



ST MARY MAGDALENE

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN RINCON/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

JUNE 15th, 2025

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
1ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Scripture Readings

Hebrews 11:33-12:2 (Epistle)

Brethren, 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 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30 (Gospel)

The Lord said: Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. Then Peter answered and said to Him, “See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?” So Jesus said to them, “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

Feast Day: All Saints Sunday

The Sunday after Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints—those who have been sanctified by the Holy Spirit throughout history, both known and unknown. This includes Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and the Righteous. The feast proclaims that holiness is possible for all who live in the Spirit, fulfilling God’s command to “be holy, for I am holy.” Through this celebration, the Church recognizes the diverse ways men and women have witnessed to Christ, whether by shedding their blood, enduring persecution, or living faithfully in everyday life. The classification of saints, as noted by various Fathers like St. Peter of Damascus and St. Nikodemos, shows the rich variety of holy lives—from those who preached and governed, to those who withdrew in prayer, and those who lived righteously in the world. The feast gained special prominence during the reign of Emperor Leo VI, who honored his wife, the righteous Empress Theophano, by dedicating the Sunday after Pentecost to all saints. It remains a celebration not only of past sanctity, but a call to each of us to live lives of holiness by the grace of the Holy Spirit.

JUNE Birthdays, Names Day, & Anniversaries

- 4th – Dn. Vassily and Dia. Janice Kocher
- 7th – Bobby Drevitson Jr.
- 7th – Ken Gimik
- 12th – David Reynolds
- 21st – Marcel Maghiar
- 22nd – Dia. Janice Kocher
- 28th – Michelle Reynolds
- 29th – Fr. Michael Matsko (Priesthood Anniversary)
- 30th – Van Roberts
- 30th – Sharrell Love

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

SCHEDULE

June 21st – Saturday
Great Vespers (5:00 PM)

June 22nd – Sunday
Divine Liturgy with Chrismation (9:30 AM)

WISDOM

“The goal of a virtuous life is to become like God. But since God is infinite, this likeness is never complete. Holiness, then, is not a static state, but an ever-increasing participation in divine life. We ascend from glory to glory, never ceasing in our pursuit of the divine.”
– St. Gregory of Nyssa

“A person is made holy not simply by withdrawing from the world, but by being purified of the passions and uniting his will with God’s. True holiness is when a man’s every thought and action is ordered according to divine love. This is the likeness to God that Adam lost and Christ restores in us.”
– St. Maximus the Confessor

WEEKLY JOKES

What do you pay gardeners that work overtime? Thyme and a half.

What do you call a mirror image of a clock? Reflection time.

I thought I saw an Alaskan Islander, but it was just an optical Aleutian. Ok... That pun was so cold, even the island drifted away in shame...

THANK YOU, O LORD! IT IS GOOD TO BE HERE!

Confessions - Every Saturday Before/After Vespers or By Appointment

Happy Father's Day!

We give thanks to God today for all bishops, priests, deacons, fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, step-fathers, and spiritual fathers. May the Lord grant them many years in peace, health, and salvation and may they continue to reflect God's love, strength, and steadfast care!

Stewardship and Serving Our Community

Weekly Church Clean-up (through August):

<https://savannahorthodox.com/keeping-our-community-clean/>

Maintenance Items and Projects (through August):

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

Coffee Hour (Please continue to sign up as its not only good for our community but even better when visitors come and see our parish for the first time for us to show how welcoming we are.):

<https://savannahorthodox.com/coffee-hour/>

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

Kids Church School: Resumes again in 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/> as well as you can subscribe on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, Pandora, iHeart Radio, and all other Podcast Platforms.

Tithing

Summer is coming and numbers tend to drop because of vacations and such. Not a problem. Just make sure you are still doing your best to tithe as you are able by either mailing it, post dating your checks and providing that to Ron, or even donating on our website here: <https://savannahorthodox.com/help-us-grow/>

Father Away (June 9th-20th)

I will be on vacation down to...yup...Disney World from the 9th to the 20th of this month. I will still send out the bulletin for next week and copies are already printed as normal. Fr. Michael will be serving for me on the 15th. Also, thank you to Fr. Michael for serving for while I am away.

Parish Council Meeting (June 22nd)

Coffee Chat (Back in September)

We had a great turnout on our last one and we may bring it back throughout the Summer on random Thursdays so be on the lookout in the bulletin.

Lives of the Saints: Prophet Amos

The Holy Prophet Amos, the third of the Twelve Minor Prophets, lived during the eighth century before Christ. He was from Judah, and was born at Tekoah in the land of Zebulun, six miles south of Bethlehem. At that time, the Hebrew nation was divided into two Kingdoms: Judah in the south, and Israel in the north. King Uzziah ruled in Jerusalem, but the other ten tribes of Israel were ruled by Jeroboam II, who was an idolater. At Bethel he set up an idol in the shape of a golden calf, which the people worshipped, turning away from the true God. Simple and uneducated, yet fervent in his faith and zealous for the glory of God, this former shepherd of sheep and goats, and dresser of sycamore trees (Amos 7:14-15) was chosen by the Lord for prophetic service. He was sent to the Kingdom of Israel to denounce King Jeroboam's impiety, as well as that of the Israelites. The Prophet predicted great misfortunes which would befall Israel because of its ungodliness. As a result of his denunciations, Amos repeatedly endured beatings and torture. Amaziah, the chief priest of the royal sanctuary at Bethel, hated Amos, who predicted that the Gentiles would conquer Israel; that they will slay the King, as well as Amaziah's children; that Amaziah's wife would become a harlot; and that Amaziah himself would die in a pagan land, because he led the people into adultery with idols (7:17). Amaziah became furious and had Amos beaten, but all of these prophecies were fulfilled. According to a later tradition, Uzziah, the son of Amaziah, struck the Prophet Amos with a club, seriously wounding him. He was taken to his native village of Tekoah in Judah, and died there after two days (circa 787 B.C.) He should not be confused with Amoz, the father of the Prophet Isaiah. In iconography Amos is depicted as an old man with a pointed beard. His scroll reads: It is he who builds his ascent up to Heaven (Amos 9:6).

Monthly Parish Financial Report (As of May 31st, 2025):

May	June
Income Goal: \$11,710	Income Goal: \$14,710
Collections: \$8,251	Collections: TBA
Difference: -\$3,459 / -29.54%	Difference: TBA

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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

Jason, Bill, Silvia, Susan, Angie, John, Cathy, Thomas

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, Ray, Alexandra, Dorothy, Issac, Sandy, Donald, Cole, Marco, Joseph, Chad, Landin, Austin, Catherine Ann, Katherine, Jeff, David, Andrew, Hilda, Polly, June, Ryan, Howe, Georgianna, child Anastasia, Sharrell with child, Ann, Durazi, Patrick, George, Doug, Paisios, Savannah with child, David

Catechumens: Andrew, Mary Ann, Ally, Andrew Jr, Noah, Luke, 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

On Hold Until July

We have quite a young to older ratio with our youth in the parish and I'm going to re-evaluate how we minister to both with our activities. If you have any suggestions of activities that can involve all of them or maybe breaking down into separate ones, please let me know.