

Ἡ ἁγία



ΧΑΡΙΤΙΝΗ

Ἡ μάρτυς

ST MARY MAGDALENE

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN
RINCON/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Scripture Readings

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1 (Epistle)

Brethren, what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty." Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Luke 6:31-36 (Gospel)

The Lord said: Just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Saint of the Day: Martyr Charitina of Amisos

Saint Charitina was from Amisos in Pontus and lived during the reign of Emperor Diocletian (284-305). Orphaned at a young age, she became the servant of a noble Roman Christian named Claudianus, or Claudius, who brought her up as his own daughter. The young girl was very pretty, sensible, and kind. She imparted her love for Christ to others, and brought many to the path of salvation. Saint Charitina was meek, humble, obedient and silent. Although she was not yet baptized, she was a Christian at heart. She studied the Law of God day and night, and vowed to preserve her virginity as a true bride of Christ. Because Saint Charitina brought many others to the Christian Faith, Dometius, one of Emperor Diocletian's governors, came to hear of her and sent a letter to Claudius, ordering him to send Charitina to him so that he might question her. Claudius had no doubts about the result of this interrogation. Grieved at the prospect of losing her, he put on sackcloth and wept bitter tears. Charitina comforted him, saying: "Do not grieve, my Master, but rejoice, for I am to become an acceptable sacrifice to God, for my sins and for yours." Claudius replied: "O Servant of God, remember me when you stand before the heavenly King in the ranks of the Holy Martyrs." The Saint was brought before a judge at the tribunal. He asked her: "Is it true that you are a Christian, and that you delude others by bringing them to your impious faith?" Charitina replied: "It is true that I am a Christian, but it is a lie that I delude others. On the contrary, I lead them from deception to the path of truth, bringing them to my Christ." Then the judge ordered her hair to be cut off, but by the power of God, her hair grew back even longer than before. Then burning coals were placed on her head, and vinegar was poured over her scorched flesh, increasing her pain. They drove flaming sticks through her breasts, and burnt her sides with candles. Finally, they tied a stone around her neck and threw her into the sea. She cried out: "This is my Baptism." Suddenly, the stone was loosened and sank, and God delivered her from the sea unharmed. When the judge saw her on the shore, he ordered his men to seize her and strip her naked, and then tie her to a wheel which turned over burning coals, but an Angel of God stopped the wheel and once again Saint Charitina remained unharmed. The judge became furious and ordered that the nails of her hands and her feet be torn out, and that all her teeth be broken. Then the wicked judge sent many dissolute men to rape her. Fearing this dishonor, Saint Charitina prayed that God would receive her soul before these vile men could defile her virginal body; and so, as she prayed, she surrendered her pure soul to God. When the judge saw that she was dead, he had her body placed in a sack weighted with stones, and tossed it into the sea. By Divine Providence, her body was brought to the shore three days later. Her master Claudius found her body and buried her with appropriate honor and reverence. Fragments of Saint Charitina's Holy Relics are found in the Monasteries of Kykkos, Cyprus, and Jerusalem of Boeotia.

OCTOBER 5TH, 2025 MARTYR CHARITINA OF AMISOS IN PONTUS

OCT. Birthdays, Names Day, & Anniversaries

5th - Tahir Savasir
7th - Liam Loomis
8th - Nika Matsko
11th - Fr. Stephen Osburn
11th - Phillip Savasir (Name's Day)
12th - Tammy and Jaimie Collins
17th - Savannah Savasir
22nd - Rdr. Alex Vlachos

Let me know if I missed anyone.

SCHEDULE

No Wednesday Class or Friday Coffee Chat

October 9th - 11th - Thursday through Saturday
Greek Food Festival at St. Paul Orthodox Church

October 11th - Saturday

No Vespers Go to the Greek Food Festival (And Volunteer to help! See Mark Guyer or myself)

October 12th - Sunday

Hours (9:00 AM)

Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

Parish Council (After Liturgy)

WISDOM

"A doctor came to Saint Sofian Boghiu and complained, "Father, I feel guilty that I can't keep a stricter fast or practice more intense asceticism." Father Sofian replied, "Dear doctor, I have some advice for you. For Christ, it would be more precious and important for you to fulfill your duties where you work. Be conscientious there, don't take advantage of patients, don't demand money for what you do, and show love for the sick. These things will surely be more pleasing to Christ than any personal asceticism. Fasting is good, but no one is asking you to make a show of asceticism or to go to any extremes."
- Anonymous

WEEKLY JOKES

I met my wife while visiting the zoo. There she was, in her uniform. That's when I knew she was a keeper.

Within minutes, the detective knew exactly what the murder weapon was. It was a brief case.

Scientists got bored after watching the Earth rotate for 24 hours. So they called it a day.

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

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

“Every good and perfect gift is from above...
Your own of Your own, we offer to You.”

September Income Goal: \$11,910
September Income Received: \$11,224
October Income Goal: \$11,910
Weekly Goal for October: \$2,978

We didn't quite meet our goal in September, but we got close. We're doing well but we can do better. If you missed tithing this weekend, please take a moment to do so online. 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 that you can give toward specifically:

AC Repair in Church – \$521.60 (Not Funded)
Narthex and Shrine Ceiling Blue Paint – \$40 (Not Funded)

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 Securely Online:

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

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?

Are you giving your first offering to God/tithing regularly?

Prayer List

Departed

Jill, Juniper, Charles, Iryna

Living

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

Community: Mother Cassiana, Tammy, Litsa, child Lilliana, Carl, Olga, Rita, child Ciana Rose, Jamie, Ray, Alexandra, Dorthy, Issac, Sandy, Donald, Cole, Joseph, Chad, Landin, Austin, Catherine Ann, Katherine, Jeff, David, Andrew, Polly, Ann, George, Doug, David, Katie, Kerri, David, Lilly, Haley, Sean, William, Mary Ann, Vicki, Kati, Tonya, Patricia, Tina, James, Bill, Lansan, Helen, Nicholas, Irena, Pina, Andre, child Oliver, Laurie, Akira, Vic, Sharrell and her newborn Ozias, Jodi, Charlee, Owen, Wendy

Expecting Mothers: Savannah, Libby, Emma

Catechumens: Andrew, Mary Ann, Ally, Andrew Jr, Noah, Luke, Dusty, Evan, Josh, Nicole, Winry, Jeremiah, Dakota, Bridgette, Theodore, Zach, Asher, Audra, Victor, Charlie, Ethan, Nathan, Cullen, Kwasi, Saiah, James, Eliana, Austin, Kasey, Bentley, Raelynn, Emma, Oakleigh, Bree, Tyler, Joseph

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.

Orthodox Did You Know?

Did you know the Gospel Book on the altar represents Christ Himself? It is not simply a book of writings but the sign of Christ enthroned among His people. We bow, kiss, and carry it because His living voice still speaks to us. If we give such honor to the Gospel in church, how much more should we keep Christ at the center of our lives each day?

Confessions – Every Saturday Before (4:30 PM) & After Vespers. Also By Appointment.

Parish Happenings

Everyone loves a fresh pot of coffee, a tidy parish hall, and well kept grounds, but those blessings don't appear by Disney magic (though could you imagine if they did? Wow haha). They're made possible by parishioners who give their time and talents to make those things possible. Signing up is an act of love that everyone benefits from, so please, sign up. Don't wait to be asked. Just do it.

Weekly Church Clean-up (through Sept.): <https://savannahorthodox.com/keeping-our-community-clean/>

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

Coffee Hour (Updated for September): <https://savannahorthodox.com/coffee-hour/>

Kids Church School: Every Sunday after Coffee Hour. See Jeanie with questions if your child is not enrolled.

Adult Classes: Join us every Wednesday evening for our adult class series and every Sunday after Coffee Hour for Bible study. All classes are recorded and available online and on all major podcast platforms.

Coffee Chat: Every Friday – 10 AM Paddles – 401 N Laurel St, Springfield, GA 31329.

Saturday Night Questing (Next Session October 18th): See David Reynolds (Cell: 706-224-2721) to learn more.

No Classes or Coffee Chat This Week

My schedule this week does not allow for classes this week and with the Greek food festival happening this next weekend, I thought we would take it easy and give everyone the week off.

No Vespers this Saturday – Go to the Greek Food Festival

This weekend, instead of having Vespers here at St. Mary Magdalene, I want to encourage all of us to go and support our brothers and sisters at St. Paul Orthodox Church during their annual food festival. These events are not just fundraisers, but opportunities for us to show unity and love for our fellow Orthodox in Savannah. Also, if you have not yet signed up to help, please see myself or Mark Guyer this weekend. We have only a few who have offered to help and we should have more participation.

Youth Pumpkin Carving (October 19th)

On Sunday, October 19th our youth will be gathering for a pumpkin carving activity. Dan has generously provided pregutted pumpkins, so all the kids need to do is bring their creativity. The children will draw their designs, and the young adults group will help cut them out. This is not a Halloween or devilish event. We are “Christianizing” the activity by encouraging everyone to carve a cross or something that represents the Church. Please let Dan Leger know by next Sunday so we can have everything ready for that Sunday.

St. James Liturgy at St. Paul's Orthodox Church (October 22nd at 6PM)

On Wednesday evening, October 22 at 6:00 PM, St. Paul's will celebrate the Feast of St. James with the ancient Divine Liturgy of St. James. This is the oldest Eucharistic service in the Orthodox Church, dating back to the early centuries in Jerusalem, and it is only celebrated on rare occasions. Our parish has been invited to attend, and I encourage everyone to take advantage of this special opportunity to experience such a unique and beautiful liturgy. I will be serving there on behalf of our parish. Please note: There will be no Wednesday evening class that night.

Young Adults Class (October 26th – After Liturgy – God Willing...)

We've had to reschedule this class a couple of times, but God willing it will take place the last Sunday of the month. Dn. Vassily will be teaching the first class on the beauty and meaning of iconography and its place in the life of the Church. This class is especially for our young adults (ages 13–25), but as always, everyone is warmly welcome to join.

Fall Fest and Chili Cookoff! (November 2nd)

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, November 2, we'll gather for our annual Fall Fest and Chili Cook-Off. Enter your best dish in one of three categories: Best Chili, Best Side, or Best Dessert. There will be plenty of fun for the kids too: piñata, crafts, caramel apple bar, face painting, and a s'mores bar. To sign up, please see Mat. Lindsey or Nika Matsko. Tell your friends, family, your neighbors, and your coworkers to come and join us for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and fall fun!

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