# Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church

FALL 2025 QUARTERLY BULLETIN



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

My beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we approach the beginning of the Orthodox Christian Ecclesiastical New Year on September 1st, I pray that for all of us this new year brings us health, peace, and an increase in spiritual knowledge and discernment, as we pray in the Divine Liturgy every Sunday. The Church, in her timeless wisdom, marks this beginning not simply with a change of date, but with a call to reorient (μετάνοια) our lives with Christ and His Kingdom. It is a time to renew our commitment to prayer, worship, stewardship, and love. Just as the natural world enters a season of harvest this time of year, we too are invited to offer the fruits of our lives to God fruits cultivated through repentance, humility, and faith. Shortly after the new Church year begins, we are blessed to



celebrate one of the great feasts of our tradition and the "name day" of our Church: The Elevation ('Yywous) of the Holy Cross on Sunday, September 14th. This solemn, yet joyous feast reminds us of one of the great truths of our Christian faith that through the Cross, joy has come into all the world. The Cross, once an instrument of death, has become for us the Tree of Life. In our day-to-day life, and especially our personal struggles, the Cross gives us strength; in the confusion of modern life, it gives us clarity; and in our times of physical, spiritual, or emotional pain, it gives us hope. As we fall down ( $\pi\rho\sigma\sigma\kappa\nu\nu\dot{\epsilon}\omega/prostrate$ ) before the Precious and Life-Giving Cross and give it a kiss of veneration, we bow down and yet rise again, mimicking Christ who was crucified and rose for our salvation. With the upcoming 4th Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive at Lake Tobesofkee on Saturday, September 13th, we make a beautiful public proclamation in the Crucified and Risen Christ to the world around us! (I hope everyone can join for the Cross Dive!!)

This season of the new ecclesiastical year is also a time of faithful, joyful, and diligent preparation for our community's outreach to Central Georgia through our 18th Annual Central Georgia Greek Festival, taking place as always in late October (24th to 26th). This event is much more than a celebration of Greek culture, it is a ministry to our brethren in our local community. Through hospitality, music, food, dance, and most importantly, our Greek Orthodox Christian faith, we share the timeless truth and tradition of our Orthodox Christian faith and open the doors of our parish to all who seek the Truth, and the Way, and the Life.

I urge all of you to participate, support, and pray for the success of this year's festival. Whether you are preparing food, volunteering during the festival, or simply welcoming visitors with a smile, please know that we are engaging in holy work. Each interaction is a chance to plant seeds of faith, to witness Christ's love in action, and to help others discover the richness of our tradition. At the same time, if you are not sure how or where to help during the festival, let me know, and I can help steer you in the right direction. The festival is a chance for us all to function as one body with many members, the Body of Christ.

May this new ecclesiastical year be a blessed one and may the power of the Cross continue to protect us. May God bless you all and may He bless our collective ministry in our Holy Cross parish for the glory of His Holy Name!

In Christ's Love and Service, Father Theodore PARISH CLERGY REV. FR. THEODORE EHMER FRTHEODORE@HOLYCROSSGA.ORG

# A Note from the Parish Council President

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

Father Theodore & Fellow Parishioners,

Summer has come and gone, the students are back in school, and we are preparing for a new Ecclesiastical New Year. So how can we, individually, do better?

I often ask myself, "What is my purpose?" Parishioners, friends and even my parents ask me all the time, "You do so much...why?" My answer is simple. I do what I do because I love my church.

I want to see our children and young adults actively involved. Several of our GOYAns attended St. Stephen's Summer Camp this summer, and I've heard so many wonderful stories from their time there. Not only did they worship and go to confession, but they also built lasting friendships with Orthodox youth from other parishes. Cheryl and Erick have done a wonderful job bringing our youth together by hosting a few gatherings over the summer. Sunday School will be starting this month, and I know that Presvytera Stacey and our teachers have prepared an excellent curriculum. Peyton Ward has worked hard to ensure our Young Adults are meeting regularly and building bonds through fellowship. Take advantage of these moments as they are opportunities to fulfill your purpose.

I want to see the beautiful iconography adorning the walls as I walk into the church, and I want to see my Holy Cross family filling the pews. Iconography fundraising has begun, and we need everyone's help. We had a beautiful presentation by Fr. Panayiotis Papageorgiou on iconography with a luncheon afterwards. The 3-year pledge campaign started this summer. If you have not had a chance to sit down and determine what you can give over the course of three years, please take the time to do it. This is an integral part of the fundraising process. We need to take care of our church before asking others to help out. After doing that, please consider turning in 5 names along with addresses so we can send a letter to tell your friends...our friends...the exciting news about our iconography in hopes that they feel impelled to make a donation.

I want to see the community come and see what we have to offer from our faith to our amazing Greek culture. The Greek Festival is a wonderful opportunity to spread the word and invite others into our church. I am so happy that the festival brought us people like Bob, of blessed memory, and Hazel Dunbar along with many others! So, if you haven't already, ask your boss for the Friday of the festival off and come help us Friday through Sunday!

I want to see more people get involved. Our annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive is approaching. If you have not attended before, I encourage you to join us this year. This is a wonderful time to enjoy each other's company as our GOYAns dive for the cross that Patsy Zoumberis graciously makes for us each year. Another way to get involved is to join the Parish Council. This year, we have four members whose term will come to an end: Sarah Drakopoulos, Chad Ridley, Maria Spicer and Gray Yates. These four parishioners have been a great asset to our parish, and I hope they will run again. That being said, I also hope there are others who will consider stepping up. If you are interested, please reach out to me. I will be glad to give you more information.

I want to see Holy Cross thrive. Please plan to attend our next General Assembly meeting on Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. This is the meeting where we discuss our budget for the following year, the outcome of the festival and other important matters. Show your love and support for Holy Cross by being a part of these conversations.

I want to hear the beauty of our chanting and choir. We are blessed to have Aleca and Emily chanting faithfully, with Gray and Theo learning and stepping in as well. Theo is also training under Emily to become Choir Director. It is inspiring to see the younger generation step up, guided by those who have been faithfully serving for years, passing along their knowledge. I know they would love for you to join the choir. Please see Emily or Theo if interested.

So why do what I do? The answer is simple: I love my church, and I want to see it continue to grow and thrive. I want Holy Cross to be here for my nieces, their children and generations to come.

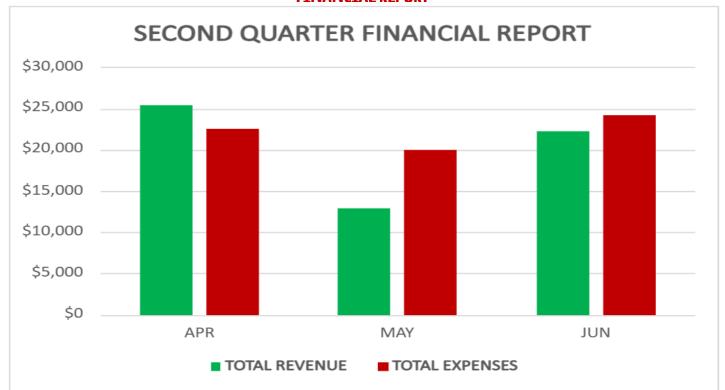
What is your purpose? How can you serve Christ and your church?

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

#### FINANCIAL REPORT



	APR		MAY	JUN	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$	25,404.81	\$ 12,911.20	\$	22,288.21
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	22,570.49	\$ 20,047.61	\$	24,186.63
NET/DEFICIT	\$	2,834.32	\$ (7,136.41)	\$	(1,898.42)

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

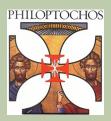
John Apostolou & Maria Spicer, 2025 PC Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer

## **IMPORTANT MESSAGE:**

We are *grateful* for your continued stewardship, which remains on pace with our budget. However, parish expenses have been higher than expected due to inflation, rising utility costs, and necessary repairs to our parish house, church, and back building. Much of the wood and structural areas have required replacement, as noted in the recent building report.

To meet these unexpected expenses, we have had to dip into our festival account and use some of its funds. While this has allowed us to cover immediate needs, it reduces what we can set aside for future projects and renovations.

Your contributions directly support the church's ability to carry out its ministry and programs along with paying operating expenses. Please note the graph above. The church has had a deficit every month, except April. We ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your stewardship, if you are able, or consider giving a gift for the first time. Every contribution helps us care for our parish and prepare for the future.



#### 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.

Greetings Father Theodore and my fellow Holy Cross Parishioners,

I am honored once again to have been elected the president of our chapter, along with our wonderful new board members. These ladies are dedicated and hard-working and I know we will accomplish many things together. We are excited about the beginning of the new ecclesiastical year and pray that we are able to fulfill our mission and be a helping hand to our parish as much as we can.

This year, our chapter is excited to take part in Operation Classroom! Our National Philoptochos President is encouraging every chapter to partner with a local school that could benefit from some extra support. Stay tuned for more details on how you can get involved and help us give back to the dedicated teachers who do so much for the children in our community.

Women of Philoptochos, from all generations, are connected by faith and fellowship...working together to uplift lives, inspire and reach out to those in need. With the support of Father Theodore and the Parish Council, Philoptochos plays an active role in the growth and outreach of Holy Cross. Our chapter is growing and we encourage our ladies who are not members to join and be a part of this amazing organization.

#### We have a full year ahead including:

- Operation Classroom
- Working with the Backpack Ministry
- The Children's Medical Fund Luncheon- September 27th, at the Metropolis
- Ronald McDonald House
- Parishioner outreach for the sick, homebound and the elderly
- Our annual Pastry Tray Fundraiser
- Adopt a family for Thanksgiving
- Adopt a family for Christmas
- Lenten and Palm Sunday Luncheons

I look forward to a productive year and working with all of you!

#### With sisterly love, Sarah Drakopoulos











#### 2025-2026 Philoptochos Board

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



## **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

#### EMILY DERMATAS (CHAIRPERSON), CLEO BENNETTE, CRISTINA LEKAS, KATHYE PATRAS, CHERYL STEFANIS

On Sunday, August 10th, Father Panayiotis Papageorgiou, PhD, of Trisagion Films and Proistamenos of Holy Transfiguration G.O.C. in Marietta, presented a special lecture on Iconography after the Divine Liturgy. Father Panayiotis explained our holy tradition of iconography, and how religious art has evolved over the years. He gave us a better understanding on how to interpret Orthodox icons and their interpretation of biblical text. Afterwards, everyone was invited to a Lenten luncheon prepared by the Planning Committee.

A conference table, upholstered chairs, desk, a credenza, and large bookcases have been donated by Cheryl and George Stefanis. The bookcases are a welcomed addition to our bookstore, and the conference table and chairs replaced the folding table and chairs in the workroom.

Family and friends' letters have been sent. Each mailing consisted of a letter, Iconography brochure and pledge form. If there are any additional friend and family names, please submit to the church office. Remember we are launching Project Agape: phase IV Iconography. This is a three-year campaign. We are truly blessed at Holy Cross!





## **BUILDING COMMITTEE**

#### JIM LEKAS, ALEX SARATSIOTIS, DAVID ZOUMBERIS

The Building Committee has been busy this quarter. We have been getting quotes to fix the wood rot, scrap peeling paint, caulk and paint the entire parish house. These efforts have been put on hold until funds can be obtained, but hopefully we won't have to wait too long because this house is in desperate need of some tender loving care! We want to thank Ron Fuertes for his help fixing the metal railing leading up to the front door on the parish house. He also poured a new concrete slab on the walkway between the church and the parish house. Ron is also taking the lead for replacing the roof and rotten siding over the back door of the parish house, including the removal of the brick chimney. God bless you Ron, we are so grateful to have you and your family in our church!

Recently, the wood railing at the back entrance of the parish house was taken down and replaced. We would like to thank Ray Vardy, Norm Adams and Charles Glotzbach who graciously took the time on their Saturday to replace the rotten railing which was falling apart and causing a safety hazard. God has blessed our church in so many ways, and continues to do so! Thanks again to all who have helped keep our church functional and beautiful, and most of all, Glory to God!



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

#### Greetings Father Theodore and Holy Cross Families!

This quarter many of our Holy Cross Youth enjoyed a week at St. Stephen's Camp, celebrated the end of summer with a visit to Rigby's Waterpark, and received back to school blessings for the coming school year.

As we look forward to fall, we have two big events on the calendar. On September 13th, our community will celebrate our 4th Annual Cross Dive. This event will include pan-Orthodox high school students from around

middle Georgia at Lake Tobesofkee. They will show their love for our faith and dive for the cross.

Finally, on the weekend of October 24-26, our youth will serve at the 18th Annual Central Georgia Greek Festival!

In Christ Love, Erick and Cheryl Schwartzkopf





#### **Greetings in Christ!**

I am thrilled that our two fantastic Sunday School Teachers, Helen Vardy and Gray Yates, will be teaching again this upcoming year. Please bring your children as consistently as you can so that they may absorb as much as possible, and also so that the teachers might be able to prepare accordingly. An Agiasmo (Blessing of the Waters) will commence the Sunday School year on Sunday, Sept. 21st. In early September, I will contact each family by phone to "register" your children for Sunday School.

Love in Christ, Presvytera Stacey





A few pictoral highlights of Clergy Laity in Charleston, our Rigby's adventure, Prosforo baking, Panagiri fun and our St. Stephen's Summer Camp drop-off day!











# Upcoming Dates to Note:

The First Day of 2025-2026 Sunday School year will be on September 21 st.

Pumpkin Carving for the Youth on Thursday, October 30th 6pm.

# STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE TASSIE CANTRELL CHARLES GLOTZBACH & BETH ZOUMBERIS



As we reach the midpoint of the year, the Stewardship Committee has been actively reaching out to our beloved Holy Cross family. In early July, we sent a Mid-Year Greeting and Stewardship Invitation to encourage each parishioner to take part in the life and ministry of our church. If you consider Holy Cross your spiritual home, then you are already part of our Stewardship family. Our goal is 100% participation because stewardship is not just about giving; it's about belonging, committing intentionally, and growing together in faith.

#### Where We Stand (as of the end of July):

Total Family Units Registered at Holy Cross: 123
Families Who Have Submitted a Commitment Card: 41
Families Who Have Contributed Financially: 62

We give thanks to God for each of you who have answered the call to stewardship whether through your financial gifts, your time, or your presence in the life of our parish. Currently, just over 50% of our registered families have contributed in some way this year. This is a wonderful start, and we're deeply grateful but we believe we can do more, together. Earlier this month, Contribution Statements were sent out, detailing your giving through the year so far. Please take a moment to review your statement. If you did not receive one or believe there may be an error, kindly reach out to John Apostolou, PC Treasurer, or Maria Spicer, PC Assistant Treasurer, so they can assist you.

#### An Invitation to All:

To those who have already embraced stewardship - thank you. You are helping to keep the mission and ministries of Holy Cross alive and growing. To those who have not yet joined in, we warmly encourage you to prayerfully consider taking part. Every gift- no matter how small- is a meaningful contribution to the life of our parish. With full participation, we will not only meet our needs, but also flourish as a living witness of Christ's love and generosity. Stewardship is a sacred response to God's blessings in our lives. It is a way of placing God first, not out of obligation, but out of gratitude and joy. It is a reflection of our trust, our faith, and our love.

May God richly bless each and every one of you. Let us walk this journey together, and build a stronger, more united Holy Cross and living witnesses of a life in Christ. Holy Cross is our home Church and every gift makes a difference.

With gratitude and hope, The Stewardship Committee





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





OKTOBERFEST
POTLUCK GATHERING

Saturday, Oct. 11th AFTER VESPERS

@ the Ehmers 2029 Maggie Drive Macon, GA 31204

HOLY CROSS MEN OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

#### HOLY SACRAMENTS & SERVICES



Gray Yates and Lindsey Holland were united in the Sacrament of Marriage. May God bless their crowns and grant them many healthy joyful years!

Their sponsors are Mike and Tammi Cantrell.



18 TH ANNUAL

"Look down upon Your servants, the catechumens, who have inclined their necks to You, and grant them at a proper time the baptism of rebirth, the remission of sins, and the garment of incorruption."



John William, son of Jonathan and Katina (Cacavias) Brock, was Baptized and Chrismated! God bless and protect his journey to Salvation, and also his Nouna/sponsor, Sofia Lekas. Many, many years!

L-R: Kyle, Daniel, Tristan, Gavin, Macayla, Ecaterina, and Ronald, and Sydney and Max (pictured at the bottom) May God bless their journey in the Holy Catechumenate!

### Congratulations & God Grant You Many Years!









## Holy Cross Happenings... Snapshots of Parish Life







Hierarchical Great Vespers at Holy



Transfiguration in Marietta for the feast of the Transfiguration.









Clergy Laity 2025 Charleston, South Carolina

"Faith, Family, Love"











Emily Dermatas along with members of Choir Federation performed the Doxology to open the first session at this year's Clergy Laity.

Fr. Theodore and Fr. Ari Damaskos (of Holy Trinity Charleston) offered a Storm Preparedness Workshop.

Sisterhood of Presvyteres in their meeting with His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros and Metropolitan Sevastianos.

The procession of the visiting Panagia Prousiotissa icon. We thank Jimmy Caras for continuing the tradition of bringing the Panagia Prousiotissa icon from Atlanta!

















A very casual BYO-Picnic fellowship gathering after church at Sandy Beach park.







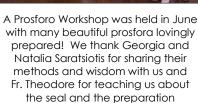
Honoring our recent Holy Cross Graduates: Tammi Cantrell, Mary Elizabeth Hollowell, Sofia Lekas, Nate Schwartzkopf, and Tammy Sinclaire!



Holy Cross hosted several guests from the "Adult Interfaith Camp" organized by Lead Pastor Sara Pugh Montgomery at Centenary UMC and Downtown Tapestry.



Holy Cross along with the Ladies of Philoptochos honored Presvytera Stacey for her loving dedication to our parish and our youth.











for a night of strikes, spares, and smiles! Always a blast when this crew gets together for some friendly competition and good times.

Enjoying the food, desserts and sunshine at the Panagiri!









Our Young Adult Ministry enjoyed a fun evening rock climbing and our Not-So-Young Adults had a great night out at The Society Garden sharing laughter and great tunes!





PC ON DUTY, EPISTLE READERS & FELLOWSHIP HOUR SCHEDULE							
DATE	PC MEMBER ON DUTY	GREEK READER	ENGLISH READER	FELLOWSHIP HOST			
September 7	Sarah Drakopoulos	Pete Tsamolias	Rene Esquivel	Denna Bradford			
September 14	Chad Ridley	Aleca Hortman	Mike Cantrell	Parish Council			
September 21	Natalia Saratsiotis	George Saratsiotis	Isabelle Saratsiotis	Mandi Saratsiotis			
September 28	Gray Yates	Kostas Iakovidis	Charles Glotzbach	Men's Brotherhood			
October 5	Jim Lekas	Chad Ridley	Carter Zoumberis	Robert Ice			
October 12	John Apostolou	Helen Troupos	Beth Zoumberis	Helen Vardy			
October 19	Maria Spicer	Haris Sorovigas	Richard Stewart	Kathye Patras			
October 26	Sarah Drakopoulos	Pete Tsamolias	Cheryl Schwartzkopf	GREEK FESTIVAL			
November 2	Chad Ridley	Aleca Hortman	Nicholas True	Maria Bronisevsky & Joanna Patronis			
November 9	Gray Yates	George Saratsiotis	Caroline Saratsiotis	Youth Thanksgiving Potluck			
November 16	Natalia Saratsiotis	Kostas Iakovidis	Cleo Bennette	Juliana Gordy			
November 23	Jim Lekas	Chad Ridley	Sarah Drakopoulos	Sarah Drakopoulos			
November 30	John Apostolou	Haris Sorovigas	Chrissy Zdrakas	Mariana Filimon			

## 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.

		•		•	• , •	• 1 /
5	<u>Septeml</u>		<u>October</u>		10.29	*Harry Bennette (B)
	9.01	*Betty Maxwell (B)	10.02	*Daniel Filimon (B)		*Patsy Zoumberis (B)
		*Susan Sanders (N)	10.03	*Mandi Saratsiotis (B)	10.30	*Roza Harris (B)
		*Paulina & James Stone (A)	•	*George Saratsiotis (B)	10.31	*Tammy Vrahiotes (B)
		*Antigone Michalakis (N)		*James Morris (B)	0-	*Nicholas & Pamela Poulos (A)
	9.03	*Stacey and Henry Goss (A)		*Vivi Iakovidis (B)		*Mike & Tammi Cantrell (A)
	9.00	*Basil Ehmer (B)	10.04	*Mike Cantrell (B)		Mine & Tullilli Culticii (11)
		*Nichole Lawrence (B)	10.08	*Marina Deskins (B)	Novemb	ner
	9.05	*Bob McCluskey (B)	10.10	*Toula and Pete Tsamolias (A)	11.01	*Beth Zoumberis (B)
	9.06	*Lisa & David Needham (A)	10.11	*Mandi and Alex Saratsiotis (A)	11.01	*Milijana Hansee (B)
	9.07	*Kassiani Andros (N)	10.11	*Melanie Moye (B)	11.02	*Toula Tsamolias (B)
	9.07	*Diana-Maria Cazacu (N)		*Tony Zoumberis, Sr. (B)	11.02	*Eleni Grace Esquivel (B)
	9.00	*Ana-Maria Filimon (N)	10.12	*Marianna Lane (B)	11.03	*James Stone (B)
	9.09	*Joachim Ehmer (N)	10.12	*Jonathan Brock (B)	11.04	*Fr. Michael Vastakis (N)
	9.09	*Ron & Christine Sprouse (A)	10.13	*Maria & Barry Mahoney (A)	11.00	*Sarah Drakopoulos (N)
		*Anne Gordy (N)	10.13	*Evelynn Zoumberis (B)		*Michael Drakopoulos (N)
	0.10	*Dominic Economopoulos (B)	10.10	*CJ Newberry (N)		
	9.10	*Evelynn Zoumberis (N)	10.15			*Mike Cantrell (N)
	9.11	*Paula Cacavias (B)	10.17	*Rodica & George Cazacu (A)		*Mikey Cantrell (N)
	9.12		10.10	*Indie Day Morris (B)		*Angelika Passias (N)
		*Greg Spicer (B)	10.18	*Lucas Lekas (N)	11.10	*Riley Jane Bennette (B)
		*Cornelius Chiorescu (N)		*Luke Zoumberis (N)	11.12	*Marissa Goss (N)
		*Aristides Paul Vrahiotes (N)		*Norm Adams (N)		*Anthony Nicholas Odom (B)
		*Arti Passias (N)		*Lukas Esquivel (N)	11.15	*Maria Spicer (B)
	9.14	*Holy Cross GOC (N)	10.19	*Paul & Tammy Vrahiotes (A)		*Barry Mahoney (B)
		*Maggie Bennette (B)	10.20	*Chloe & Sean Morris (A)	11.16	*Matthew Deskins (N)
	9.15	*Christian Morris (B)	10.21	*Michael Drakopoulos (B)	11.18	*John Paul Syribeys (B)
		*Nikitis Zoumberis (N)		*Juliana Gordy (B)	11.20	*Danae Michalakis (B)
	9.17	*Sofia Lekas (N)	10.22	*Aaron Nicholas Vrahiotes (B)	11.24	*Rodica Cazacu (B)
		*Sofia Danforth (N)	10.23	*Danny McBride (B)	11.25	*Kathye Patras (N)
		*Sophia Zajac (N)		*James Scarborough (N)		*Sophia Cantrell Zajac(B)
		*Helen Vardy (B)	10.24	*Chrissy Zdrakas (B)		*Mary Katherine Saratsiotis (N)
	9.20	*Hannah Bronner (B)		*Gloria Dixon (B)		*Katina Cacavias (N)
	9.22	*Kassiani Andros (B)	10.25	*George Cazacu (B)		*Katerina Iakovidis (N)
		*Hazel Dunbar (B)	10.26	*David Zoumberis (N)	11.26	*Mary Gordy (B)
	9.23	*Paulina Stone (N)		*Dimitris Saratsiotis (N)		*George Gordy (B)
		*Alexia Passias (B)		*James Anthony Bennette (N)	11.27	*Patsy & Nikitis Zoumberis (A)
		*Dakota McDowell (B)		*Jimmy Cacavias (B & N)	11.28	*Mariana Filimon (B)
	9.25	*Bryan & Juliana Gordy (A)		*Toula Tsamolias (N)		*Tammi Cantrell (B)
	9.27	*Bryan Gordy (B)		*Dimitris Karras (N)	11.29	*Natalia Saratsiotis (B)
ı	9.28	*Luke Zoumberis (B)		*Georgia and Dimitris Karras (A)		*Natalia Lane (B)
	9.29	*Father Theodore Ehmer (B)		*Paulina Stone (B)	11.30	*Danai Esquivel (B)
ı	, ,	*Thomas Sotirious Roden (B)		*Washington Morris (N)	00	*Andrew Adams (N)
ı				*James Brock (N)		*Andreas Tsamolias (N)
ı			10.28	*Andreas Tsamolias (B)		*Daniel Filimon (N)
			10.23			(11)
ı						

# September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Ecclesiastical New Year Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED	2	3	4 10:30am Book Study 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class	5	6 4:00pm Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
7 Sunday before Holy Cross 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Altar Server Meeting 1:00pm Grape Leaves Prep 1:00pm Youth Greek Dance 6:00pm Great Vespers	8 Nativity of the Theotokos 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy	9 Synaxis of Sts. Joachim & Anna 5:00pm Divine Liturgy	10 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Cross Dive Meeting	11 10:30am Book Study 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class	12	13 12:00pm Great Vespers for the Elevation of the Holy Cross (at the church) 2:00pm 4th Annual Pan-Orthodox Cross Dive at Lake Tobesofkee
14 Elevation of the Holy Cross / Our Parish's Name Day 9:15 am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Bible Study	15	16	17	18	19	20 8:00am Dolmades Prep for the Festival 4:00pm Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
		FATHER THI	EODORE OU'	Γ OF OFFICE		
21 Sunday after Holy Cross 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 1:00pm Youth Greek Dance	22	23	24 3:00-7:00pm Blood Drive 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class	25 10:30am Book Study 6:45pm Stewardship Committee Meeting	26 St. John the Theologian 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy	27
28 1st Sunday of Luke 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Epistle Reader Meeting 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Bible Study	29	30 6:45pm Parish Council Meeting				
		Fasting Guide as prescribed by the Church:	This color denotes a Strict Fast Day (basically, vegan/dry eating)	This color denotes an Oil +Wine permissible Fasting day, yet still vegan	This color denotes a Fish permissible Fasting Day, but without meat and dairy products	This color denotes a Cheese permissible Fasting Day, but without meat products



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class	2 10:30am Book Study	3	4
5 2nd Sunday of Luke Church Musician Sunday 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship	6	7	8	9	10	9:00am Pastry Prep for Festival 5:00pm Great Vespers 6:00pm Men's Brotherhood Fellowship to follow Vespers
1:00pm Youth Greek Dance	NA	TIONAL CLI	ERGY RETR	EAT		
12 Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship	13	14 7:00pm Parish Council Meeting	15 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class	16 10:30am Book Study	17 5:30pm Great Vespers	18 St. Luke the Evangelist 9:00am Pastry Prep for Festival 4:00pm Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
12:45pm Bible Study			BIENN	IAL PRESVY	YTERES RETREAT	
19 3rd Sunday of Luke 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 1:00pm Youth Greek Dance	20	21	22 5:30pm Liturgy of St. James @ Cathedral in Atlanta	23 St. James (lakovos), brother of the Lord 9:00am-until Festival Set-up	24 11:00am-9:00pm 18th Annual Central Georgia Greek Festival	25 11:00am-9:00pm 18th Annual Central Georgia Greek Festival
26 St. Demetrios 6th Sunday of Luke 7:15am Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 11:00am-4:00pm Greek Festival  GREEK FESTIVAL	27	28 OXI DAY Protection of the Theotokos 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy	29 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class	30 10:30am Book Study 6:00pm Pumpkin Carving with the Youth	31	
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 4:00pm Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
2 5th Sunday of Luke 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Bible Study	3	4	5 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class	6 10:30am Book Study 6:00pm Divine Liturgy honoring St. Willibrord	7 St. Willibrord, Enlightener of the Netherlands Fr. Theodore @ Metropolis Meetings in Atlanta	8 Archangels Michael & Gabriel Archangel Michael Awards Banquet @ the Cathedral in Atlanta
9 7th Sunday of Luke 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:30pm Fall General Assembly	10 St. Arsenios of Cappadocia 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy	11 <b>Veterans Day</b> OFFICE CLOSED	12 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class	13 10:30am Book Study	14 <b>Apostle Philip</b> 9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy	15 Start of the Nativity Fast 4:00pm Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
16 Matthew the Apostle & Evangelist 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Bible Study	17	18 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting	19 3:00pm-7:00pm Blood Drive 5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Intro to Orthodoxy Class	20 9:00pm Holy Vigil for the Entrance of the Theotokos (until approx. 12:30am)	21 Entrance of the Theotokos	22 4:00pm Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
9th Sunday of Luke 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship	24	25 St. Katherine	26	27 Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
Andrew the First-Called Apostle 9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy (Sunday School following Communion) 12:00pm Fellowship 12:45pm Bible Study		Fasting Guide as prescribed by the Church:	This color denotes a Strict Fast Day (basically, vegan/dry eating)	This color denotes an Oil +Wine permissible Fasting day, yet still vegan	This color denotes a Fish permissible Fasting Day, but without meat and dairy products	This color denotes a Cheese permissible Fasting Day, but without meat products

