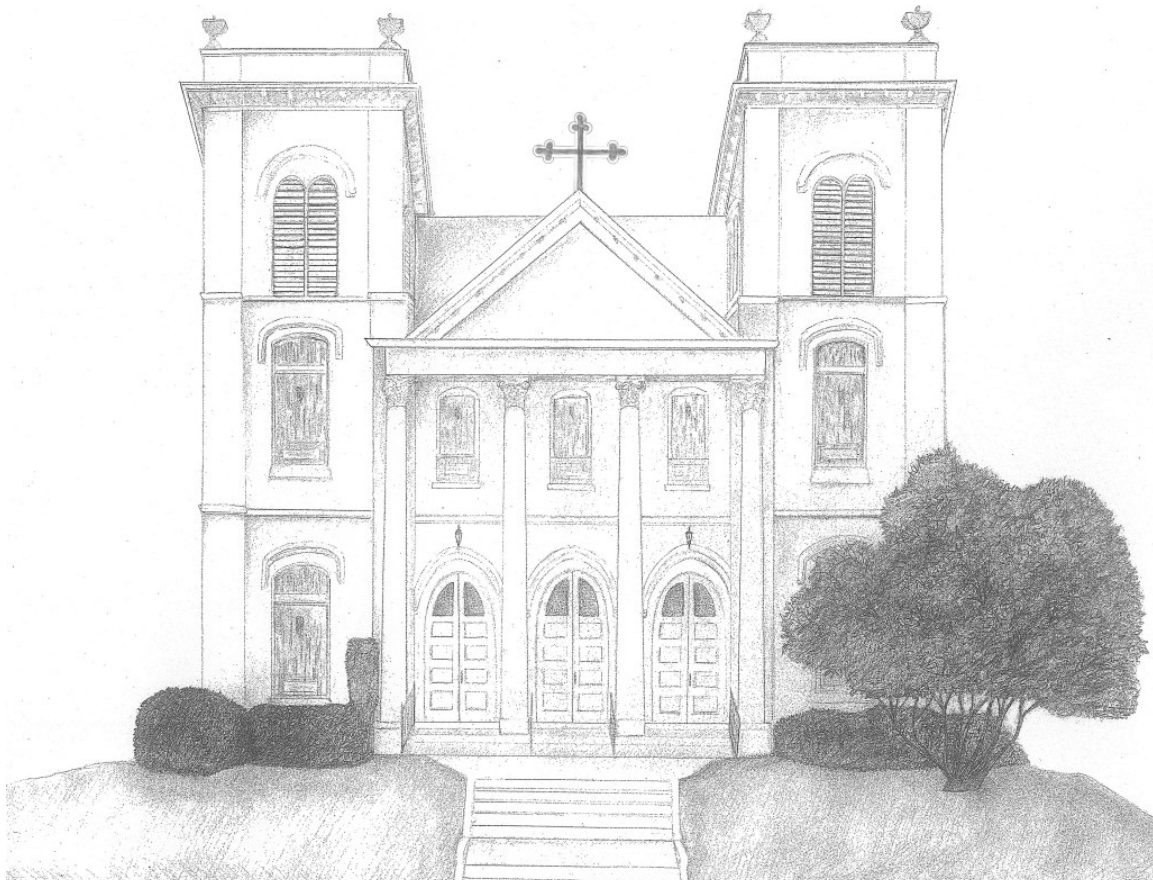




HOLY CROSS

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, October 5, 2025

Second Sunday of Luke

St. Charitina the Martyr

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Sixth (Luke 24:36-53)

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

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

Today, October 5

9:15m Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 2nd Sunday of Luke
Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
12:45pm Youth Greek Dance

Mon-Thurs, October 6-9

Father Theodore at National Clergy Retreat

Thursday, October 9

7:00pm Cross Dive Follow-Up Meeting (In-Person/Zoom)

Saturday, October 11

9:00am Pastry Prep for Festival
2:00pm Altar Server Workshop
4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class
5:00pm Great Vespers
6:00pm Men's Brotherhood Fellowship (at the Ehmer's House)

Sunday, October 12

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council
Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
12:45pm Bible Study/Youth Greek Dance

Tuesday, October 14

7:00pm Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, October 15

5:30pm Vespers honoring St. Longinos

Friday, October 17

4:30pm Great Vespers honoring St. Luke the Evangelist

Saturday, October 18

9:00am Pastry Prep for the Festival
4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class in the Library
5:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday, October 19

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 3rd Sunday of Luke
Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion
10-year Memorial for George Patras at the end of the Liturgy
Coffee Fellowship after the Liturgy in the Parish House
12:45pm Youth Greek Dance

Wednesday, October 22

5:30pm Liturgy of St. James @ Cathedral in Atlanta

Thursday, October 23

9:00am Festival Set-up (end time - until we finish)

Friday, October 24

11:00am 18th Annual Central Georgia Greek Festival (until 9:00pm)

Saturday, October 25

11:00am 18th Annual Central Georgia Greek Festival (until 9:00pm)
5:00pm Great Vespers for the Feast Day of St. Demetrios the Myrrh-Streamer

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (10/12) Helen Troupas, Richard Stewart; (10/19) Haris Sorovigas, Beth Zoumberis

Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (10/12) John Apostolou; (10/19) Maria Spicer; (10/26) Sarah Drakopoulos

Upcoming Ushers: (10/11) OPEN; (10/12) John A, Sarah D; (10/15+17) Charles G.; (10/18) Cheryl + Erick S.

Upcoming Video Operators: (10/12) Cristina; (10/17) Daniel; (10/19) David Z; (10/26) David N, Gray (10/28) Adam

Fellowship Hosts: (10/12) Helen Vardy; (10/19) Kathye Patras; (10/26) Festival; (11/2) Haris Sorovigas; (11/9) Youth

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.

+++

Πρὸς Κορινθίους Β΄ Ἐπιστολῆς
Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

+++

Ἀδελφοί, ὑμεῖς ἐστε ναὸς Θεοῦ
ζῶντος, καθὼς εἶπεν ὁ Θεὸς ὅτι
ἐνοικήσω ἐν αὐτοῖς καὶ
ἐμπεριπατήσω, καὶ ἔσομαι
αὐτῶν Θεός, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔσονται
μοι λαός. διὸ ἐξέλθατε ἐκ μέσου
αὐτῶν καὶ ἀφορίσθητε, λέγει
Κύριος, καὶ ἀκαθάρτου μὴ
ἄπτεσθε, κἀγὼ εἰσδέξομαι ὑμᾶς,
καὶ ἔσομαι ὑμῖν εἰς πατέρα, καὶ
ὑμεῖς ἔσεσθέ μοι εἰς υἱοὺς καὶ
θυγατέρας, λέγει Κύριος
παντοκράτωρ. Ταύτας οὖν
ἔχοντες τὰς ἐπαγγελίας,
ἀγαπητοί, καθαρίσωμεν
ἐαυτοὺς ἀπὸ παντὸς μολυσμοῦ
σαρκὸς καὶ πνεύματος,
ἐπιτελοῦντες ἀγιωσύνην ἐν
φόβῳ Θεοῦ.

Pray and return to the Lord
Your God.

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

+++

The reading is from Paul's
Second Letter to the
Corinthians. (6:16-7:1)

+++

Brethren, you are the temple
of the living God; as God said,
“I will live in them and move
among them, and I will be
their God, and they shall be
my people. Therefore come
out from them, and be
separate from them, says the
Lord, and touch nothing
unclean; then I will welcome
you, and I will be a father to
you, and you shall be my sons
and daughters, says the Lord
Almighty.” Since we have
these promises, beloved, let us
cleanse ourselves from every
defilement of body and spirit,
and make holiness perfect in
the fear of God.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Luke (6:31-36)

Second Sunday of Luke

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Καθὼς θέλετε
ἵνα ποιῶσιν ὑμῖν οἱ ἄνθρωποι,
καὶ ὑμεῖς ποιεῖτε αὐτοῖς
ὁμοίως. καὶ εἰ ἀγαπᾶτε τοὺς
ἀγαπῶντας ὑμᾶς, ποία ὑμῖν
χάρις ἐστί; καὶ γὰρ οἱ
ἁμαρτωλοὶ τοὺς ἀγαπῶντας
αὐτοὺς ἀγαπῶσι. καὶ ἐὰν
ἀγαθοποιῇτε τοὺς
ἀγαθοποιῶντας ὑμᾶς, ποία
ὑμῖν χάρις ἐστί; καὶ γὰρ οἱ
ἁμαρτωλοὶ τὸ αὐτὸ ποιῶσι.
καὶ ἐὰν δανείζητε παρ’ ὧν
ἐλπίζετε ἀπολαβεῖν, ποία ὑμῖν
χάρις ἐστί; καὶ γὰρ ἁμαρτωλοὶ
ἁμαρτωλοῖς δανείζουσιν ἵνα
ἀπολάβωσι τὰ ἴσα. πλὴν
ἀγαπᾶτε τοὺς ἐχθροὺς ὑμῶν
καὶ ἀγαθοποιεῖτε καὶ δανείζετε
μηδὲν ἀπελπίζοντες, καὶ ἔσται
ὁ μισθὸς ὑμῶν πολὺς, καὶ
ἔσεσθε υἱοὶ ὑψίστου, ὅτι
αὐτὸς χρηστός ἐστίν ἐπὶ τοὺς
ἀχαρίστους καὶ πονηροὺς.
Γίνεσθε οὖν οἰκτίρμονες,
καθὼς καὶ ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν
οἰκτίρμων ἐστί.

The Lord said, “And as you
wish that men would do to
you, do so to them. If you
love those who love you,
what credit is that to you?
For even sinners love those
who love them. And if you
do good to those who do
good to you, what credit is
that to you? For even
sinners do the same. And if
you lend to those from
whom you hope to receive,
what credit is that to you?
Even sinners lend to
sinners, to receive as much
again. But love your
enemies, and do good, and
lend, despairing of no man;
and your reward will be
great, and you will be sons
of the Most High; for he is
kind to the ungrateful and
the selfish. Be merciful,
even as your Father is
merciful.”

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 October 5, 2025

Ushers on Duty: Sarah Drakopoulos, Maria Spicer
Video: Joanna P. Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Chad Ridley (Greek); Carter Zoumberis (Eng.)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Alex Sorovigas

PC Member On-Duty: Chad Ridley



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Our Devout Mother Charitina (Χαρίτιν) of Amisus (+290)

Saint Charitina contested for Christ during the reign of Diocletian, in the year 290. The handmaid of a certain Claudius, she was betrayed as a Christian to Dometian, the Count, before whom she fearlessly confessed Christ. After suffering the most terrible tortures, including the uprooting of her teeth and nails, she gave up her soul into the hands of the Lord.

- + The Holy Martyr Mameltha (Μαμέλχθα) of Persia (+344)

The Martyr Mameltha of Persia was, before her conversion to the Christian Faith, a pagan priestess of the goddess Artemis. The saint's sister convinced her to accept Baptism. When the pagans saw Mameltha in her white baptismal robe, they stoned her. The saint suffered in the year 344. Later, a church was dedicated to her on the site of the temple of Artemis.

- + Our Fathers among the Saints Peter (Πέτρος), Alexis (Αλέξιος), Jonah (Ιώνας), Hermogenes (Ερμουγένης), and Tikhon (Τύχων), Metropolitans of Moscow

The feast of the Hierarchs of Moscow was established during the reign of Tsar Theodore Ioannovich and Patriarch Job in the year 1596. Their individual feasts are: Saint Peter (+1326), December 21, and August 24, translation of holy relics; Saint Alexis (+14th cent.), February 12, and May 20, recovery of holy relics; Saint Jonah (+1461), March 31 and June 15, with the recovery of his holy relics celebrated on May 27. In 1875, at the proposal of Metropolitan Innocent of Moscow, to this feast was joined the commemoration of Saint Philip of Moscow (+1569), whose feast is kept on January 9, and the recovery of his holy relics on July 3. In more recent times, the holy Patriarchs Hermogenes (+1612) and Tikhon (+1925) have been added to the Synaxis. Saint Hermogenes, who was starved to death by the Poles, is also celebrated on February 17 and May 12, and Saint Tikhon, a confessor under the atheist yoke, on March 25. The Menaion service itself makes reference only to Saints Peter, Alexis, Jonah, and Philip.

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 (Εξ ύψους, Plagal Fourth 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! (*Sung before and after the Small Entrance. Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 126*)

- Hymn of the Holy Cross (Σώσον Κύριε, First 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. (*Greek text found on the back of the bulletin.*)

- The Normal Kontakion of the Theotokos (Προστασία των Χριστιανών, Second Mode):

O Protection of Christians that never fails, 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 found in Hymnal on pg. 225*)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily Commemorations, Fasting Guidance and Scripture Readings:

Sunday, October 5: St. Charitina the Martyr

No Fasting

Luke 24:36-53; II Corinthians 6:16-18, 7:1; Luke 6:31-36

Monday, October 6: St. Thomas the Apostle

No Fasting

I Corinthians 4:9-16; John 20: 19-31

Tuesday, October 7: Sts. Sergius and Bacchus the Martyrs

No Fasting

Ephesians 5:20-25; Luke 6:37-45

Wednesday, October 8: St. Pelagia the Righteous

Strict Fast

Ephesians 5:25-33; Luke 6:46-49, 7:1

Thursday, October 9: Apostle James, son of Alphaeus

No Fasting

I Corinthians 4:9-16; Matthew 9:36-38, 10:1-8

Friday, October 10: Sts. Eulampius and Eulampia

Strict Fast

Ephesians 6:18-24; Luke 7:31-35

Saturday, October 11: St. Philip, Apostle of the 70

No Fasting

Acts 8:26-39; Luke 5:27-32

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, Benjamin, Brenda, George, Gabriel, Bradaen

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Charles (+August 23), Clark (+September 4),
Tammy (+September 22)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Amanda, Antigone, Betty, Kalie

Prayers for Military Personnel and Their Families:

Benjamin George Davis, Joseph Fajloun,
Kyle Glotzbach, Robert Ice, Aleksander Zajac

Prayers for our Catechumens and Inquirers into the Orthodox Church:

Alexander, Bobbie, Cherish, 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. Basil in his work *On the Holy Spirit*, encourage us to true asceticism: "Beware of limiting the good of fasting to mere abstinence from meats. Real fasting is alienation from evil. 'Loose the bands of wickedness.' For give your neighbor the mischief he has done you. Forgive him his trespasses against you. Do not 'fast for strife and debate.' You do not devour flesh, but you devour your brother. You abstain from wine, but you indulge in outrages. You wait for evening before

you take food, but you spend the day in the law courts. Woe to those who are 'drunken, but not with wine.' Anger is the intoxication of the soul, and makes it out of its wits like wine.

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!
None in the Records

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

October 8: Marina Deskins

October 11: Melanie Moye, Tony Zoumberis, Sr.

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

October 10: Toula & Pete Tsamolias

October 11: Mandi & Alex Saratsiotis

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

Announcements:

* Father Theodore will be out of town this week at the Bi-Annual National Clergy Retreat in Naples, Florida from Monday to Thursday. Please contact him in case of emergency so that he can be of assistance.

* The next Introduction to the Orthodox Church class will take place after the Greek Festival. For Inquirers/Catechumens—please look out for an email from Father Theodore regarding upcoming individual meetings.

* The Orthodox Book Study has finished its study of *For the Life of the World* by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann. The Book Study will resume after the Festival!

* FESTIVAL INFO (OCTOBER 24-26): Have you taken off for Friday, October 24th yet? We still have lots of Raffle Tickets that families have not taken. Please see Natalia to get your tickets. Flyers have been emailed and also available in the Bookstore and Parish House. Please take these to businesses around town and help spread the word! Pastry Prep will be next Saturday, October 11th and the following 18th. Where are you working? Please contact a Booth Chairman if you are available to help. We need everyone to help! Know of someone who needs Volunteer Hours? Scan the QR Code and share it with your friends. The volunteer link is for non-parishioners who would like to volunteer. NOTE: We always struggle for volunteers on Friday. Yard Signs are available for \$10. If you would like one, please let Natalia know. These can be used each year. On the Sunday before the Festival (Oct. 19th), The Men's Brotherhood will be putting yard signs around town. Please get with Felix if you are available to help out!



* The Altar Server Workshop/Meeting that was to take place a couple of weeks ago has been rescheduled for Saturday, October 11 at 2:00pm. There will be food and a workshop. If you serve in the Altar, please plan on attending. If you think you may like to serve in the Holy Altar, please contact Father Theodore to discuss this further.

* The Men's Brotherhood (for all men 18+) will be having a meeting at the Ehmer's house this coming Saturday, October 10 after Vespers at approximately 6:00pm. This will be a Pot-Luck gathering with Bratwursts provided.

* Cross Dive Committee Members: We will have a follow-up meeting this coming week at 7:00pm on Thursday, October 9. This will take place both in-person and on Zoom.