



# ST MARY MAGDALENE

## ORTHODOX CHURCH IN RINCON/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

**MAY 18TH, 2025**

**SAMARITAN WOMAN  
5TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA**

### Scripture Readings

#### Acts 11:19-26, 29-30 (Epistle)

Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

#### John 4:5-42 (Gospel)

At that time, the Lord Jesus came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ? Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest?' (FLIP OVER)

### MAY Birthdays, Names Day, & Anniversaries

- 2nd - Eliana Lentz
- 8th - Dottie Kocher
- 9th - Noah Rigato
- 17th - Jeanie Klezaras
- 18th - Chandler Blagburn
- 25th - Samson and Rachel Woodthorp
- 28th - Ron and Kristin Somich
- 28th - Garrett and Meagan Clark
- 28th - Marcel and Carmen Maghiar
- 29th - Fr. Stephen and Mat. Lindsey Osburn
- 30th - Susan Ally

This is the current May List. If you have a birthday, name's day, or anniversary you want remembered, please let me

## SCHEDULE

**May 22nd - Thursday**  
Coffee Chat @ Paddles (10:00 AM)  
401 N Laurel St, Springfield, GA 31329

**May 24th - Saturday**  
Great Vespers (5:00 PM)

**May 25th - Sunday**  
Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM) / Beach Day (After Liturgy)

## WISDOM

"The Samaritan woman, illumined by the grace of the Spirit, immediately became a preacher of the truth and brought her whole city to Christ." - St. Photios the Great

"The Lord does not say these things to shame her, but to open to her the way of salvation... and she, perceiving Him not as a mere man but as a prophet, becomes gradually illumined until she confesses Him as Christ." - St. Gregory Palamas

## WEEKLY JOKES

Ladies, if your husband says he'll fix it, he will fix it. There's no need to remind him every six months.

In Iran, everyone is afraid of spiders. But in Iraq, no phobia.

Eye doctor: "Your test results just came back." Me: "Can I see them?" Eye doctor: "Probably not."

# CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

## Scripture Reading Cont. (John 4:5-42)

Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

## Confessions - Every Saturday Before/After Vespers or By Appointment

## 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 - Please make every effort to sign up for these. The list looks very empty...):** <https://savannahorthodox.com/keeping-our-community-clean/>

**Maintenance Items and Projects (through August):**

<https://savannahorthodox.com/maintenance-and-projects/>

**Coffee Hour (May List - Please sign up on SignUpGenius so I know what's coming and can ensure there's enough food for everyone):** <https://savannahorthodox.com/coffee-hour/>

**St. Christopher Society: (Carpool Volunteering) - Please let me know if you are interested in being on this list.**

**Church School: Every Sunday after Coffee Hour. Last Sunday until this coming September.**

**Adult Class: Every Sunday after Coffee Hour, everyone is welcomed to join, not just catechumens. Classes also available to download at:** <https://savannahorthodox.com/adult-study/> RSS Feed for Mobile coming soon.

**Business Cards: Mine and Dn. Vassily's business cards have arrived! Glory to God! There are a stack of them to take and hand out to anyone who you may encounter and want to invite to church. Please take some!**

## Many Years to Chandler, Van, Kendra, and Wyatt On Being Received into the Church!

## Parish Council Meeting (Today)

## "I'll have what she's having" at Coffee Chat (May 22nd)

Tell me what movie this is from and I will buy you a coffee. You have to tell me at coffee chat or else the deal is null and void. If you tell me at church, it doesn't count. Must happen at Paddles. Join us for Coffee Chat at Paddles this Thursday at 10 AM.

## Vespertine Liturgy for Ascension (May 28th - 6:30 PM)

## Grave Blessings (June 1st After Coffee Hour)

Traditionally, Orthodox Christians bless graves on Thomas Sunday as a witness to the Resurrection and in prayerful memory of our loved ones. The Blessing of Graves on Sunday, June 1st, after Coffee Hour instead of today. Please email me at [frsteve@savannahorthodox.com](mailto:frsteve@savannahorthodox.com) or text me (702-521-6988) with the names and cemetery locations of your loved ones and I will add it to the church's calendar. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

## Lives of the Saints: Samaritan Woman

Saint Photina, the Samaritan Woman from John 4, became a fearless preacher of Christ after her encounter with the Savior at Jacob's Well. During Nero's reign, she evangelized in Carthage with her son Joses, while her elder son Victor, a Roman military commander, also remained faithful. Summoned to Rome, Victor helped convert the Roman official Sebastian through a miraculous healing and was renamed Photinus by Christ. Encouraged by a divine appearance, Photina left Carthage to join her sons and other confessors in Rome, continuing to proclaim the Gospel despite great danger. Nero subjected them to brutal tortures—beatings, blindness, crucifixion, and mutilation—yet they were often healed by God or felt no pain. Photina converted many, including Nero's daughter Domnina, her household, and a sorcerer sent to poison her. Eventually, all suffered martyrdom; Photina was thrown into a well, where she gave her soul to Christ. Her unwavering faith and holy boldness stand as a shining witness of Orthodox Christian martyrdom. She is commemorated on February 26 on the Church Calendar.

## Monthly Parish Financial Report (As of May 4th, 2025):

April	May
Income Goal: \$14,610	Income Goal: \$11,710
Collections: \$11,932	Collections: TBA
Difference: -\$2,678 / -18.33%	Difference: TBA

## The Come and See Challenge:

**Have you brought someone NEW this month or reached out to someone come back?**

**Have you gone to Great Vespers at least once this month?**

**When was the last time you went to Confession?**

## Prayer List

## Departed

Mat. Eleanor, Eftihia, John, Cathy, Thomas, Reagan and family, Martin

## 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, Dorothy, Issac, Sandy, Donald, Cole, Marco, Joseph, Chad, Landin, Austin, Catherine Ann, Katherine, Jeff, David, Andrew, Hilda, Polly, June, child Anastasia, Angie, Ryan, Howe, Georgianna, Sharrell with child, Ann, Durazi, Ray

**Catechumens:** Andrew, Camron, Dusty, Evan, Garrett, Jason, Josh, Kate, Megan, Nicole, Winry

**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 of the South and USA.

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

## Youth

## Beach After Liturgy (May 25th):

**Weather permitting:** From the feedback I got North Beach would be the best option due Memorial Day Weekend crowds. We will group up/carpool after Liturgy. There will be no adult class this day. The drive is about an hour and a half with traffic. The parking situation there does have a fee (Website said \$4/hr) so please note this. After swimming, we can all head somewhere for dinner. If you know a good place in the area, please let me know. Everyone is welcome to come and I hope you all do!  
Address: 2-6 14th St, Tybee Island, GA 31328

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

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