνθητε ἐπὶ Κύριον καὶ
ἀγαλλιᾶσθε, δίκαιοι.
Στίχ. Μακάριοι ὧν ἀφέθησαν αἱ
ἀνομίαι.

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Πρὸς Τίτον Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ
ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Τέκνον Τίτε, πιστὸς ὁ λόγος· καὶ περὶ
τούτων βούλομαί σε διαβεβαιουῖσθαι,
ἵνα φροντίζωσι καλῶν ἔργων
προϊστασθαι οἱ πεπιστευκότες τῷ
Θεῷ. ταῦτά ἐστι τὰ καλὰ καὶ ὠφέλιμα
τοῖς ἀνθρώποις· μωρὰς δὲ ζητήσεις
καὶ γενεαλογίας καὶ ἔρεις καὶ μάχας
νομικὰς περιίστασο· εἰσὶ γὰρ
ἀνωφελεῖς καὶ μάταιοι. αἵρετικὸν
ἄνθρωπον μετὰ μίαν καὶ δευτέραν
νουθεσίαν παραιτοῦ, εἰδὼς ὅτι
ἐξέστραπται ὁ τοιοῦτος καὶ ἀμαρτάνει
ὧν αὐτοκατάκριτος. Ὅταν πέμψω
Ἀρτεμᾶν πρὸς σε ἢ Τυχικόν,
σπούδασον ἐλθεῖν πρὸς με εἰς
Νικόπολιν· ἐκεῖ γὰρ κέκρικα
παραχειμάσαι. Ζηνᾶν τὸν νομικὸν καὶ
Ἀπολλῶ σπουδαίως πρόπεμψον, ἵνα
μηδὲν αὐτοῖς λείπη. μανθανέτωσαν δὲ
καὶ οἱ ἡμέτεροι καλῶν ἔργων
προϊστασθαι εἰς τὰς ἀναγκαίας χρείας,
ἵνα μὴ ὦσιν ἄκαρποι. Ἀσπάζονται σε
οἱ μετ’ ἐμοῦ πάντες. ἄσπασαι τοὺς
φιλοῦντας ἡμᾶς ἐν πίστει. Ἡ χάρις
μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν· ἀμήν.

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice
greatly, O righteous ones.
Verse: Blessed are those whose
transgressions are forgiven.

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The reading is from Paul’s Letter to
Titus. (Titus 3:8-15)

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Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I
desire you to insist on these things,
so that those who have believed in
God may be careful to apply
themselves to good deeds; these are
excellent and profitable to men. But
avoid stupid controversies,
genealogies, dissensions, and
quarrels over the law, for they are
unprofitable and futile. As for a man
who is factious, after admonishing
him once or twice, have nothing
more to do with him, knowing that
such a person is perverted and
sinful; he is self-condemned. When I
send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do
your best to come to me at Nicopolis,
for I have decided to spend the
winter there. Do your best to speed
Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on
their way; see that they lack nothing.
And let our people learn to apply
themselves to good deeds, so as to
help cases of urgent need, and not to
be unfruitful. All who are with me
send greeting to you. Greet those
who love us in the faith. Grace be
with you all. Amen.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (5:14-19)

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ
μαθηταῖς· Ὑμεῖς ἐστε τὸ φῶς
τοῦ κόσμου. οὐ δύναται πόλις
κρυβῆναι ἐπάνω ὄρους κειμένη·
οὐδὲ καίουσι λύχνον καὶ τιθέασι
αὐτὸν ὑπὸ τὸν μόδιον, ἀλλ’ ἐπὶ
τὴν λυχνίαν, καὶ λάμπει πᾶσι
τοῖς ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ. οὕτω λαμψάτω
τὸ φῶς ὑμῶν ἔμπροσθεν τῶν
ἀνθρώπων, ὅπως ἴδωσιν ὑμῶν τὰ
καλὰ ἔργα καὶ δοξάσωσι τὸν
πατέρα ὑμῶν τὸν ἐν τοῖς
οὐρανοῖς. Μὴ νομίσητε ὅτι
ἦλθον καταλῦσαι τὸν νόμον ἢ
τοὺς προφῆτας· οὐκ ἦλθον
καταλῦσαι, ἀλλὰ πληρῶσαι.
ἀμὴν γὰρ λέγω ὑμῖν, ἕως ἂν
παρέλθῃ ὁ οὐρανὸς καὶ ἡ γῆ,
ἰῶτα ἐν ἧ μία κεραία οὐ μὴ
παρέλθῃ ἀπὸ τοῦ νόμου ἕως ἂν
πάντα γένηται. ὃς ἐὰν οὖν λύσῃ
μίαν τῶν ἐντολῶν τούτων τῶν
ἐλαχίστων καὶ διδάξῃ οὕτω τοὺς
ἀνθρώπους, ἐλάχιστος
κληθήσεται ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν
οὐρανῶν· ὃς δ’ ἂν ποιήσῃ καὶ
διδάξῃ, οὗτος μέγας κληθήσεται
ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν.

The Lord said to his
disciples, “You are the light of
the world. A city set on a hill
cannot be hid. Nor do men
light a lamp and put it under
a bushel, but on a stand, and
it gives light to all in the
house. Let your light so shine
before men, that they may see
your good works and give
glory to your Father who is in
heaven. Think not that I have
come to abolish the law and
the prophets; I have come not
to abolish them but to fulfill
them. For truly, I say to you,
till heaven and earth pass
away, not an iota, not a dot,
will pass from the law until
all is accomplished. Whoever
then relaxes one of the least
of these commandments and
teaches men so, shall be
called least in the kingdom of
heaven; but he who does
them and teaches them shall
be called great in the
kingdom of heaven.”

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 July 13, 2025

Ushers on Duty: Cristina and Jim Lekas

Video: David Needham **Altar Servers:** All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Helen Troupos (Greek); Richard Stewart (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Cheryl Schwartzkopf

PC Member On-Duty: Maria Spicer



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Sunday of the Holy 630 God-bearing Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council

On the Sunday that falls from the 13th to the 19th of the present month, we chant the Service to the 630 Holy and God-bearing Fathers who came together for the 4th Ecumenical Council who assembled in Chalcedon in 451, to condemn Eutyches, who taught that there was only one nature, the divine, in Christ after the Incarnation, and Dioscorus, Patriarch of Alexandria, who illegally received Eutyches back into communion and deposed Saint Flavian, Patriarch of Constantinople, who had excommunicated Eutyches.

- + Synaxis in honor of Archangel Gabriel (Γαβριήλ)

It is believed that the Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel was transferred to this day from March 26 so that it could be celebrated more festively than in the period of the Great Fast; and, in fact, all the miracles of the Archangel are celebrated on this feast day, which has been listed here in the church books since the ninth century.

- + Our Devout Father Stephen (Στέφανος) the Sabbaite (+794)
- + The Holy Woman Martyr Golindoux (Γολινδούχ) of Persia, renamed Mary (+591)

Saint Golindoux was a Persian, living in the reign of Chosroes II, King of Persia (590-628), and of Maurice, Emperor of New Rome (582-602). Moved by a divine revelation to become a Christian, she was betrayed to Chosroes by her husband and was cast into a dungeon called Oblivion for eighteen years, withstanding all attempts to make her deny Christ, and preserved by the grace of God. Set at liberty through the visitation of an Angel, she went to Jerusalem, and then to Constantinople, where she fell asleep in peace. She was called Mary in holy Baptism.

- + Venerable Sarah (Σάρρα) of Scetis (+370)
- + Saint Just of Penwith, Cornwall (+5th Century)

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):

- *Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Το φαίδρόν, 4th 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 in hymnal on pg. 110*)

- *Hymn of the Fathers (Υπερδεδοξασμένος ει, Plagal 4th Mode):*

Supremely blessed are You, O Christ our God. You established the holy Fathers upon the earth as beacons, and through them You have guided us all to the true Faith, O greatly merciful One, glory be to You.

- *Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σώσον Κύριε, 1st 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. (*sung in Greek and English*)

- *The Normal Kontakion of the Theotokos (Προστασία των Χριστιανών, 2nd Mode):*

O Protection of Christians that never falls, intercession with the Creator that never fails, we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you. (*Greek text in hymnal on pg. 224*)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily

Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

Sunday, July 13: Holy Fathers of the Fourth

Ecumenical Council—No Fasting:

Luke 24:12-35; Titus 3:8-15; Matthew 5:14-19

Monday, July 14—No Fasting:

Romans 16:1-16; Matthew 13:10-23,43

Tuesday, July 15—No Fasting:

I Corinthians 13:11-14, 14:1-5; Matthew 17:24-27, 18:1-4

Wednesday, July 16—Strict Fast:

I Corinthians 2:9-16, 3:1-8; Matthew 13:31-36

Thursday, July 17: St. Marina—No Fasting:

Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-5; Mark 5:24-34

Friday, July 18—Strict Fast:

I Corinthians 4:5-8; Matthew 13:44-54

Saturday, July 19—No Fasting:

Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 9:18-26

Prayer Requests for Health of Soul and Body:

Metropolitan Alexios, Fr. Symeon (mission priest supported by our parish), Fr. Mike, Panteleimon, Kassiani, Dimitri, Georgia, Maria, 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, Virgil, Lucy, George, John, Pauline

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Tina (+June 12), Tim (+June 14), Samuel (+June 26),

Ray (+July 7), Lee Pavlos (+June 9)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Betty, Heather, Julieta, Kalie

Prayers for Military Personnel and Their Families:

Aubriana Butchko, Benjamin George Davis, 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 and Mothers of our Holy Orthodox Church:

Regarding **Amma (Mother) Sarah** commemorated today: Not much is known about Sarah's life, although she is believed to have been well-educated and literate. She was attracted to the ascetic life, wanting to be pure at heart so that she could be united with God, but in this pursuit she struggled with the desires of the flesh, particularly lust. She became a hermit living near a river, which was probably the Nile, for sixty years, connected to a nearby monastic community. Amma Sarah said, 'If I prayed God that all men should approve of my conduct, I should find myself a penitent at the door of each one, but I shall rather pray that my heart may be pure towards all.'

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

July 17: Marian Deskins, Anthony Nicholas Odom, Nicholas True

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

July 13: Nicholas Michalakos

July 14: Tassie Cantrell

July 15: René Esquivel

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:

* **Congratulations** to Jonathan and Katina Brock on the Holy Baptism of their son, John William, yesterday. John's Godmother is Sofia Lekas.

* The next **Introduction to the Orthodox Church** class will take place Wednesday, July 23 at 6:30pm (after the Vespers) in the Church Library/on Zoom. The topic will be "What We Believe About the Saints and the Theotokos." 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** will continue this Thursday, July 17 at the Taste and See coffee shop in Downtown Macon. We are reading the book *For the Life of the World* by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, of blessed memory. There are copies of the book available in our Holy Cross Bookstore. Please plan on joining on Thursday mornings!

* **TODAY**, after the Divine Liturgy and the post-Church activities, plan on joining for a low-key afternoon of fellowship at Lake Tobo. BYOPicnic and beverages and let's enjoy a Sunday afternoon in fellowship by the lake!

* **Youth:** Please save the date for our annual outing at Rigby's on Saturday, July 26. Details have been sent by email.

* **Committee Chairmen:** Please let your Parish Council Liaison know if you have anything to report prior to their next meeting this Tuesday.

* **FESTIVAL NEWS: Pastitsio Prep** will take place on Friday, July 18th at 8:00am. If you are able to help, please contact Natalia for details. **Sponsorship Opportunities** have begun! We would love for everyone to find a new business to go in the program book. Please consider taking a form located in the Narthex and/or Parish House to a business here in Central Georgia. In addition to finding a business, if you would like to put a "Congratulations", "In Memory of", or any other family message, we are accepting those as well. All sponsorships (including artwork for the program book) is due August 15th. Scan the QR code to submit an ad. Contact Natalia if you have any questions. Also, be sure to mark your calendars for October 24-26!

* The next **Red Cross Blood Drive** will be taking place on the afternoon of Wednesday, July 23 from 3:00 to 7:00pm in the Parish House.

