



HOLY CROSS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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www.holycrossga.org | Facebook: HolyCrossMaconGA

Sunday, March 1, 2026

First Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy
 St. Evdokia the Samaritan

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: Fifth (Luke 24:12-35)

Mode of the Week: Plagal of the First / Πλ. του Πρώτου

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Orthros, part 1



Orthros, part 2



Divine Liturgy



Upcoming Schedule

<i>Today, March 1</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of Orthodoxy Procession of the Holy Icons at the end of the Liturgy Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy District Oratorical Festival Planning Meeting 5:00pm Pan-Orthodox Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers at the Annunciation Cathedral in Atlanta
<i>Tuesday, March 3</i>	5:00pm Great Compline
<i>Wednesday, March 4</i>	5:45pm 9 th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:15pm Light Lenten Meal & Spiritual Discussion in the Parish House
<i>Friday, March 6</i>	6:00pm Small Compline and Second Salutations to the Theotokos
<i>Saturday, March 7</i>	5:00pm Great Vespers
<i>Sunday, March 8</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy 3:00pm "Stop the Bleed" Training in the Parish House (register by Feb. 27th) 5:00pm Pan-Orthodox Vespers @ Holy Cross
<i>Tuesday, March 10</i>	5:00pm Great Compline 7:00pm Men's Brotherhood Gathering at Tatnall Square Park
<i>Wednesday, March 11</i>	5:45pm 9 th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:15pm Light Lenten Meal & Spiritual Discussion in the Parish House
<i>Friday, March 13</i>	6:00pm Small Compline and 3 rd Salutations to the Theotokos
<i>Saturday, March 14</i>	9:30am St. John Chrysostom District Oratorical Festival 3:00pm Great Vespers for the Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross
<i>Sunday, March 15</i>	9:15am Orthros 10:30am Divine Liturgy on the Sunday of the Holy Cross Holy Chrismation of Cherish Dempsey during the Liturgy Procession of the Holy Cross at the end of the Liturgy Sunday School for the Youth after Holy Communion Coffee Fellowship in the Parish House after the Liturgy
<i>Tuesday, March 17</i>	5:00pm Great Compline 6:00pm Parish Council Meeting
<i>Wednesday, March 18</i>	5:45pm 9 th Hour & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:15pm Light Lenten Meal & Spiritual Book Discussion
Upcoming Epistle Readers (3/8) Kostas Iakovidis, CJ Newberry; (3/15) George Saratsiotis, Isabelle Saratsiotis Upcoming PC Member On-Duty: (3/8) Maria Spicer; (3/15) Kostas Iakovidis; (3/22) Chad Ridley; (3/29) Kathy P. Upcoming Ushers: (3/3+4) Charles; (3/6) Eleni; (3/7) Haris; (3/8AM) Jim + OPEN; (3/8PM) David; (3/10) Charles Upcoming Video Operators: (3/4) Natalia; (3/6) Norm; (3/8AM) Cristina; (3/8PM + 3/11) Natalia; (3/13) Cristina Fellowship Hosts: (3/8) Beth Zoumberis; (3/15) Philoptochos; (3/22) Dana E + Schyler J; (3/29) Katerina Iakovidis	

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

*Εὐλόγητός εἶ Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν,
καὶ αἰνετὸν καὶ δεδοξασμένον τὸ ὄνομά σου εἰς
τοὺς αἰῶνας.*

*Στίχ. Ὅτι δίκαιος εἶ ἐπὶ πᾶσιν, οἷς ἐποίησας
ἡμῖν, καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν πόλιν τὴν ἁγίαν τὴν τῶν
Πατέρων ἡμῶν Ἱερουσαλήμ.*

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*Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ
ἀνάγνωσμα.*

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Ἀδελφοί, πιστεῖ Μωϋσῆς μέγας γενόμενος ἠρνήσατο λέγεσθαι υἱὸς θυγατρὸς Φαραῶ, μᾶλλον ἐλόμενος συγκακουχεῖσθαι τῷ λαῷ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἢ πρόσκαιρον ἔχειν ἁμαρτίας ἀπόλαυσιν, μείζονα πλοῦτον ἠγησάμενος τῶν Αἰγύπτου θησαυρῶν τὸν ὀνειδισμόν τοῦ Χριστοῦ· ἀπέβλεπε γὰρ εἰς τὴν μισθαποδοσίαν. Καὶ τί ἔτι λέγω; ἐπιλείπει γάρ με διηγούμενον ὁ χρόνος περὶ Γεδεῶν, Βαράκ τε καὶ Σαμψῶν καὶ Ἰεφθάε, Δαυὶδ τε καὶ Σαμουὴλ καὶ τῶν προφητῶν, οἱ διὰ πίστεως κατηγωνίσαντο βασιλείας, εἰργάσαντο δικαιοσύνην, ἐπέτυχον ἐπαγγελιῶν, ἔφραξαν στόματα λεόντων, ἔσβεσαν δύναμιν πυρός, ἔφυγον στόματα μαχαίρας, ἐνεδυναμώθησαν ἀπὸ ἀσθενείας, ἐγενήθησαν ἰσχυροὶ ἐν πολέμῳ, παρεμβολὰς ἐκλιναν ἄλλοτρίων· ἔλαβον γυναῖκες ἐξ ἀναστάσεως τοὺς νεκροὺς αὐτῶν· ἄλλοι δὲ ἐτυμpanίσθησαν, οὐ προσδεξάμενοι τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, ἵνα κρείττονος ἀναστάσεως τύχωσιν· ἕτεροι δὲ ἐμπαιγμῶν καὶ μαστίγων πείραν ἔλαβον, ἐτι δὲ δεσμῶν καὶ φυλακῆς· ἐλιθάσθησαν, ἐπρίσθησαν, ἐπειράσθησαν, ἐν φόνῳ μαχαίρας ἀπέθανον, περιήλθον ἐν μηλωταῖς, ἐν αἰγείοις δέρμασιν, ὑστερούμενοι, θλιβόμενοι, κακουχούμενοι, ὧν οὐκ ἦν ἄξιος ὁ κόσμος, ἐν ἐρημίαις πλανώμενοι καὶ ὄρεσι καὶ σπηλαίοις καὶ ταῖς ὄπαῖς τῆς γῆς. Καὶ οὗτοι πάντες μαρτυρηθέντες διὰ τῆς πίστεως οὐκ ἔκομίσαντο τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν, τοῦ Θεοῦ περὶ ἡμῶν κρείττον τι προβλεψαμένου, ἵνα μὴ χωρὶς ἡμῶν τελειωθῶσι.

*Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers,
for You are praiseworthy and exalted
beyond measure unto the ages.*

*Verse: For You are righteous in all You did
for us, all You brought on us and on
Jerusalem, the holy city of our fathers.*

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*The reading is from Paul's Letter to the
Hebrews. (11:24-26, 32-40)*

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Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered abuse suffered for the Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he looked to the reward. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets — who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign enemies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated — of whom the world was not worthy — wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

The Holy Gospel Reading according to St. John (1:43-51)

Sunday of Orthodoxy

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἠθέλησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐξελθεῖν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν· καὶ εὕρισκει Φίλιππον καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· ἀκολούθει μοι. ἦν δὲ ὁ Φίλιππος ἀπὸ Βηθσαϊδά, ἐκ τῆς πόλεως Ἀνδρέου καὶ Πέτρου. εὕρισκει Φίλιππος τὸν Ναθαναὴλ καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· ὃν ἔγραψε Μωϋσῆς ἐν τῷ νόμῳ καὶ οἱ προφῆται, εὕρήκαμεν, 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· ῥαββί, 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 καταβαίνοντας ἐπὶ τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.

At that time, 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 he 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 March 1, 2026

Ushers on Duty: Nic Poulos, Natalia Saratsiotis

Video: David Z.

Altar Servers: All Adult/Youth Servers

Epistle Readers: George Saratsiotis (Greek); Rene Esquivel (English)

Fellowship Host (Thank You!): Tassie C./Miliana/Charles/Mina

PC Member On-Duty: Chad Ridley



Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- + First Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy (Κυριακή της Ορθοδοξίας)

For more than one hundred years the Church of Christ was troubled by the persecution of the Iconoclasts of evil belief, beginning in the reign of Leo the Isaurian (717-741) and ending in the reign of Theophilus (829-842). After Theophilus's death, his widow the Empress Theodora (celebrated Feb. 11), together with the Patriarch Methodius (June 14), established Orthodoxy anew. This ever-memorable Queen venerated the icon of the Mother of God in the presence of the Patriarch Methodius and the other confessors and righteous men, and openly cried out these holy words: "If anyone does not offer relative worship to the holy icons, not adoring them as though they were gods, but venerating them out of love as images of the archetype, let him be anathema." Then with common prayer and fasting during the whole first week of the Forty-day Fast, she asked God's forgiveness for her husband. After this, on the first Sunday of the Fast, she and her son, Michael the Emperor, made a procession with all the clergy and people and restored the holy icons, and again adorned the Church of Christ with them. This is the holy deed that all we the Orthodox commemorate today, and we call this radiant and venerable day the Sunday of Orthodoxy, that is, the triumph of true doctrine over heresy.

- + The Holy Devout Martyr Evdokia (Ευδοκία) the Samaritan (+107)
- + The Devout Domnina (Δομνίνα) of Syria and those with her (+460)
- + The Devout Antonina (Αντωνίνα)
- + The Holy Martyrs Marcellus (Μάρκελλος), Anthony (Αντώνιος), Sylvester (Σιλβέστρος) and Sophronios (Σωφρόνιος) of Palestine
- + The Holy Martyr Nestorianos (Νεστοριανός) of Pamphylia (+249)
- + Our Devout Father David (Δαβίδ) of Wales (+589)

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. Basil (page 8 in the Pew Book):

- Hymn of the Sunday of Orthodoxy (Την άχραντον Εικόνα σου, Second Mode):

We venerate Your immaculate icon, O good Lord, and entreat You to forgive our offenses, O Christ our God. By Your own choice you were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, to deliver us, whom You created, from our slavery to the foe. Therefore we cry to You with gratitude: You have filled all things with joy, O our Savior, by coming to save the world. (Sung before the Small Entrance and after the Hymn of the Resurrection. Greek text found in hymnal on pg. 128)

- Weekly Resurrectional Hymn (Τον συνάναρχον Λόγον, Plagal First Mode):

As the Father and Spirit are unoriginate, * so the Word, who was born from the Virgin for us. * Let us praise Him, O believers, and let us worship Him. * For our salvation He was pleased * to be crucified in the flesh, * and to undergo death, * and to resurrect the dead, by His glorious resurrection. (Sung before and after the Small Entrance. Greek Text found in hymnal on pg. 114)

- 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 Annunciation (Τη Υπερμάχω, Plagal Fourth Mode):

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride. (Greek Text found in hymnal on pg.268)

Guidance, Prayer Requests, and Announcements

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

- Sunday, March 1: Sunday of Orthodoxy**
Wine + Oil
Luke 24:12-35; Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40; John 1:43-51
- Monday, March 2: St. Nicholas Planas**
Strict Fast
Isaiah 4:2-5:7; Genesis 3:21-4:7; Proverbs 3:34-4:22
- Tuesday, March 3: St. Eutropius the Martyr**
Strict Fast
Isaiah 5:7-16; Genesis 4:8-15; Proverbs 5:1-15
- Wednesday, March 4: St. Gerasimos of the Jordan**
Strict Fast
Isaiah 5:16-25; Genesis 4:16-26; Proverbs 5:15-6:3
- Thursday, March 5: St. Conon the Gardener**
Strict Fast
Isaiah 6:1-12; Genesis 5:1-24; Proverbs 6:3-20
- Friday, March 6: Finding of the Precious Cross**
Strict Fast
Isaiah 7:1-14; Genesis 5:32-6:8; Proverbs 6:20-7:1
- Saturday, March 7: Holy Martyred Bishops of Cherson**
Wine + Oil
Hebrews 3:12-16; Mark 1:35-44

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, Lucy, George, John, Pauline, Bill, Nicholas, Mandy, Benjamin, Brenda, Gabriel, Barbara, Taylor, Elizabeth, Rich, Penny, Brian, Gracie, Woody, Braeden, Nikitis, Donna, Joellen, George, Yianni, Emilie, Pete

Prayers for those recently reposed:

Darryl (+February 9), Suwan (+February 13),
Vasiliki (+February 22)

Prayers for expecting mothers:

Amanda, Kémie, Maggie, Sophia

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, Amber, Aryn, Avery, Billy, Bobbie, Brianna, Cherish, Dakota, Darryl, Debbie, Deia, Ecaterina, Gabrielle, Gavin, Grayson, Hannah, Jessica, John, Kyle, Macayla, Maegan, Max, Mary Emma, Nate, Noah, Philip, 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:

St. John of Damascus speaks to us about the real danger of iconoclasm: "Does any one who has divine knowledge and spiritual understanding not recognize that [iconoclasm] is a ruse of the devil? For he does not want his defeat and shame to be spread abroad, nor the glory of God and his saints to be recorded."

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—**Chronia Polla, Many Years!**
March 2: Chad Ridley

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!
March 2: Chris Berberidis, Mary Emma Ridley
March 5: Adam Edmondson
March 7: Helen Troupos

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:

* There will be a meeting for those assisting with the **District Level Oratorical Festival** after Coffee Fellowship today. If you are interested in assisting with the Oratorical Festival, please contact Presvytera Stacey.

* As a reminder, during Great Lent, we celebrate the **Divine Liturgy of St. Basil** on Sunday mornings. To follow along during the anaphora (from the Great Entrance through the consecration of the gifts), please see the handout located in the pews.

* After the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy on Wednesday evening (which begins with the 9th Hour service at 5:45pm), we will have a **Light Lenten Meal along with a Spiritual Discussion**. This Wednesday, we will discuss the Saints: what we learn from them, how they inspire us, and how we relate to them (both through prayer and as our patrons.)

* **YOUTH: All children are invited to join the procession with their icons. If they did not bring an icon, there will be extras in the Narthex!** Additionally: Mark your Calendar for Saturday, March 14th @ 10:00am: Holy Cross is hosting the District Level St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival. Come and learn and be inspired by the faithfulness of all of the youth from all over our district! Plan on staying for Great Vespers that will take place at 3:00pm.

* **STOP THE BLEED** training will be held in the Parish House next Sunday at 3:00pm. All parishioners of Holy Cross as well as **St. Innocent Orthodox Church** are invited; Ministry Leaders are encouraged to attend. Learn how to recognize and control life-threatening bleeding using simple techniques. Thank you to those who registered. **Plan on staying for the Pan-Orthodox Vespers that will take place at 5:00pm with light refreshments to follow!**

* The next **Men's Brotherhood** Gathering will be on Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00pm at Tatnall Square Park. Join us at Church for Great Compline beforehand at 5:00pm as well!

* **Spring Fling** will be on Saturday, **May 2nd**. We will be setting up the Friday before after work. Please mark your calendars. We are asking all GOYANS, Young Adults & NSYA to please sign up to work this event (see link in Father's Bulletin email).

* **Congratulations** to Daniel Vogt who was received into the Orthodox Church last Saturday, February 21 through Holy Baptism. May God grant him many years and salvation! Axioi, worthy are his sponsors, Spyros and Emily Dermatas.