



ST MARY MAGDALENE

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN RINCON/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

MARCH 9TH, 2025
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

Scripture Readings

Hebrews 12:1-10 (Epistle, Martyrs)

Brethren, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives." If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 (Epistle)

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented—of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Matthew 20:1-16 (Gospel, Martyrs)

The Lord said this Parable: For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.' So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.'

FLIP OVER...

MAR Birthdays, Names Day, & Anniversaries

- 3rd - James Kenley
- 6th - Fr. Stephen Osburn (Priesthood Anniversary)
- 7th - Wyatt Roberts
- 7th - Aryana Zdionica
- 25th - Tom Maty
- 28th - Kate Jackson
- 30th - Theodosia (Teddy) Lentz
- 31st - Ceilia (DeeDee) Lentz

SCHEDULE

March 12th:
Presanctified Liturgy (6:30 PM - Note the time change)

March 13th:
Coffee Chat @ Paddle's Coffee (10 AM)
(401 N Laurel St, Springfield, GA 31329)

March 15th:
Homeless Bags Assembly (1 PM)
Great Vespers (5 PM)

March 16th:
Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

WISDOM

"Do not say, 'I am tempted more than others.' Rather say, 'I am loved more than others, for I am being tested as gold in the fire.'"

- St. John Chrysostom

"I do not worship matter, I worship the Creator of matter who became matter for my sake, who willed to take His abode in matter, who worked out my salvation through matter."

- St. John of Damascus

WEEKLY JOKES

I was wondering if I should go to work today, and then I saw some guys putting up a giant rectangle along the highway. It was a sign.

A friend has asked me to film his wedding, but the zoom button has broken on my camera. I'm not sure how it's going to pan out.

COME AND SEE! YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Scripture Readings Cont.

And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius. And when they had received it, they complained against the landowner, saying, 'These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.' But he answered one of them and said, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?' So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.

John 1:43-51 (Gospel)

At that time, Jesus wanted 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." And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Stewardship and Serving Our Community

Please make every effort to participate in these meaningful opportunities for stewardship within our parish.

Weekly Church Clean-up (through May): (Holy Week sign up needed more than anything due to extra services)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4BAAAC23ABF49-52968691-weekly>

Maintenance Items and Projects (through August):

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4BAAAC23ABF49-52940655-maintenance>

Coffee Hour (March):

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoE48ADAD2DA0F94-55447864-march>

St. Christopher Society: (Carpool Volunteering) (On Hold until new website is developed)

All links on our website (under the Calendar tab): <https://www.stmmo.org/calendar>

Lenten Cookbook for Sale

We have a Lenten Cookbook for sale in our bookstore if anyone is interested. If you want to buy one, see Dia.Janice.

Bookstore Kiosk - Huge Thank You!

Huge thank you to Dn. Vassily, Dia Janice, Bobby, and Dan for their hard work last weekend getting the kiosk for the bookstore moved over. It gives us more space in our Hall as well as makes it easier for folks to navigate. We are super grateful. May God grant them all Many Years!!

Lenten Service: Homeless Care Bags (March 15th - 1 PM)

We will be assembling our Homeless Kits next Saturday at 1 PM. We still need a few more supplies donated by Wednesday the 12th. If you are able to, above and beyond your normal tithing commitment to help in this effort, please sign up for the supplies here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoD4FA5AB2EAAF8C07-55336201-homeless>

If you do sign up, please have your stuff in my office by not later than March 12th (Before or After Presanctified Liturgy). I appreciate everyone's generosity and time. It will make a real difference and is a great way to aid in our Lenten journey! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me and please consider signing up.

Parish Council (March 16th)

Lives of the Saints: Sunday of Orthodoxy

The Sunday of Orthodoxy commemorates the restoration of Holy Icons in 843 AD and the triumph of the Faith over iconoclasm. Led by Empress Theodora and Patriarch Methodios, the Church affirmed that icons are venerated, not worshiped, reserving worship for God alone.

Monthly Parish Financial Report (As of March 5th, 2025):

February	March
Income Goal: \$11,535	Income Goal: \$11,535
Collections: \$9,017	Collections: \$0
Difference: -\$2,518 / -21.83%	Difference: TBD

PRIEST: Fr. Stephen Osburn 702-521-6988 | DEACON: Dn. Vassily Kocher 912-756-5178

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Confessions Every Saturday Before (4:15 PM) and After Vespers or By Appointment. During Lent, Confessions 30 Minutes before all Services.

Prayer List

Living

Clergy: Abp. Benjamin, Abp. Nathaniel, Abp. Alexander, Met. Isaiah, Fr. Michael, Fr. Matthew

Community: Tammy, Litsa, child Lilliana, Carl, Christina, Olga, Rita, Lucinda and her newborn child Ciana Rose, Jamie, Alexandra, Dorthy, Issac, Sandy, Donald, Cole, Marco, Joseph, Chad, Landin, Austin, Catherine Ann, Katherine, Jeff, David, Andrew, Eftihia, Hilda, John

Catechumens: Andrew, Braden, Camilo, Chandler, Dan, Dusty, Evan, Felix, Garrett, Jordan, Kamaka, Kate, Kendra, Megan, Nathan, Nicole, Rachel, Sherrell with child, Van, William, Winry, Wyatt, Camron, Jason

Prisoners: Basil, Mark

Orthodox Missions: St. James (Beaufort) St. Basil (Marietta), St. John the Merciful (Kissimmee), St. Anthony (Rock Hill), Holy Resurrection (North Augusta), Annunciation (Jacksonville), St. John the Baptist (Colorado Springs), Ss. Mary and Martha Monastery (Wagner) and all missions and monasteries throughout the Diocese and USA.

And all of those who are suffering throughout our community and the world who are in need of prayers.

Departed

Fr. Symeon, Fr. John, Fr. George, Rdr. John, Ron, George, Veronica, Braswell, Dolores, David

Youth Group

Man of God Movie (March 22nd): After Vespers, we will gather for a movie over at the Hall, to watch and discuss the film Man of God. It will be a Lenten potluck dinner that evening. Everyone is welcome!