



# HOLY CROSS

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

859 First Street | Macon, Georgia 31201 | 478.621.0744 (office)  
[www.holycrossga.org](http://www.holycrossga.org) | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

### Sunday, August 10, 2025

Sunday after the Transfiguration

Sts. Laurence the Archdeacon

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Ninth (John 20:19-31)

Mode of the Week: Plagal of the Fourth/Πλ. του Τετάρτου

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



Divine Liturgy



### Upcoming Schedule

<i>Sunday, August 10</i>	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 Youth Greek Dance/Activity after the Liturgy Fellowship Luncheon after the Presentation in the Parish House
<i>Tuesday, August 12</i>	5:30pm Great Paraklesis 6:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class in the Library/Zoom
<i>Wednesday, August 13</i>	5:00pm Small Paraklesis
<i>Thursday, August 14</i>	6:00pm Great Vespers and Lamentations for the Dormition of the Theotokos
<i>Friday, August 15</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos
<i>Saturday, August 16</i>	8:00am Spanakopita Prep for the Festival 5:00pm Great Vespers 7:00pm Not So Young Adult Outing at Society Garden in Macon
<i>Sunday, August 17</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew One Year Memorial for Ronnie Hortman and 40-day Memorial for Lee Hornbaker at the end of the Liturgy Artoklasia (Blessing of the Five Loaves) for the visit of the Panagia Prousiotissa Icon Panagiri honoring Panagia hosted by the Philoptochos after the Liturgy in the Parish House/Courtyard
<i>Tuesday, August 19</i>	7:00pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Wednesday, August 20</i>	5:30pm Vespers 6:00pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class (Lecture in the Church)
<i>Thursday, August 21</i>	10:30am Orthodox Book Study at Taste and See in Macon 6:45pm Festival Committee Meeting
<i>Saturday, August 23</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of Panagia Prousiotissa, the feast day of our Chapel
<i>Sunday, August 24</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Coffee Fellowship after the Liturgy in the Parish House 12:45pm Bible Study 1:00pm Youth Greek Dance

**Upcoming Epistle Readers:** (8/17) Helen Troupos, Sarah Drakopoulos; (8/24) Kostas Iakovidis, Chrissy Zdrakas  
**Upcoming PC Member On-Duty:** (8/17) Jim Lekas; (8/24) John Apostolou; (8/31) Maria Spicer; (9/7)  
**Upcoming Ushers:** (8/12) Melanie M.; (8/13) David Z.; (8/14) Charles G.; (8/15) Eleni A.; (8/16) Haris S.; (8/17) Jim+Cristina  
**Upcoming Video Operators:** (8/14) Natalia S.; (8/15) Norm A.; (8/17+8/31) Gray Y./David N.; (8/24) David Z.  
**Fellowship Hosts:** (8/17) Philoptochos/Panagiri; (8/24) Haris Sorovigas; (8/31) Philoptochos; (9/7) Georgia S.

### 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

Εὐξασθε καὶ ἀπόδοτε Κυρίῳ τῷ Θεῷ  
ἡμῶν.

Στίχ. Γνωστὸς ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ὁ Θεός,  
ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ μέγα τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ.

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Πρὸς Κορινθίους Α΄ Ἐπιστολῆς  
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἀδελφοί, Θεοῦ ἐσμεν συνεργοί· Θεοῦ  
γεώργιον, Θεοῦ οἰκοδομή ἐστε. Κατὰ  
τὴν χάριν τοῦ Θεοῦ τὴν δοθεῖσάν μοι  
ὡς σοφὸς ἀρχιτέκτων θεμέλιον  
τέθεικα, ἄλλος δὲ ἐποικοδομεῖ·  
ἐκαστος δὲ βλεπέτω πῶς ἐποικοδομεῖ·  
θεμέλιον γὰρ ἄλλον οὐδεὶς δύναται  
θεῖναι παρὰ τὸν κείμενον, ὅς ἐστιν  
Ἰησοῦς Χριστός. εἰ δέ τις ἐποικοδομεῖ  
ἐπὶ τὸν θεμέλιον τοῦτον χρυσόν,  
ἄργυρον, λίθους τιμίους, ξύλα,  
χόρτον, καλάμην, ἐκάστου τὸ ἔργον  
φανερὸν γενήσεται· ἡ γὰρ ἡμέρα  
δηλώσει· ὅτι ἐν πυρὶ ἀποκαλύπτεται·  
καὶ ἐκάστου τὸ ἔργον ὁποῖόν ἐστι τὸ  
πῦρ δοκιμάσει. εἴ τις τὸ ἔργον μενεῖ  
ὃ ἐπωκοδόμησε, μισθὸν λήψεται· εἴ  
τινος τὸ ἔργον κατακαήσεται,  
ζημιωθήσεται, αὐτὸς δὲ σωθήσεται,  
οὕτως δὲ ὡς διὰ πυρός. Οὐκ οἶδατε ὅτι  
ναὸς Θεοῦ ἐστε καὶ τὸ Πνεῦμα τοῦ  
Θεοῦ οἰκεῖ ἐν ὑμῖν; εἴ τις τὸν ναὸν τοῦ  
Θεοῦ φθείρει, φθερεῖ τοῦτον ὁ Θεός· ὁ  
γὰρ ναὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ ἅγιός ἐστιν, οἵτινές  
ἐστε ὑμεῖς.

Pray and return to the Lord Your  
God.

Verse: In Judah God is known; His  
name is great in Israel.

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The reading is from Paul’s First  
Letter to the Corinthians. (3:9-17)

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Brethren, we are God’s fellow  
workers; you are God’s field, God’s  
building. According to the grace of  
God given to me, like a skilled master  
builder, I laid a foundation, and  
another man is building upon it. Let  
each man take care how he builds  
upon it. For no other foundation can  
any one lay than that which is laid,  
which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one  
builds on the foundation with gold,  
silver, precious stones, wood, hay,  
straw — each man’s work will become  
manifest; for the Day will disclose it,  
because it will be revealed with fire,  
and the fire will test what sort of work  
each one has done. If the work which  
any man has built on the foundation  
survives, he will receive a reward. If  
any man’s work is burned up, he will  
suffer loss, though he himself will be  
saved, but only as through fire. Do  
you not know that you are God’s  
temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in  
you? If any one destroys God’s  
temple, God will destroy him. For  
God’s temple is holy, and that temple  
you are.

# The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (14:14-22)

## Ninth Sunday of Matthew

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ ἠνάγκασεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς  
τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ ἐμβῆναι εἰς τὸ  
πλοῖον καὶ προάγειν αὐτὸν εἰς τὸ πέραν,  
ἕως οὗ ἀπολύσει τοὺς ὄχλους. καὶ  
ἀπολύσας τοὺς ὄχλους ἀνέβη εἰς τὸ  
ὄρος κατ’ ἰδίαν προσεύξασθαι. ὁψίας δὲ  
γενομένης μόνος ἦν ἐκεῖ. τὸ δὲ πλοῖον  
ἤδη μέσον τῆς θαλάσσης ἦν,  
βασανιζόμενον ὑπὸ τῶν κυμάτων· ἦν  
γὰρ ἐναντίος ὁ ἄνεμος. τετάρτη δὲ  
φυλακῇ τῆς νυκτὸς ἀπῆλθε πρὸς αὐτοὺς  
ὁ Ἰησοῦς περιπατῶν ἐπὶ τῆς θαλάσσης.  
καὶ ἰδόντες αὐτὸν οἱ μαθηταὶ ἐπὶ τὴν  
θάλασσαν περιπατοῦντα ἐταράχθησαν  
λέγοντες ὅτι φάντασμα ἐστὶ, καὶ ἀπὸ  
τοῦ φόβου ἔκραξαν. εὐθέως δὲ  
ἐλάλησεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων·  
θαρσεῖτε, ἐγὼ εἰμι· μὴ φοβεῖσθε.  
ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ Πέτρος εἶπε·  
Κύριε, εἰ σὺ εἶ, κέλευσόν με πρὸς σε  
ἐλθεῖν ἐπὶ τὰ ὕδατα. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν, ἐλθέ.  
καὶ καταβὰς ἀπὸ τοῦ πλοίου ὁ Πέτρος  
περιεπάτησεν ἐπὶ τὰ ὕδατα ἐλθεῖν πρὸς  
τὸν Ἰησοῦν. βλέπων δὲ τὸν ἄνεμον  
ἰσχυρὸν ἐφοβήθη, καὶ ἀρξάμενος  
καταποντίζεσθαι ἔκραξε λέγων· Κύριε,  
σῶσόν με. εὐθέως δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐκτείνας  
τὴν χεῖρα ἐπελάβετο αὐτοῦ καὶ λέγει  
αὐτῷ· ὀλιγόπιστε! εἰς τί ἐδίστασας; καὶ  
ἐμβάντων αὐτῶν εἰς τὸ πλοῖον  
ἐκόπασεν ὁ ἄνεμος· οἱ δὲ ἐν τῷ πλοίῳ  
ἐλθόντες προσεκύνησαν αὐτῷ λέγοντες·  
ἀληθῶς Θεοῦ υἱὸς εἶ. Καὶ  
διαπεράσαντες ἦλθον εἰς τὴν γῆν  
Γεννησαρέτ.

At that time, Jesus made the  
disciples get into the boat and go  
before him to the other side, while  
he dismissed the crowds. And after  
he had dismissed the crowds, he  
went up into the hills by himself to  
pray. When evening came, he was  
there alone, but the boat by this time  
was out on the sea, beaten by the  
waves; for the wind was against  
them. And in the fourth watch of the  
night he came to them, walking on  
the sea. But when the disciples saw  
him walking on the sea, they were  
terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And  
they cried out for fear. But  
immediately he spoke to them,  
saying, “Take heart, it is I; have no  
fear.” And Peter answered him,  
“Lord, if it is you, bid me come to  
you on the water.” He said, “Come.”  
So Peter got out of the boat and  
walked on the water and came to  
Jesus; but when he saw the strong  
wind, he was afraid, and beginning  
to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.”  
Jesus immediately reached out his  
hand and caught him, saying to him,  
“O man of little faith, why did you  
doubt?” And when they entered the  
boat, the wind ceased. And those in  
the boat worshiped him, saying,  
“Truly you are the Son of God.” And  
when they had crossed over, they  
came to land at Gennesaret.

# 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 August 10, 2025

**Ushers on Duty:** John Apostolou, Nick Poulos

**Video:** Natalia Saratsiotis **Altar Servers:** All Adult/Youth Servers

**Epistle Readers:** Pete Tsamolias (Greek); Cleo Bennette (English)

**Fellowship Host (Thank You!):** Planning Committee

**PC Member On-Duty:** Natalia Saratsiotis



### Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Sunday after the Transfiguration of our Savior Jesus Christ (Μεταμόρφωση του Σωτήρος Χριστού)

*The Transfiguration was celebrated on August 6—and the after-feast lasts until August 13.*

- + The Holy Martyrs Laurence (Λαυρέντιος) the Archdeacon; Sixtus (Σύστος), Pope of Rome, and Hippolytus (Ιππόλυτος) (+258)

*This Saint, who was born in Spain, was the Archdeacon of the Church of Rome, caring for the sacred vessels of the Church and distributing money to the needy. About the year 257, a harsh persecution was raised up against the Christians by Valerian. Pope Sixtus, who was from Athens, was commanded to worship the idols, and refused; before his martyrdom by beheading, he committed to Laurence all the sacred vessels of the Church. When Laurence was arrested and brought before the Prefect, he was questioned concerning the treasures of the Church; he asked for three days' time to prepare them. He then proceeded to gather all the poor and needy, and presented them to the Prefect and said, "Behold the treasures of the Church." The Prefect became enraged at this and gave command that Laurence be racked, then scourged with scorpions (a whip furnished with sharp iron points - compare II Chron. 10:11), then stretched out on a red-hot iron grill. But the courageous athlete of Christ endured without groaning. After he had been burned on one side, he said, "My body is done on one side; turn me over on the other." And when this had taken place, the Martyr said to the tyrants, "My flesh is now well done, you may taste of it." And when he had said this, and had prayed for his slayers in imitation of Christ, he gave up his spirit on August 10, 258.*

- + Devout Saint Heron (Ἡρώων) the Philosopher
- + The Holy Six Martyrs of Bizin
- + The Virgin Martyrs Bassa, Paula, and Agathonica (Αγαθονίκη) at Carthage

*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 Transfiguration (Μετεμορφώθης εν τῷ ὄρει, Grave Mode):*

You were transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Your disciples Your glory as much as they could bear. Do also in us, sinners though we may be, shine Your everlasting light, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Giver of light. Glory to You. (*Sung before and after the Hymn of the Resurrection, Greek text in hymnal on pg. 220*)

- *Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Εξ ὕψους, Plagal 4<sup>th</sup> Mode):*

You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and consented to a three-day burial, to free us from the passions. O Lord, our life and resurrection, glory to You! (*Greek text in hymnal on pg. 126*)

- *Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σώσον 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*)

- *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, August 10—Wine+Oil:**

John 20:19-31; I Corinthians 3:9-17; Matthew 14:22-34

**Monday, August 11—Strict Fast:**

I Corinthians 15:12-19; Matthew 21:18-22

**Tuesday, August 12—Strict Fast:**

I Corinthians 15:29-38; Matthew 21:23-27

**Wednesday, August 13—Strict Fast:**

I Corinthians 16:4-12; Matthew 21:28-32

**Thursday, August 14—Strict Fast:**

II Corinthians 1:1-7; Matthew 21:43-46

**Friday, August 15: Dormition of the Theotokos—**

**Fish, Wine+Oil:**

Luke 1:39-49, 56; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

**Saturday, August 16—No Fasting:**

I Timothy 3:13-16, 4:1-5; Luke 9:51-57, 10:22-24, 13:22

### **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, Woody, Bill, Nicholas, Mandy

### **Prayers for those recently reposed:**

Ray (+July 7), Lee Pavlos (+July 9), Bill (+July 13), Irene (+July 26), Rick (+July 31)

### **Prayers for expecting mothers:**

Antigone, 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 the Wonderworker** on our approach to our Lady's Dormition: “. . . when the Church tells us in her hymns and icons that the Apostles were miraculously gathered from the ends of the earth in order to be present at the repose and burial of the Mother of God, we as Orthodox Christi-ans are not free to deny this or reinterpret it, but must believe as the Church hands it down to us, with simplicity of heart.”

### **Upcoming Celebrations This Week**

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

August 10: Lori Crouse

August 15: Maria Bronisevsky, Paula Cacavias, Paige Crouse, Panayiotis Drakopoulos, Mariana Filimon, Mary Elizabeth

Hollowell, Mary Hornbaker, Marianna Lane, Maria Mahoney, Maria McCluskey, Chloe Morris, Indie Day Morris, Maria Murphy, Lisa Needham, Despina Passias, Marie-Louis Saratsiotis, Maria Spicer, Ron Sprouse, Peter Tsamolias, Mary Klaire Zoumberis

### **Birthdays—Happy Birthday!**

August 10: Panayiotis Drakopoulos, Nate Schwartzkopf

August 11: Jim Lekas

August 13: Presvytera Stacey Ehmer

August 15: Marcela Chiorescu

August 16: Lisa Needham

### **Anniversaries—Congratulations!**

August 12: Marcela and Cornelius Chiorescu

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

### **Announcements:**

\* **We welcome Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou**, Proeistamenos of Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Marietta who will speak to us today about Holy Iconography at the end of the Divin Liturgy. Please plan on staying for the luncheon afterwards, as well!

\* The next **Introduction to the Orthodox Church** class will take place Tuesday, August 12 at 6:30m in the Church Library/on Zoom. The topic will be the Holy Sacraments/Mysteries. 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 next Thursday, August 21 at the Taste and See coffee shop in Downtown Macon at 10:30am. We are reading the book *For the Life of the World* by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, of blessed memory. Please plan on joining on Thursday mornings!

\* **FESTIVAL NEWS (OCTOBER 24-26): Raffle Tickets** are available! We are asking each family to sell 5 books. Tickets will be available at church or contact Natalia for more information. **Festival Apparel** is now on sale! Samples are located in the Bookstore (sizes and colors). This year, we are going with Gilden Softstyle shirts. **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. Contact Natalia if you have any questions. Use the QR Code to be directed to our Festival Page where you can find links to the Festival Apparel and Sponsorship Opportunities. **Spanakopita Prep** is this Saturday, August 16. Additionally, please save the date for **Pastry Prep** on October 11 and 18. We will also need help unloading the truck with pastries on one of the days of Sept. 24, 25, or 26. Thank you!

\* The Philoptochos is hosting the annual **Panagiri (festal celebration)**, on Sunday, August 17th, to celebrate the Dormition of the Theotokos. We will also have the visitation of the Panagia Prousiotissa icon that day. Please see the flyer that was sent by email and join us in the celebration!

\***REGISTER TODAY** for the 4th Annual Pan-Orthodox **CROSS DIVE** that will be held Saturday, September 13th. All high school students are invited to participate while all parishioners are invited to attend and enjoy the day. There will be food, fun, laughter, and of course, the Blessing of the Waters along with the Cross Dive. Go to this link: <https://forms.gle/b3yPtC7KtUdyru5K9> or scan the QR Code. Cross Dive Apparel and Sponsorship opportunities are available through registration.

