



# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



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### Sunday, July 27, 2025

Seventh Sunday of Matthew

St. Panteleimon the Great Martyr

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Seventh (John 20:1-10)

Mode of the Week: Plagal of the Second/Πλ. του Δετέρου

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

*Today, July 27*

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

*Tuesday, July 29*

6-8pm Visitation for Irene Ray at Snow's on Mercer University Drive (Trisagion at 7:00pm)

*Wednesday, July 30*

12:00pm Funeral for Irene Ray (at the Church)

*Thursday, July 31*

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

*Friday, August 1*

9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy commemorating the Procession of the Holy Cross and the beginning of the Dormition Fast  
Small Paraklesis  
5:30pm

*Saturday, August 2*

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

*Sunday, August 3*

9:15am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew  
"Backpack Blessing" of the Teachers and Students at the end of the Liturgy  
Coffee Fellowship after the Liturgy  
12:45pm Bible Study

*Tuesday, August 5*

6:00pm Great Vespers for the Transfiguration of Christ (at Holy Transfiguration in Marietta)

*Wednesday, August 6*

9:30am Orthros  
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Transfiguration of Christ

*Thursday, August 7*

11:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste and See in Macon  
5:30pm Great Paraklesis

*Friday, August 8*

5:00pm Small Paraklesis

*Saturday, August 9*

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

*Sunday, August 10*

8:15am Orthros  
9:30am Divine Liturgy on the 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew  
Presentation by Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou at the end of the Liturgy  
Fellowship Luncheon after the Presentation in the Parish House  
1:00pm Youth Greek Dance

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (8/3) Haris Sorovigas, Caroline Saratsiotis; (8/10) Pete Tsamolias, Cleo Bennette  
**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (8/3) Gray Yates; (8/10) Natalia Saratsiotis; (8/17) Jim Lekas; (8/24) John A.  
**Upcoming Ushers:** (7/30) Cristina L.; (8/1a) OPEN; (8/1p) Charles G.; (8/2) Erick+Cheryl S.; (8/3) Sarah D.  
**Upcoming Video Operators:** (8/1a) Cristina L.; (8/1p) Natalia S.; (8/3) Joanna P.; (8/6) Cristina L.; (8/10) Natalia  
**Fellowship Hosts:** (8/3) Ehmers; (8/10) Planning Committee; (8/17) Philoptochos/Panagiri; (8/24) Haris Sorovigas

### 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

*Εὐφρανθήσεται δίκαιος ἐν Κυρίῳ.  
Στίχ. Εἰσάκουσον, ὁ Θεός, τῆς φωνῆς  
μου.*

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*Πρὸς Τιμόθεον Β΄ Ἐπιστολῆς  
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.*

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Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, ἐνδυναμοῦ ἐν τῇ χάριτι τῇ ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ, καὶ ἃ ἤκουσας παρ’ ἐμοῦ διὰ πολλῶν μαρτύρων, ταῦτα παράθου πιστοῖς ἀνθρώποις, οἵτινες ἱκανοὶ ἔσονται καὶ ἐτέρους διδάξαι. σὺ οὖν κακοπάθησον ὡς καλὸς στρατιώτης Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. οὐδεὶς στρατευόμενος ἐμπλέκεται ταῖς τοῦ βίου πραγματείαις, ἵνα τῷ στρατολογήσαντι ἀρέσῃ. ἐὰν δὲ καὶ ἀθλῇ τις, οὐ στεφανοῦται, ἐὰν μὴ νομίμως ἀθλήσῃ. τὸν κοπιῶντα γεωργὸν δεῖ πρῶτον τῶν καρπῶν μεταλαμβάνειν. νόει ἃ λέγω· δόξη γάρ σοι ὁ Κύριος σύνεσιν ἐν πᾶσι. Μνημόνευε Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν ἐγγεγερμένον ἐκ νεκρῶν, ἐκ σπέρματος Δαυὶδ, κατὰ τὸ εὐαγγέλιόν μου, ἐν ᾧ κακοπαθῶ μέχρι δεσμῶν ὡς κακοῦργος· ἀλλ’ ὁ λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ οὐ δέδεται. διὰ τοῦτο πάντα ὑπομένω διὰ τοὺς ἐκλεκτούς, ἵνα καὶ αὐτοὶ σωτηρίας τύχωσι τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ μετὰ δόξης αἰωνίου.

The righteous man shall be glad in the Lord.

*Verse: Hear my voice, O God.*

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The reading is from Paul’s Second Letter to Timothy. (2:1-10)

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Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

# The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (9:27-35)

Seventh Sunday of Matthew

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ παράγοντι τῷ Ἰησοῦ ἠκολούθησαν αὐτῷ δύο τυφλοὶ κράζοντες καὶ λέγοντες· ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς, υἱὲ Δαυΐδ. ἐλθόντι δὲ εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν προσῆλθον αὐτῷ οἱ τυφλοί, καὶ λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· πιστεύετε ὅτι δύναμαι τοῦτο ποιῆσαι; λέγουσιν αὐτῷ· ναί, Κύριε. τότε ἥψατο τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν αὐτῶν λέγων· κατὰ τὴν πίστιν ὑμῶν γενηθήτω ὑμῖν. καὶ ἀνεώχθησαν αὐτῶν οἱ ὀφθαλμοί· καὶ ἐνεβριμήσατο αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· ὁρᾶτε μηδεὶς γινωσκέτω. οἱ δὲ ἐξελθόντες διεφήμισαν αὐτὸν ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ γῇ ἐκείνῃ. Αὐτῶν δὲ ἐξερχομένων ἰδοὺ προσήνεγκαν αὐτῷ ἄνθρωπον κωφὸν δαιμονιζόμενον· καὶ ἐκβληθέντος τοῦ δαιμονίου ἐλάλησεν ὁ κωφός, καὶ ἐθαύμασαν οἱ ὄχλοι λέγοντες ὅτι οὐδέποτε ἐφάνη οὕτως ἐν τῷ Ἰσραήλ. οἱ δὲ Φαρισαῖοι ἔλεγον· ἐν τῷ ἄρχοντι τῶν δαιμονίων ἐκβάλλει τὰ δαιμόνια. Καὶ περιῆγεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὰς πόλεις πάσας καὶ τὰς κώμας διδάσκων ἐν ταῖς συναγωγαῖς αὐτῶν καὶ κηρύσσων τὸ εὐαγγέλιον τῆς βασιλείας καὶ θεραπεύων πᾶσαν νόσον καὶ πᾶσαν μαλακίαν ἐν τῷ λαῷ.

At that time, as Jesus went on, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, “Have mercy on us, Son of David.” When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said to him, “Yes, Lord.” Then he touched their eyes, saying, “According to your faith be it done to you.” And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, “See that no one knows it.” But they went away and spread his fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, “Never was anything like this seen in Israel.” But the Pharisees said, “He casts out demons by the prince of demons.” And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ehmer

Προϊστάμενος/Presiding Priest

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Holy Confession: call or email Fr. to schedule

### Bulletin for the week of July 27, 2025

**Ushers on Duty:** Erick and Cheryl Schwartzkopf  
**Video:** Gray Y./David N. **Altar Servers:** All Adult/Youth Servers

**Epistle Readers:** Chad Ridley (Greek); Nicholas True (English)

**Fellowship Host (Thank You!):** Beth Zoumberis

**PC Member On-Duty:** Chad Ridley



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + The Holy Glorious Great Martyr and Healer Panteleimon (Παντελεήμων) and the blind man healed by him (+305)

*This Saint, who had Nicomedia as his homeland, was the son of Eustorgius and Eubula. His father was an idolater, but his mother was a Christian from her ancestors. It was through her that he was instructed in piety, and still later, he was catechized in the Faith of Christ by Saint Hermolaus (see July 26) and baptized by him. Being proficient in the physician's vocation, he practiced it in a philanthropic manner, healing every illness more by the grace of Christ than by medicines. Thus, although his parents had named him Pantoleon ("in all things a lion"), because of the compassion he showed for the souls and bodies of all, he was worthily renamed Panteleimon, meaning "all-merciful." On one occasion, when he restored the sight of a certain blind man by calling on the Divine Name, he enlightened also the eyes of this man's soul to the knowledge of the truth. This also became the cause for the martyrdom of him who had been blind, since when he was asked by whom and in what manner his eyes had been opened, in imitation of that blind man of the Gospel he confessed with boldness both who the physician was and the manner of his healing. For this he was put to death immediately. Panteleimon was arrested also, and having endured many wounds, he was finally beheaded in the year 305, during the reign of Maximian. Saint Panteleimon is one of the Holy Unmercenaries, and is held in special honor among them, even as Saint George is among the Martyrs.*

- + The 153 Holy Martyrs from Thrace
- + Our Devout Mother Anthusa (Ανθοῦσα) the Confessor (+759)
- + The Venerable Nicholas (Νικόλαος) Kochanov, Fool for Christ of Novgorod (+1392)
- + The Holy New Martyr Christodoulos (Χριστόδουλος) from Cassandra (+1777)

*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 (Αγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις, Plagal 2<sup>nd</sup> Mode):*

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary, who was seeking Your immaculate body. Unassailed by Hades, You divested it of spoils. Then You met the Virgin. You granted life. O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You! (*Sung before and after the Small Entrance, Greek text in hymnal on pg. 118*)

- *Hymn of St. Panteleimon (Αθλοφόρε ἅγιε, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mode):*

Holy medaled Martyr and healer St. Panteleimon, make intercession to our merciful God, that He grant our souls remission of offenses.

- *Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σῶσον Κύριε, 1<sup>st</sup> 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*)

- *Kontakion of the Memorial Service (Μνήσθητι, Κύριε, Plagal 4<sup>th</sup> Mode):*

Remember, O Lord, as You are good, Your servants, and forgive every sin they have committed in this life. For no one is sinless except You, Who has power to grant rest to those who have fallen asleep.

- *The Kontakion of the Transfiguration of Christ (Επι του ὄρους, Grave Mode):*

Upon the mountain were You transfigured, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they were able, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified they might understand that Your Passion was deliberate, and declare to the world that in truth You are the Father's radiance. (*Greek text in hymnal on pg. 284*)

## Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

### This Week's Daily

#### Scripture Readings and Fasting Guidance:

**Sunday, July 27: St. Panteleimon—No Fasting:**

John 20:1-10; II Timothy 2:1-10; Matthew 9:27-35

**Monday, July 28—No Fasting:**

Acts 6:1-7; Matthew 16:1-6

**Tuesday, July 29—No Fasting:**

I Corinthians 10:5-12; Matthew 16:6-12

**Wednesday, July 30—Strict Fast:**

Acts 15:35-41; Matthew 16:20-24

**Thursday, July 31—No Fasting:**

I Corinthians 10:28-33, 11:1-8; Matthew 16:24-28

**Friday, August 1: Procession of the Cross—Strict Fast:**

Hebrews 11:33-40, 12:1-2; Matthew 10:16-22

**Saturday, August 2—Wine+Oil:**

Acts 6:8-15, 7:1-5, 47-60; Mark 12:1-12

### 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, 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, 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 (+July 9), Bill (+July 13), Irene (+July 26)

### 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, Daniel, Ecaterina, Gavin, Hannah, Jessica, Julian, Kyle, Macayla, Max, Mary Emma, Nate, Ron, Sophia, Susan, Sydney, Tammy, Tristan and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

### Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers and Mothers of our Holy Orthodox Church:

**St. John of Kronstadt** speaking of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross (which we honor this week with its procession on August 1): "Why do we honor the Cross with such reverence that we make mention of its power in our prayers after asking for the intercession of the Mother of God and the Heavenly Powers, before asking for that of the Saints, and sometimes even before asking for that of the Heavenly Powers? Because after the Savior's sufferings, the Cross became the sign of the Son of Man, that is, the Cross signifies the Lord Himself, incarnate and suffering for our salvation."

### Upcoming Celebrations This Week

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

July 27: Pete Nicholas, Ethan Panteleimon Pellegrino

**Birthdays—Happy Birthday!**

July 27: Daniela Peterson

**Anniversaries—Congratulations!**

July 30: Emily and Spyros Dermatas,  
Maria and Bob McCluskey

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

### Announcements:

\* At the end of the Divine Liturgy today, we will have a **memorial service** praying for our Lord's mercy for: Nikita Pavlis (+1952), Virginia Pavlis (+1962), Paul Pavlis (+1968), Mary Pavlis (+1989), Demetrios Zoumberis (+1995), Bessie Zoumberis (+2005), Mary Tsourakis (+1995), George Tsourakis (+1998), Paul Zoumberis (+2005), Virginia Petrick (+2015), Charline Philips (+2017), Pauline Philips (+2016), Paul Zumberis (+1990), Maxine Zumberis (+1995), Alexandar Zumberis (+1959), Michael Zumberis (+2023), Virginia Manutes (+2024). May their memory be eternal!

\* The next **Introduction to the Orthodox Church** class will take place Saturday, August 2 at 3:45pm in the Church Library/on Zoom. The topic will be Eschatology/Life after Death. 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 31 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!

\* **FESTIVAL NEWS: Festival Apparel** is now on sale! There are samples located in the Bookstore (sizes and colors). This year, we are going with Gilden Softstyle shirts. Save the date for **Spanakopita Preparation** is August 16. **Sponsorship Opportunities** have begun! We would love for everyone to find a new business to go in the program book. 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! Use the QR Code to be directed to our Festival Page where you can find links to the Festival Apparel and Sponsorship Opportunities.



\* **Please plan on being at the services on Sunday, August 10. We will have a special presentation at the end of the Liturgy by Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou of Holy Transfiguration in Marietta about Holy Iconography.** The services will start earlier this day (8:15a Orthros, 9:30a Liturgy) to allow time for his presentation!