



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Sunday after Theophany

St. Theodosios the Cenobiarch

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

Mode of the Week: Plagal of the Second/Πλ. Του Δευτέρου

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

Today, January 11

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday after Theophany
Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
12:45pm Bible Study
1:00pm Youth Greek School

Wednesday, January 14

5:30pm Vespers
6:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class

Thursday, January 15

10:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste & See

Saturday, January 17

8:00am Orthros
9:00am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of St. Anthony the Great

Sunday, January 18

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of Sts. Athanasios and Cyril
Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
Youth Activity—Ice Skating (after Church Activities)

Monday, January 19

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day — OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, January 21

3:00pm Blood Drive in the Parish House (until 7:00pm)
5:30pm Vespers
6:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class

Thursday, January 22

10:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste & See

Saturday, January 24

5:00pm Readers Great Vespers

Sunday, January 25

9:15am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the 15th Sunday of Luke
Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion
Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
12:15pm Philoptochos Meeting in the Parish House
12:45pm Bible Study
1:00pm Youth Greek School

Wednesday, January 28

5:30pm Vespers
6:30pm Introduction to the Orthodox Church Class

Thursday, January 29

10:00am Orthodox Book Study at Taste & See

Friday, January 30

9:30am Orthros
10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Feast Day of the Three Hierarchs

Upcoming Epistle Readers: (1/18) Haris Sorovigas, Richard Stewart; (1/25) Pete Tsamolias, Cheryl Schwartzkopf
Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (1/18) Maria Spicer; (1/25) Asst. Treasurer; (2/1) Secretary; (2/8) Asst. Secretary
Upcoming Ushers: (1/14) Cristina L; (1/17) Sarah D; (1/18) Sarah D, Nic P; (1/21) Cristina L; (1/24+25) Erick, Cheryl S
Upcoming Video Operators: (1/18) Joanna; (1/25) David Z.; (1/30) Cristina; (2/1) AM-Gray/David N.; PM-Natalia
Fellowship Hosts: (1/18) Danai Esquivel; (1/25) Haris Sorovigas; (2/1) Natalia Saratsiotis; (2/8) Cleo Bennette

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

Τίμιος ἐναντίον Κυρίου ὁ θάνατος τοῦ
οσίου αὐτοῦ.

Στίχ. Τί ἀνταποδώσωμεν τῷ Κυρίῳ περὶ
πάντων;

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Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ
ἀνάγνωσμα.

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Ἀδελφοί, μνημονεύετε τῶν ἡγουμένων
ὑμῶν, οἵτινες ἐλάλησαν ὑμῖν τὸν λόγον
τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὧν ἀναθεωροῦντες τὴν
ἐκβασιν τῆς ἀνατροφῆς μιμεῖσθε τὴν
πίστιν. Ἰησοῦς Χριστὸς χθὲς καὶ
σήμερον ὁ αὐτὸς καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.
διδασκαῖς ποικίλαις καὶ ξέναις μὴ
παραφέρεσθε· καλὸν γὰρ χάριτι
βεβαιοῦσθαι τὴν καρδίαν, οὐ βρώμασιν,
ἐν οἷς οὐκ ὠφελήθησαν οἱ
περιπατήσαντες. ἔχομεν θυσιαστήριον
ἐξ οὗ φαγεῖν οὐκ ἔχουσιν ἐξουσίαν οἱ τῇ
σκηνῇ λατρεύοντες· ὧν γὰρ εἰσφέρεται
ζῶων τὸ αἷμα περὶ ἁμαρτίας εἰς τὰ Ἅγια
διὰ τοῦ ἀρχιερέως, τούτων τὰ σώματα
κατακαίεται ἔξω τῆς παρεμβολῆς· διὸ
καὶ Ἰησοῦς, ἵνα ἁγιάσῃ διὰ τοῦ ἰδίου
αἵματος τὸν λαόν, ἔξω τῆς πύλης ἔπαθε.
τοίνυν ἐξερχώμεθα πρὸς αὐτὸν ἔξω τῆς
παραμβολῆς τὸν ὀνειδισμόν αὐτοῦ
φέροντες· οὐ γὰρ ἔχομεν ὧδε μένουσαν
πόλιν, ἀλλὰ τὴν μέλλουσαν
ἐπιζητοῦμεν. δι' αὐτοῦ οὖν ἀναφέρωμεν
θυσίαν αἰνέσεως διὰ παντὸς τῷ Θεῷ,
τοῦτ' ἔστι καρπὸν χειλέων
ὁμολογούντων τῷ ὀνόματι αὐτοῦ. τῆς δὲ
εὐποΐας καὶ κοινωνίας μὴ
ἐπιλανθάνεσθε· τοιαύταις γὰρ θυσίαις
εὐαρεστεῖται ὁ Θεός.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the
death of His holy one.

Verse: What shall we give back to the
Lord for all He rendered to us?

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The reading is from Paul's Letter to
the Hebrews.

(13:7-16)

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Brethren, remember your leaders,
those who spoke to you the word of
God; consider the outcome of their
lives, and imitate their faith. Jesus
Christ is the same yesterday and today
and for ever. Do not be led away by
diverse and strange teachings; for it is
well that the heart be strengthened by
grace, not by foods, which have not
benefited their adherents. We have an
altar from which those who serve the
tent have no right to eat. For the
bodies of those animals whose blood is
brought into the sanctuary by the high
priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned
outside the camp. So Jesus also
suffered outside the gate in order to
sanctify the people through his own
blood. Therefore let us go forth to him
outside the camp and bear the abuse
he endured. For here we have no
lasting city, but we seek the city which
is to come. Through him then let us
continually offer up a sacrifice of
praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips
that acknowledge his name. Do not
neglect to do good and to share what
you have, for such sacrifices are
pleasing to God.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. Matthew (4:12-17)

Sunday after Theophany

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἀκούσας
ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι Ἰωάννης
παρεδόθη, ἀνεχώρησεν εἰς
τὴν Γαλιλαίαν, καὶ
καταλιπὼν τὴν Ναζαρέτ
ἐλθὼν κατῴκησεν εἰς
Καπερναοὺμ τὴν
παραθαλασσίαν ἐν ὁρίοις
Ζαβουλὼν καὶ Νεφθαλείμ,
ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸ ῥηθὲν διὰ
Ἡσαΐου τοῦ προφήτου
λέγοντος· γῆ Ζαβουλὼν καὶ
γῆ Νεφθαλείμ, ὁδὸν
θαλάσσης, πέραν τοῦ
Ἰορδάνου, Γαλιλαία τῶν
ἐθνῶν, ὁ λαὸς ὁ καθημένος
ἐν σκότει εἶδε φῶς μέγα,
καὶ τοῖς καθημένοις ἐν
χώρα καὶ σκιᾷ θανάτου
φῶς ἀνέτειλεν αὐτοῖς. Ἀπὸ
τότε ἤρξατο ὁ Ἰησοῦς
κηρύσσειν καὶ λέγειν·
μετανοεῖτε· ἤγγικε γὰρ ἡ
βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν.

At that time, Jesus when
heard that John had been
arrested, he withdrew
into Galilee; and leaving
Nazareth he went and
dwelt in Capernaum by
the sea, in the territory of
Zebulun and Naphtali,
that what was spoken by
the prophet Isaiah might
be fulfilled: “The land of
Zebulun and the land of
Naphtali, toward the sea,
across the Jordan, Galilee
of the Gentiles — the
people who sat in
darkness have seen a
great light, and for those
who sat in the region and
shadow of death light has
dawned.” From that time
Jesus began to preach,
saying, “Repent, for the
kingdom of heaven is at
hand.”

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 January 11, 2026

Ushers on Duty: Jim Lekas, Natalia Saratsiotis

Video: Cristina L.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: Helen Troupos (Greek); Beth Zoumberis (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Georgia Saratsiotis

PC Member On-Duty: Natalia Saratsiotis



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + Afterfeast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

The Feast of Theophany was celebrated on January 6. We continue to celebrate the after-feast through the Leave-taking which takes place on January 14.

- + Our Devout Father Theodosios (Θεοδόσιος) the Cenobiarch (+529)

This Saint had Cappadocia as his homeland. He lived during the years of Leo of Thrace, who reigned from 457 to 474. The Saint established in the Holy Land a great communal monastery, wherein he was the shepherd of many monks. While Saint Sabbas was the head of the hermits of Palestine, Saint Theodosius was governor of those living the cenobitic life, for which reason he is called the Cenobiarch. Together with Saint Sabbas, towards whom he cherished a deep brotherly love in Christ, he defended the whole land of Palestine from the heresy of the Monophysites, which was championed by the Emperor Anastasius and might very well have triumphed in the Holy Land without the opposition of these two great monastic fathers and their zealous defense of the Holy Council of Chalcedon. Having lived for 103 years, he reposed in peace.

- + St. Stephen (Στέφανος) in Placidiane, St. Theodore (Θεόδωρος), and St. Agapios (Αγάπιος) the Archimandrite

- + The Holy Martyr Major (Μάϊρος)

- + The Devout Saint Vitalius (Βιτάλιος) of Gaza (+609)

- + The Devout Saint Theodosios (Θεοδόσιος), Abbot of Philotheou Monastery on Athos (+1392)

- + The Holy New Martyr Nikephoros (Νικηφόρος) of Crete, who renounced Islam and confessed his faith in Christ (+1832)

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 Theophany (Εν Ιορδάνη, First Mode):*

When You were baptized in the River Jordan, O Lord, it was revealed that God is worshiped in Trinity. For the voice of the Father, who had begotten You, also bore witness to You, calling You “beloved Son,” and the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed that what was said is true. In Your epiphany, O Christ God, You appeared and illumined the world. Glory to You! (*Sung before the Small Entrance and after the Hymn of the Resurrection. Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 208*)

- *Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Αγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις, Plagal Second 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! (*Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 118*)

- *Hymn of St. Theodosios (Ταῖς τῶν δακρύων σου, Plagal Fourth Mode):*

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O Theodosius, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of 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 Theophany (Επεφάνης σήμερον, Fourth Mode):*

You revealed yourself today on earth, O Master, * and Your light was stamped on us, who in the knowledge of the truth, * O Lord, extol Your epiphany. * You came; You revealed yourself, O unapproachable Light.

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

This Week’s Daily Commemorations,

Fasting Guidance and Scripture Readings:

Sunday, January 11: St. Theodosios the Cenobiarch

No Fasting

John 20:10-31; Hebrews 13:7-16; Matthew 4:12-17

Monday, January 12: St. Tatiana of Rome

No Fasting

Acts 18:22-28; John 10:39-42

Tuesday, January 13: Sts. Hermylus and Stratonicus

No Fasting

Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-5; Luke 20:1-8

Wednesday, January 14: Leave-taking of Theophany

Wine + Oil

Acts 2:38-43; Luke 4:1-15

Thursday, January 15: St. Paul of Thebes

No Fasting

Galatians 5:22-26, 6:1-2; Luke 12:32-40

Friday, January 16: Chains of St. Peter the Apostle

Wine + Oil

Acts 12:1-11; John 21:14-25

Saturday, January 17: St. Anthony the Great

No Fasting

Matthew 11:27-30; 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, 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, Barbara, Taylor, Elizabeth, Rich, Penny, Brian, Gracie

Prayers for those recently reposed:

George (+December 3), Debbie (+December 6),

Teri (+December 23), Sharon (+December 29),

Norwood (+January 3)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Amanda, Maggie, Kémie

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, Debbie, 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:

Once **St. Anthony the Great** (commemorated this week on January 17) was asked, “What good work shall I do?” And he answered. “All works are not equal, the scriptures said that Abraham was hospitable, and God was with him. And, Elijah loved quiet, and God was with him. And, David was humble, and God was with him. What therefore you find that your soul desires in following God, that do, and keep your heart.

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polla, Many Years!

January 17: Tony Bennette, Tony Economopoulos, Junior Esquivel, René Esquivel, Tony Kallergis, Antonios Roden, Donna Anthony Saranti, Anthony Paul Zoumberis, Tony Zoumberis, Jr., Tony Zoumberis, Sr.

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

January 15: Kalie Crouse

January 16: Caroline Saratsiotis

January 17: Christina Dempsey

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:

* If you were unable to turn your **2026 Holy Cross Stewardship Pledge** card in, there is still time to make your commitment for 2026. If you have misplaced your card, you can locate an extra one in the Narthex or online.

* The next **Introduction to the Orthodox Church** class will take place **Wednesday, January 14 at 6:30pm ONLY** In-Person. The topic will be about what the walls of the Church teach us—and we will have a tour of the inside of the Church.

* **Philoptochos** will have their next general meeting taking place after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, January 25 in the Parish House.

* **The Not-So-Young-Adult Group** will have their next outing at the Mercer Basketball Game on Saturday, January 31 at 2:00pm. Contact Beth Zoumberis for more information.

* An email has been sent with sign-ups for the traditional **House Blessings** that take place yearly after the Feast Day of Epiphany/Theophany. House Blessings take place by location on certain days through January and February. Please contact Father Theodore if you have trouble signing up.

* **Youth:** Next Sunday, January 18—Ice Skating after Church Activities. Please contact Beth Zoumberis for more information.

* **Great Lent, Holy Week & Pascha Preparations** have been emailed out. There are many ways to help adorning icons, providing meals, organizing children, reading and more! you'd like to volunteer, contact the office email. Scan the QR Code for opportunities to help or donate to help. Thank you for your volunteer efforts during this most blessed time of the year!



* **Our Parish's 2026 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival** ("SJCOF") will be after the Divine Liturgy on SUNDAY, FEB. 8th - it's **exactly one month away!** It's also Godparent Sunday - invite your out-of-town godparents to come watch in support! Please register with the email link sent by Presvytera Stacey or by emailing Presvytera at pres.stacey@holycrossga.org. Also of note, we will be hosting the District Level Oratorical Festival here at Holy Cross on Saturday, March 14.