



# ST MARY MAGDALENE

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN  
RINCON/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

## Scripture Readings

### Romans 15:1-7 (Epistle)

Brethren, we then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me." For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.

### Matthew 9:27-35 (Gospel)

At that time, when Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, "Son of David, have mercy on us!" And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it be to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, "See that no one knows it." But when they had departed, they spread the news about Him in all that country. As they went out, behold, they brought to Him a man, mute and demon-possessed. And when the demon was cast out, the mute spoke. And the multitudes marveled, saying, "It was never seen like this in Israel!" But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons." Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

## Saints of the Day: Saints Mary Magdalene and Panteleimon

### Myrrhbearer and Equal of the Apostles Mary Magdalene:

St. Mary Magdalene was a woman of great transformation. Born in Magdala near the Sea of Galilee, she was healed by Christ, who cast seven demons from her (Luke 8:2). From that moment, she became a devoted disciple, faithfully following Him through His ministry and serving from her own means. Unlike many who fled in fear, she remained at the foot of the Cross with the Theotokos and St. John during Christ's crucifixion. On the first Paschal morning, it was Mary who rose before dawn to go to the tomb, found it empty, and was the first to encounter the Risen Lord—becoming the first to proclaim the Resurrection, earning her the title Apostle to the Apostles. After Pentecost, Mary continued to serve the Church, eventually traveling to Rome where, according to Tradition, she preached the Resurrection even to Emperor Tiberias, offering him a red egg as a sign of new life in Christ. She later journeyed to Ephesus, where she reposed in peace near the Apostle John. Her relics were eventually translated to Constantinople. The Church honors her not only for her deep repentance and unwavering love, but for her fearless witness to Christ in both His suffering and His glory. St. Mary Magdalene stands as a radiant example of faithful discipleship and bold proclamation of the Gospel.

### Greatmartyr and Healer Panteleimon:

St. Panteleimon, born Pantoleon in Nicomedia to a pagan father and Christian mother, was a skilled physician who converted to Christianity after witnessing a miracle through prayer. Baptized by St. Hermolaus and renamed Panteleimon ("all-merciful"), he offered free healing in Christ's name, especially to the sick and imprisoned. His growing fame led to persecution under Emperor Maximian, and though subjected to brutal tortures, he remained unharmed by fire, beasts, and the sword until he completed his prayer and was beheaded. Miracles surrounded his martyrdom, and he became widely venerated as both a healer and protector of soldiers. His relics are honored throughout the Orthodox world, and he is especially invoked in prayers for the sick and during Holy Unction.

JULY 27TH, 2025

GREATMARTYR PANTELEIMON  
7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## JULY Birthdays, Names Day, & Anniversaries

- 8th - Jeff and Kate Bright
- 16th - Fr. Michael and Mat. Yvonne Matsko
- 17th - Charlene Griffin
- 20th - Dan and Kamaka Legers
- 22nd - Nadia Holley
- 24th - Josh and Akira Takacs
- 27th - Litsa Osburn (Name's Day)
- 27th - Mat. Lindsey Osburn (Name's Day)
- 31st - Charis Ally

If you have a birthday, name's day, or anniversary you want remembered, please let me know.

## SCHEDULE

July 31st - Thursday  
Coffee Chat @ Paddles (10:00 AM)

August 2nd - Saturday  
Great Vespers (5:00 PM)

August 3rd - Sunday  
Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

## WISDOM

"Orthodox theology does not start with proofs of God's existence, with converting men to philosophical deism. It confronts them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and expects their free response to this challenge."

- Fr. John Meyendorff, *Living Tradition* (SVS Press, 1978)

"The Lord appeared first to Mary Magdalene to show that where there had been great sin, there could also be great repentance and great glory."

- Blessed St. Theophylact of Ohrid

## WEEKLY JOKES

The first step when putting a fitted sheet on the bed is... Nope, it goes the other way.

You know what's odd? Every other number.

Radiators make excellent house warming gifts.

To be frank, I'd need to change my name.

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

## Monthly Parish Financial Report (As of July 26th, 2025):

July 2025

Income Goal: \$11,810

Collections This Month: \$8,525

Last Week's Collection: \$1,989

Avg Weekly Goal: \$2,953

Avg Weekly Collection: \$2,842

What's Left to Meet Our Monthly Goal: \$3,285

### Tithing:

We are having one of our best months of the year. Glory to God! Please keep it up. I know we can do meet our goal. This is the last Sunday of the month and if you didn't tithe during services this weekend, please donate online. Faithful giving allows our parish to grow in ministry, outreach, and hospitality. When we give faithfully, we're not just supporting the parish, we're helping each other grow in Christ and making it possible to share the Gospel with those who need it most (and in this society and timeline, we certainly have a lot who fit into that mold...)

**Donate Online:** <https://savannahorthodox.com/help-us-grow/>

**Confessions - Every Saturday Before (4:30 PM) & After Vespers. Also 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/>

Kids Church School: Resumes again September 7th. Registration forms are in Narthex on the cabinet. Please see Jeanie if you have questions.

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: <https://savannahorthodox.com/catechumen/>

Homeless Kits: We still have some remaining from Lent if you need a restock. They are in the Hall by the door.

## 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>

## St. Christopher Society (Carpooling)

I am looking for someone who can help coordinate this ministry. We have some older folks like Ray Givan who have not been able to attend due to physical limitations and some younger folks who rely on rides from parents to make their way to church. I want to put together a special directory that anyone in our parish with the password for it, can access and request a ride for any given service. We have some folks already who offer rides and that is wonderful but I would like to expand this to all. No one should ever miss because they couldn't get a ride to Church. So what I am asking for is that some folks to volunteer to be on this directory as well as someone to help me coordinate so we can make this happen. It might be a smaller ministry now, but I believe its going to be an important one as well continue to grow and expand. Please consider helping if you are able. I would like to see this launch by September.

## Dormition Fast (August 1st - 15th)

The Dormition Fast, beginning August 1, is a quiet and beautiful season, a time to slow down, pray more deeply, and prepare our hearts for the falling asleep of the Theotokos on August 15. The Church sometimes calls it a "Summer Pascha," because like Great Lent, it invites us to return to Christ through prayer, fasting, and repentance. But it's also a time to look inward and ask: What am I offering to God? During this fast, consider how you give—not just in fasting or in prayer, but in how you support the life of the Church. Whether through your time, your attention, or your resources, we're all called to give joyfully and consistently, offering our "first and best" back to the Lord who gives us everything. Let's walk through these days together in faith, love, and quiet gratitude.

## Saturday Night Questing: Orthodox Tabletop Campaign (August 9th)

Looking for something fun and meaningful to do on Saturday nights? You are welcome to join the fantasy campaign after Vespers ran by David Reynolds. It is ran every 2 weeks and is 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.

## Upcoming Blessings (August 10th & 17th)

As part of the Dormition Fast, we'll celebrate two festal blessings on upcoming Sundays at the end of Liturgy. On Sunday, August 10, we'll bless grapes, fruits, and honey in honor of Transfiguration (traditionally done on August 6). On Sunday, August 17, we'll bless flowers and herbs for the Dormition of the Theotokos (traditionally done on August 15). These blessings remind us that even during fasting, the Church gives us glimpses of Christ's glory and the Theotokos' heavenly rest. Make sure to note if you'd like those things blessed on those Sundays. We will also have Vespers Liturgies in the evening on August 5th and 14th.

## Ask Yourself This Daily:

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

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

## Prayer List

## Departed

Brian, Lazar, Robin, DeSean, Christina, Jason, Bill, Susan, the children and families killed in the flooding in Texas.

## Living

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

Community: Tammy, Litsa, child Lilliana, Carl, Olga, Rita, Lucinda, 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, Karrisra, Mary Ann, Libby with child, Vicki, and the children and families hurt or affected by the flooding in Texas.

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

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!

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