



ST MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN RINCON/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

JUNE 29th, 2025

SS. PETER AND PAUL

3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture Readings

Romans 5:1-10 (Epistle)

Brethren, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Matthew 6:22-33 (Gospel)

The Lord said: The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Feast Day: Saints Peter and Paul

Today the Holy Church commemorates the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, foundational pillars of the faith who, though very different in background, were united in zeal and martyrdom for Christ. Saint Peter, known for his fervent confession that Jesus is the Son of the Living God, was given the keys to the Kingdom—not as an individual above the Church, but as a representative of the Church’s shared authority to bind and loose sins through the Holy Spirit. After his triple denial, Christ restored him with a triple commission: “Feed My sheep,” emphasizing not personal ownership, but sacrificial service to Christ’s flock. His leadership affirmed the unity and pastoral care of the entire Church, founded not on a man, but on the confession of Christ and His divine grace.

Saint Paul, once a fierce persecutor, was transformed on the road to Damascus into the Church’s apostle to the Gentiles, a chosen vessel to bear Christ’s name before nations and kings. He labored abundantly, enduring suffering and hardship, yet always attributing his strength to God’s grace. Though they died on different days, the Church celebrates them together, for they shared a single mission and a united spirit. Their lives remind us that no one is beyond redemption, and that with repentance, bold confession, and obedience to Christ, we too can walk the path of holiness and share in the glory prepared for the saints.

JUNE Birthdays, Names Day, & Anniversaries

- 1st - Philip Savasir
- 4th - Dn. Vassily and Dia. Janice Kocher
- 4th - Tahir and Savannah Savasir
- 7th - Bobby Drevitson Jr.
- 7th - Ken Gimik
- 12th - David Reynolds
- 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. As a heads up, I have looked at the July list already and I only have 2 birthdays and 1 anniversary to put on this list. If you are celebrating in July, please let me know.

SCHEDULE

July 5th - Saturday
Great Vespers (5:00 PM)

July 6th - Sunday
Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

WISDOM

“See how Paul exalts Peter, and how Peter praises Paul. For neither envy nor strife had any place among them. Though one was the apostle of the Jews and the other of the Gentiles, their hearts were one, their teaching was one, their aim was one: to glorify Christ and bring the nations into the unity of the Faith. What a bond of charity was this! Though they differed in their gifts and manner, they labored as one body for the building up of the Church.”
- St. John Chrysostom

WEEKLY JOKES

- Instead of a swear jar, I have a negativity jar. Every time I have a pessimistic thought, I put a dollar in it. It's currently half empty.
- My cloning experiments have finally paid off. I'm so excited I'm beside myself.
- A sculptor quoted me \$50 for a custom statuette of Babe Ruth. I thought that sounded cheap, but he said it's just a ball park figure.

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

Confessions - Every Saturday Before/After Vespers or By Appointment

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.

Catechism Guide

I've emailed out the Guidebook to all of our catechumens, as well as those recently baptized and/or chrismated. If you'd like to view it as well (as even I when adapting it for our needs found some very interesting info, specifically on the issue of the female diaconate), I've included the link here if you are interested in checking it out: <https://savannahorthodox.com/catechumen/> I also want to emphasize that this is merely a resource to aid and that all catechumens are still expected to attend or listen to Anthony's classes as well as attend as many services as they are able.

Jordan and Sharrell Love Baby Registry

Even though Jordan and Sharrell have recently moved, they will always be part of our church family. Let's show our love and support by helping them as they prepare for the arrival of their little one:

<https://tinyurl.com/baby-reg-2025>

Angie Gimik's 40th Day and Luncheon (Today - June 29th)

We will have the Panakhida for Angie's 40th Day today at the conclusion of Liturgy. Her family is also sponsoring coffee hour so please stay and eat. May Angie's Memory Be Eternal!

Saturday Night Questing: Orthodox Tabletop Campaign (Starting July 12th)

Looking for something fun and meaningful to do on Saturday nights? We're starting a new tabletop fantasy campaign after Vespers once or twice a month, open to young adults and anyone interested. Using the Pathfinder 2E system, this homebrew setting features a monotheistic world shaped by the Pantokrator and Creator Saints, with rich storytelling set in the mysterious "Age of Silence." It's a great way to build fellowship, explore deep themes, and enjoy classic adventure. If you'd like to join, please reach out to David Reynolds at 706-224-2721 to sign up or learn more.

BBQ Contest and Parish Feast Day (July 27th)

Our Parish Feast Day is coming up next month (a special time in the Life of the Church when we celebrate our patron saint, similar to how one celebrates a birthday or anniversary). To mark the occasion, we're starting a new tradition: an Annual BBQ Cook-Off with prizes for Best Meat and Best Side! Bring your grill or prep ahead, but don't miss Liturgy. We'll also have a water slide and games for the kids (and kids at heart). Sign up now with Mat. Lindsey or online at <https://savannahorthodox.com/bbq/>

Happy Independence Day!

As we celebrate the 4th of July this week, let's take time to remember the values our country was built on—freedom, liberty, and justice. May we give thanks for the blessings we enjoy together and pray that God continues to guide us in living with love, unity, and peace.

Monthly Parish Financial Report (As of June 23rd, 2025):

May 2025	June 2025	Titling
Income Goal: \$11,710	Income Goal: \$14,710	Summer is here 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/
Collections: \$8,251	Collections: \$8,138	
Avg Weekly Goal: \$2,928	Avg Weekly Goal: \$2,942	
Avg Weekly Collection: \$2,063	Avg Weekly Collection: \$2,035	
Difference: -\$3,459 / -29.54%	Difference: -\$6,572 / -44.68%	

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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

Robin, DeSean, Christina, Jason, Bill, Silvia, Susan, Angie, and those killed in the deadly terrorist attack on Prophet Elias Orthodox Church in Damascus.

Living

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

Community: Tammy, Litsa, child Lilliana, Carl, Olga, Rita, Lucinda and her newborn child Ciana Rose, Jamie, Ray, Alexandra, Dorthy, Issac, Sandy, Donald, Cole, 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, Katie, Kerri, David, Johanna, Lilly, Haley, Sean, Silke, William, those injured or suffering from the deadly terrorist attack on Prophet Elias Orthodox Church in Damascus.

Catechumens: Andrew, Mary Ann, Ally, Andrew Jr, Noah, Luke, Dusty, Evan, Jason, Josh, Nicole, Winry, Jeremiah, Dakota, Bridgette, Theodore, Zach, Asher

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

Clean Up and Ice Cream (Aug 24th)

Our youth group is back in action! Join us for a day of service and fellowship as we help clean Mrs. Jeanie's classroom, getting it ready for the new school year, before heading to Garrett and Meagan's Rolling Monkey to see how their ice cream is made! St. James's youth group will also be joining us, God willing. Come ready to serve, learn, and have fun!