



ST MARY MAGDALENE

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN
RINCON/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

AUGUST 10TH, 2025

9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TRANSFIGURATION AFTERFEAST

Scripture Readings

1 Corinthians 3:9-17 (Epistle)

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

Matthew 14:22-34 (Gospel)

At that time, Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret.

Feast Day: Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord

The hymns of Vespers remind us that the Transfiguration is not merely a historical event, but something which also has implications for us. Those who "desire to see and hear things past understanding" must ascend from earthly concerns to "the height of the contemplation of the virtues." This may be achieved by "directing our minds to heavenly things" and by "being formed anew in piety into the image of Christ."

Saints of the Day: Martyr Adn. Laurence and those with him, of Rome

The Martyrs Archdeacon Laurence, Pope Sixtus, Deacons Felicissimus and Agapitus, and the soldier Romanus suffered in Rome in 258 under Emperor Valerian. Saint Sixtus, once a philosopher from Athens, became Bishop of Rome after Saint Stephen's martyrdom. Arrested with his deacons, he told Archdeacon Laurence that greater suffering awaited him and entrusted him with the Church's treasures to distribute to the poor. After Sixtus and his companions were beheaded, Laurence was brought before the Emperor and ordered to hand over the treasures. He presented the poor and needy, saying, "Behold the treasures of the Church." Imprisoned, he healed a blind man and converted and baptized the jailer Hippolytos and his household. Laurence endured brutal tortures, including being roasted on a gridiron, where he famously said, "Turn me over, this side is done." He gave thanks to Christ and died a martyr on August 10. Romanus, a soldier who witnessed Laurence's endurance, sought baptism and was executed on August 9. Hippolytos and other Christians were martyred on August 13. Saint Laurence's relics are venerated in Rome, on Mount Athos, and in Cyprus.

AUG. Birthdays, Names Day, & Anniversaries

- 4th - Christina Hanna
- 4th - Garrett Clark
- 5th - Joshua Gimik
- 7th - Mat. Lindsey Osburn
- 9th - Luke Rigato
- 10th - Levi Lentz
- 11th - Susan Ally (Name's Day)
- 14th - Mark Guyer
- 15th - Theodore Harrod
- 15th - Maria Guyer (Name's Day)
- 19th - Rachel Woodthorp
- 20th - Bently Carver
- 21st - Marcel Maghiar
- 21st - Ron Somich
- 24th - Andrew Rigato Jr.
- 24th - Dan Léger
- 25th - Felix Galindez
- 25th - Maria Guyer
- 30th - Alex Dita (Name's Day)
- 31st - Asher Beem

SCHEDULE

August 14th - Thursday
Vespertal Dormition Liturgy (6:30 PM)

August 16th - Saturday
Great Vespers (5:00 PM)

August 17th - Sunday
Hours (9:00 AM)
Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

WISDOM

"Even if we are entirely despised in the eyes of men, let us rejoice that we are honored in the sight of God."
- St. John the Dwarf

WEEKLY JOKES

This morning, I woke up wearing a clown costume. I must have slept funny."

People who can't tell the difference between whole numbers and decimals are missing the point.

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

Monthly Parish Financial Report (As of August 1st, 2025):

August 2025
Income Goal: \$14,810
Weekly Collection Goal: \$2,962
Last Week's Collection: \$2,954
Difference: -\$8 / -0.27% (Best difference yet!)

Let us continue to give faithfully and generously, so that the work of Christ in our parish may flourish and every need be met to the glory of God.

Donate Online:

You can also give securely online:
<https://savannahorthodox.com/help-us-grow/>

Financial Report (August 10th):

Glory to God, July was our best month of the year so far - we brought in more than we spent! Thank you for everyone's generosity and faithfulness in supporting the work of our parish.

As many have requested, a full copy of our up-to-date budget is available here:
<https://savannahorthodox.com/reports/>

Special Projects/Extra Expenses:

While we budget for regular expenses, there are some extra needs this month that you can give toward specifically:

AC Repair in Church - \$521.60 (Not Funded)
Fixing the Ceiling - Cost TBD
New Toilets in Hall & Church - Cost TBD

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. We will also be hosting a Luau at the end of the month (August 31st), which will include activities for the kids):
<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. There is also a weekly newsletter sent out with a link. If you are not on there (or our newsletter in general, please let me know).

Jordan and Sharrell Love Baby Registry: <https://savannahorthodox.com/registry/>

Saturday Night Questing: Every other Saturday. Please see David Reynolds (Cell: 706-224-2721) to learn more. The next session will be August 30th.

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.

Dry Goods - Free to Take (For the next 2 weeks)

Sadly, our own Hilda will be moving at the end of August to Astoria, Oregon and has generously donated a ton of dry and canned goods, as well as frozen meats (chicken, ground beef, steaks, pork chops, etc...) to whoever would like to take them. She also donated paper towels, napkins, and toilet paper to the church and we are grateful. On the table where the coffee is usually at as well as in the fridge freezers, we have placed all of these various items that are free to take. Whatever is not taken will be donated to our local pantry with the St. Bridgette items. Suzanne Upchurch is handling this so if you have questions, please see her. May God Grant Hilda Safe Travels and Many Years!

Father Away (August 16th-23rd)

Last year before we knew were coming here, we booked our vacation to be Disney World followed by a cruise. Due to my niece's wedding we had to split this trip and this is the week we will be taking for the cruise. I will have internet so if you call me and I do not immediately answer, please email me. I am very quick to respond. Fr. Michael will be serving for me next weekend. No Confessions next weekend.

Blessing Flowers and Herbs (August 17th)

Next Sunday, 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.

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

Nicholas, Brian, Lazar, Robin, DeSean, Christina, Jason, Bill

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, Myka, Kati, Tonya, Patricia, Tina, James, those effected by the shooting at Fort Stewart.

Catechumens: Andrew, Mary Ann, Ally, Andrew Jr, Noah, Luke, Dusty, Evan, Josh, Nicole, Winry, Jeremiah, Dakota, Bridgette, Theodore, Zach, Asher, Audra, Victor, Charlie, Ethan, Austin, Kasey, Bently, Raelynn, Emma, Oakleigh

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 in 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! Come ready to serve, learn, and have fun!

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