



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Sunday, November 30, 2025

St. Andrew the Apostle and First-Called
 Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Third (Mark 16:9-20)
 Mode of the Week: Plagal of the Fourth/Πλάγιος του
 Τετάρτου

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, November 30</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of the Holy Apostle Andrew 40 Day Blessing of Antigone Michalakis and baby Castor Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy Winter Youth Rally Registration Closes
<i>Monday, December 1</i>	
<i>Wednesday, December 3</i>	5:30pm Great Vespers honoring Sts. Barbara and John of Damascus 6:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class
<i>Thursday, December 4</i>	10:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste and See in Macon
<i>Saturday, December 6</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Nicholas of Myra Christmas Caroling Caravan (after the Liturgy)
<i>Sunday, December 7</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 10 th Sunday of Luke Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion 2026 Stewardship Blessing at the end of the Liturgy with Parish Family Photo Parish Council Elections in the Parish House after the Liturgy Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy Work Party in the Back Building and Pageant Practice for the Youth
<i>Tuesday, December 9</i>	6:30pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Wednesday, December 10</i>	5:30pm Vespers 6:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class
<i>Thursday, December 11</i>	10:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste and See in Macon
<i>Friday, December 12</i>	9:30am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Spyridon the Wonderworker
<i>Saturday, December 13</i>	9:00am Philoptochos Pastry Sale Pickup (until 11:00am) 3:00pm Animal Blessing in the Church Courtyard 4:00pm Byzantine Chant Class 5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, December 14</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Forefathers Christmas Pageant presented by the Youth at the end of the Liturgy Coffee Fellowship after the Pageant in the Parish House 12:45pm Bible Study

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (12/7) Pete Tsamolias, Rene Esquivel; (12/14) Haris Sorovigas, Chrissy Zdrakas
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (12/7) Maria Spicer; (12/14) Sarah D.; (12/21) Chad Ridley; (12/28) Gray Yates
Upcoming Ushers: (12/3) Charles G.; (12/6) Eleni A.; (12/7) Jim L, Haris S.; (12/10) Charles G.; (12/12) Erick S.
Upcoming Video Operators: (12/5) Norm A; (12/7) Cristina L; (12/12) Daniel V; (12/14) Natalia S; (12/21) David Z.
Fellowship Hosts: (12/7) Hazel Dunbar; (12/14) Rodica Cazacu; (12/21) Chad Ridley; (12/28) Chad Ridley

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

Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος αὐτοῦ.

Στίχ. Οἱ οὐρανοὶ διηγοῦνται δόξαν Θεοῦ.

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Πρὸς Κορινθίους Α' Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἀδελφοί, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμᾶς τοὺς ἀποστόλους ἐσχάτους ἀπέδειξεν, ὡς ἐπιθανατίους, ὅτι θέατρον ἐγενήθημεν τῷ κόσμῳ, καὶ ἀγγέλοις καὶ ἀνθρώποις. ἡμεῖς μωροὶ διὰ Χριστόν, ὑμεῖς δὲ φρόνιμοι ἐν Χριστῷ· ἡμεῖς ἀσθενεῖς, ὑμεῖς δὲ ἰσχυροί· ὑμεῖς ἐνδοξοὶ, ἡμεῖς δὲ ἄτιμοι. ἄχρι τῆς ἄρτι ὥρας καὶ πεινῶμεν καὶ διψῶμεν καὶ γυμνητεύομεν καὶ κολαφιζόμεθα καὶ ἀστατοῦμεν καὶ κοπιῶμεν ἐργαζόμενοι ταῖς ἰδίαις χερσὶ· λαιδορούμενοι εὐλογοῦμεν, διωκόμενοι ἀνεχόμεθα, βλασφημούμενοι παρακαλοῦμεν· ὡς περικαθάρματα τοῦ κόσμου ἐγενήθημεν, πάντων περίψημα ἕως ἄρτι. Οὐκ ἐντρέπων ὑμᾶς γράφω ταῦτα, ἀλλ' ὡς τέκνα μου ἀγαπητὰ νουθετῶ. ἐὰν γὰρ μυρίους παιδαγωγοὺς ἔχητε ἐν Χριστῷ, ἀλλ' οὐ πολλοὺς πατέρας· ἐν γὰρ Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ διὰ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου ἐγὼ ὑμᾶς ἐγέννησα. παρακαλῶ οὖν ὑμᾶς, μιμηταὶ μου γίνεσθε.

His proclamation went forth into all the earth.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God.

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The reading is from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. (4:9-16)

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Brethren, God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off-scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. John (1:35-52)

Feast Day of St. Andrew the Apostle

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, εἰστήκει ὁ Ἰωάννης καὶ ἐκ τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ δύο, καὶ ἐμβλέψας τῷ Ἰησοῦ περιπατοῦντι λέγει· ἴδε ὁ ἀμνὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ. καὶ ἤκουσαν αὐτοῦ οἱ δύο μαθηταὶ λαλοῦντος, καὶ ἠκολούθησαν τῷ Ἰησοῦ. στραφεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ θεασάμενος αὐτοὺς ἀκολουθοῦντας λέγει αὐτοῖς· τί ζητεῖτε; οἱ δὲ εἶπον αὐτῷ· ῥάββι· ὃ λέγεται ἐρμηνευόμενον διδάσκαλε· ποῦ μένεις; λέγει αὐτοῖς· ἔρχεσθε καὶ ἴδετε. ἦλθον οὖν καὶ εἶδον ποῦ μένει, καὶ παρ' αὐτῷ ἔμειναν τὴν ἡμέραν ἐκείνην· ὥρα ἦν ὡς δεκάτη. ἦν Ἀνδρέας ὁ ἀδελφὸς Σίμωνος Πέτρου εἰς ἐκ τῶν δύο τῶν ἀκουσάντων παρὰ Ἰωάννου καὶ ἀκολουθησάντων αὐτῷ. εὕρισκε οὗτος πρῶτος τὸν ἀδελφὸν τὸν ἴδιον Σίμονα καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· εὕρηκαμεν τὸν Μεσσίαν· ὃ ἐστι μεθερμηνευόμενον Χριστός· καὶ ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν. ἐμβλέψας αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε· σὺ εἶ Σίμων ὁ υἱὸς Ἰωνᾶ, σὺ κληθήσῃ Κηφᾶς, ὃ ἐρμηνεύεται Πέτρος. Τῇ ἐπαύριον ἠθέλησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐξελθεῖν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν· καὶ εὕρισκε Φίλιππον καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· ἀκολουθεῖ μοι. ἦν δὲ ὁ Φίλιππος ἀπὸ Βηθσαϊδά, ἐκ τῆς πόλεως Ἀνδρέου καὶ Πέτρου. εὕρισκε Φίλιππος τὸν Ναθαναὴλ καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· ὃν ἔγραψε Μωϋσῆς ἐν τῷ νόμῳ καὶ οἱ προφῆται, εὕρηκαμεν, Ἰησοῦν τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ Ἰωσήφ τὸν ἀπὸ Ναζαρέτ. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Ναθαναὴλ· ἐκ Ναζαρέτ δύναται τι ἀγαθὸν εἶναι; λέγει αὐτῷ Φίλιππος· ἔρχου καὶ ἴδε. εἶδεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὸν Ναθαναὴλ ἐρχόμενον πρὸς αὐτὸν καὶ λέγει περὶ αὐτοῦ· ἴδε ἀληθῶς Ἰσραηλίτης, ἐν ᾧ δόλος οὐκ ἔστι. λέγει αὐτῷ Ναθαναὴλ· πόθεν με γινώσκεις; ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· πρὸ τοῦ σε Φίλιππον φωνῆσαι, ὄντα ὑπὸ τὴν συκῆν εἰδόν σε. ἀπεκρίθη Ναθαναὴλ καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· ῥάββι, σὺ εἶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, σὺ εἶ ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ. ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ὅτι εἶπόν σοι, εἰδόν σε ὑποκάτω τῆς συκῆς, πιστεύεις; μείζω τούτων ὄψει. καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἀπ' ἄρτι ὄψεσθε τὸν οὐρανὸν ἀνεωγῆτα, καὶ τοὺς ἀγγέλους τοῦ Θεοῦ ἀναβαίνοντας καὶ καταβαίοντας ἐπὶ τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.

At that time, John was standing with two of his disciples; and he looked at Jesus as he walked, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned, and saw them following, and said to them, "What do you seek?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying; and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "So you are Simon the son of Jonah? You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter). The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

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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 November 30, 2025

Ushers on Duty: Sarah Drakopoulos, Haris Sorovigas

Video: Joanna P.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Kostas Iakovidis (Greek); Chrissy Zdrakas (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Mariana Filimon

PC Member On-Duty: Chad Ridley



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + The Holy, Glorious, and All-Lauded Apostle Andrew (Ανδρέας) the First-Called (+62)

This Saint was from Bethsaida of Galilee; he was the son of Jonas and the brother of Peter, the chief of the Apostles. He had first been a disciple of John the Baptist; afterwards, on hearing the Baptist's witness concerning Jesus, when he pointed Him out with his finger and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, Which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1.29,36), he straightway followed Christ, and became His first disciple; wherefore he is called the First-called of the Apostles. After the Ascension of the Saviour, he preached in various lands; and having suffered many things for His Name's sake, he died in Patras of Achaia, where he was crucified on a cross in the shape of an "X," the first letter of "Christ" in Greek; this cross is also the symbol of Saint Andrew.

- + Our Devout Father Frumentius (Φρουμέντιος), Bishop of Axum (+370)

In the time of the Emperor Constantine the Great, a learned man from Tyre called Meropius travelled to India. He took with him two young Christians, brothers called Edessius and Frumentius. On the journey, the ship foundered in a storm on the Abyssinian coast, and the wild Abyssinians killed all the people from the ship except these two brothers, Edessius and Frumentius. They lived in Abyssinia for several years and succeeded in entering the service of the king. Frumentius began to preach the Christian faith, at first fairly cautiously, and became convinced that the land was ripe for such preaching. The two brothers then took ship, Edessius to Tyre to his parents and Frumentius to Alexandria, to Patriarch Athanasius the Great. Frumentius described the situation in Abyssinia to the Patriarch and sought pastors to bring the people to the Faith. St Athanasius consecrated Frumentius bishop, and he returned to Abyssinia where, by his zeal and his miracles, he brought the whole of Abyssinia to the Faith during his lifetime. This great pastor of Christ's flock and enlightener of Abyssinia died peacefully in the year 370, and entered into the Kingdom of his Lord.

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! (*Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 126*)

- *Hymn of St. Andrew (Ὡς των Αποστόλων, Fourth Mode):*

As first called of the Apostles and brother of Peter the Preeminent, O Andrew, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace to the whole world, and great mercy to our souls.

- *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 Kontakion of the Nativity of Christ (Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον τον προαιώνιον Λόγον, Third Mode):*

On this day the Virgin Maid * goes to the grotto to give birth * to the pre-eternal Word * in an ineffable manner. * Dance for joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing, * Glorify along with Angels and with the shepherds * Him who willed that He appear as * a newborn Child, * the pre-eternal God. (*Greek Text found in Hymnal on pg. 240*)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week's Daily Commemorations,

Fasting Guidance and Scripture Readings:

Sunday, November 30: St. Andrew the First-Called

Fish, Oil + Wine

Mark 16:9-20; I Corinthians 4:9-16; John 1:35-52

Monday, December 1: Nahum the Prophet

Fish, Oil + Wine

I Timothy 1:1-7; Luke 19:37-44

Tuesday, December 2: Habakkuk the Prophet

Fish, Oil + Wine

I Timothy 1:8-14; Luke 19:45-48

Wednesday, December 3: Zephaniah the Prophet

Strict Fast

I Timothy 1:18-20, 2:8-15; Luke 20:1-8

Thursday, December 4: Sts. Barbara+John of Damascus

Fish, Oil + Wine

Matthew 25:1-13; Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-5; Mark 5:24-34

Friday, December 5: St. Sabbas the Sanctified

Wine+Oil

Luke 6:17-23; Galatians 5:22-26, 6:1-2; Matthew 11:27-30

Saturday, December 6: St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

Fish, Oil + Wine

John 10:1-9; Hebrews 13:17-21; Luke 6:17-23

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, 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, Gabriel, Bradaen, Teri, Barbara

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Leo (+October 26), Steven (+October 29), Bonnie (+November 14), Delia (+November 19)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Amanda, Emily, Maggie

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:

Adam, Alexander, Amanda, Aryn, Avery, Billy, Bobbie, Cherish, Dakota, Daniel, Darryl, Ecaterina, Gavin, Hannah, Jessica, John, Kyle, Macayla, Maegan, Max, Mary Emma, Nate, Noah, Ron, Sarah, 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:

Saint Basil the Great speaking to us about the trials of life: "Trials are of two kinds. Either affliction will test our souls as gold is tried in a furnace, and make trial of us through patience, or the very prosperity of our lives will oftentimes, for many, be itself an occasion of trial and temptation. For it is equally difficult to keep the soul upright and undefeated in the midst of afflictions, as to keep oneself from insolence and pride in prosperity."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

November 30: Andrew Adams, Daniel Filimon, Andreas Tsamolias

December 4: Erick Schwartzkopf

December 6: Nick Dermatas, Orion Nicholas Ice,

Nichole Lawrence, Nicholas Michalakis, Nicholas Poulos, Aaron Nicholas Vrahiotes

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

November 30: Stephen Butchko, Danai Esquivel

December 1: Terri Andros

December 2: Joseph Fajloun

December 3: Anna Kallergis, Yianni Pothoulakis

December 5: Cleo Bennette, Stacey Goss

December 6: George Stefanis, Steven Paul Syribeys, Gray Yates

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 Christopher Magiera and Alexandra Stefanis who were wed in the Holy Mystery of Marriage yesterday at Holy Cross. Koumbaroi/Sponsors for the wedding were Jay and Eleni Dermatas. **Congratulations** to the Michalakis family today on the occasion of the 40-day blessing of baby Castor and mother Antigone!

* If you would like to participate in the **Christmas Poinsettias**, please scan the QR Code to submit your name. The deadline to participate is December 15th. For more information, contact Cristina Lekas.

* **YOUTH:** We will be celebrating St. Nicholas in Sunday School on 12/7. Please let Pres. Stacey know if your child will be participating in the Nativity Pageant (12/14) by today at the latest! Roles will be distributed this week and our one and only practice and "dress rehearsal" will be December 7!

* The next **Introduction to the Orthodox Church** class will take place **Wednesday, December 3 at 6:30pm in the Chapel**. The topic for the next session will be our Orthodox Christian understanding of the Divine Liturgy along with a walk-through.

* The **Festival Chairmen are asking for help** on Sunday, December 7th after the Divine Liturgy. We will be reorganizing the back building and preparing it to be ready for next year's Festival. Please be sure to bring a change of clothes.

* **Greek School:** Greek School has resumed for the Youth. If your child/grandchild missed the first class last Sunday, please contact Haris Sorovigas for more information at 517-449-0909. For the Adults, if you are interested in learning Greek, please contact Maria Bronisevsky by text message at 704-923-9881 to gauge interest/look into schedules.

* **Philoptochos** is currently collecting items for the clinic at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School. This is part of a national Philoptochos initiative-Operation Classroom. Please place your donations in the box located in the Narthex. Thank you for your support! The following items are needed: Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen (for ages 2-11), Pepto Bismol, Triple Antibiotic Ointment, Orajel, Alcohol Pads, Cotton Balls, 3 oz Water Cups, Sandwich and Gallon Sized Ziploc Bags.