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ST MARY MAGDALENE

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN
RINCON/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Scripture Readings

Ephesians 4:1-6 (Epistle)

Brethren, I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Luke 13:10-17 (Gospel)

At that time, the Lord was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day." The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound – think of it – for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

Saint of Day: Apostle Andrew, the Holy and All-Praised First-Called

Saint Andrew the First-Called was the first of the Apostles to follow Christ, and he later brought his brother Peter to the Lord. Raised in Bethsaida, he lived a life turned toward God from his youth, remaining unmarried and working as a fisherman. Before meeting Christ, he became a devoted disciple of Saint John the Baptist, who pointed Andrew and John the Theologian toward Jesus as the Lamb of God.

After Pentecost, Saint Andrew traveled widely to preach the Gospel. He journeyed through Asia Minor, Thrace, Macedonia, and the lands around the Black Sea, eventually reaching the place where Kiev now stands. There he foretold that God's grace would shine on those hills and that a great Christian city would rise. He continued north to the future site of Novgorod, then made his way through the land of the Varangians toward Rome, and later to Byzantium, where he founded the Church in what would become Constantinople. Because of these labors, he is honored as a spiritual link between Constantinople and the Russian Church.

Throughout his travels he endured great hardships, including beatings, expulsions, and stoning, yet he continued to preach Christ with courage. In many cities the Lord worked miracles through him, healing the sick and enlightening whole communities with the faith. His final mission brought him to Patra, where his preaching and miracles converted many, though the prefect Aegeatos remained hardened. Refusing to believe, the prefect ordered Andrew to be put to death by crucifixion.

Saint Andrew accepted the cross with joy, seeing it as a share in the sufferings of Christ. Bound rather than nailed to prolong his martyrdom, he continued to preach from the cross for two days as the people pleaded for his release. When officials tried to remove him, they found themselves unable to touch him. Surrounded by a divine light, the apostle commended his soul to the Lord and departed this life. His relics were later transferred with great honor to Constantinople, where they were placed in the Church of the Holy Apostles.

NOVEMBER 30TH, 2025

SAINT ANDREW

THE FIRST-CALLED

NOV Birthdays, Names Day,
& Anniversaries

2nd - Josh (Gabriel) Takacs (Name's Day)

7th - Connor Clark

11th - Anastasia Collins

12th - Luke Shetler

16th - Landan Withers

16th - Matthew Somich (Name's Day)

16th - Wyatt (Matthew) Roberts (Name's Day)

21st - Nathan Corrales

24th - Oakleigh Carver

25th - Patrick Welsh

27th - Ray Givan

30th - Andreas Savasir (Name's Day)

SCHEDULE

Confessions Every Saturday Before (4:30 PM) and After Vespers or by Appointment.

December 3rd - Wednesday

Wednesday Evening Orthodox Study with Molieben (6:00 PM)

December 4th - Thursday

Coffee Chat at Paddles (10:00 AM)

December 6th - Saturday

St. Gabriel of Georgia Fitness Club (3:45 PM)

Great Vespers (5:00 PM)

Saturday Night Dinner at the Tin Fin (After Vespers)

December 7th - Sunday

Hours (9:00 AM)

Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

St. Nicholas (At Coffee Hour)

No Church School or Adult Class

WISDOM

"The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic His giving, by grace, and through our own free will."

"Let us always guard our hearts with faith and love, for by these the Lord strengthens His servants."

- St. Nicholas of Myra

WEEKLY JOKES

God: *creates a worm* Hello little buddy! Worm: Thanks for the "worm" welcome haha. God: *creates birds*

I wore my noise-canceling headphones to dinner the other night. I thought my wife would be mad, but I didn't hear any complaints.

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

Monthly Parish Financial Report (As of November 21st, 2025):

"Every good and perfect gift is from above...Your own of Your own, we offer unto You."

October Income Goal: \$11,910
October Collection: \$11,906
November Income Goal: \$14,910
November Collections 3 Weeks: \$8,699

Now that we are in the holiday season, please consider offering a little extra so our parish can stay on a faithful path of good stewardship. Full copy of our up-to-date finances are available here: <https://savannahorthodox.com/reports/>

Special Projects/Extra Expenses:

While we budget for regular expenses, there are extra needs you can support directly:

Bathroom Tile Project - \$1000 (Partially Funded)
2026 Calendars - \$500

Let us continue to give faithfully and generously 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

Sarah, Gavin, Child Aspen, Victor, Infant Sterling, Gloria, Eleana, and all children killed through the evil act of abortion.

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, 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, Dan (Andre), child Oliver, Laurie, Akira, Vic, Jodi, Charlee, Owen, Wendy, Kameron, Karen, Melody, Guillermo, Suzanne, Debra, Autum, Torrey, Jessica, Johanna, Vickie, Kathy, Michael, Alana, infant Kalea, Bobby, Costa, Judith, Bruce, Luke

Expecting Mothers: Mat. Lindsey, Savannah, Emma, Hailey

Military and First Responders: Rdr. Alex, Van, Nick, Tyler, Shannon, Landin, Austin, Chad, Vladimir, Andrew, Justin, Mark, Tammy, Nikka, Laila, Josh, Kamaka (Olga)

Catechumens: Andrew, Mary Ann, Ally, Andrew Jr, Noah, Luke, Dusty, Evan, Nicole, Winry, Jeremiah, Dakota, Bridgette, Theodore, Zach, Asher, Audra, Victor, Charlie, Ethan, Nathan, Cullen, Kwasi, Saiah, James, Eliana, Austin, Kasey, Bently, Raelynn, Emma, Oakleigh, Tyler, Joseph, Chastity, Landin, Luke, Bree, Jesse, Nick, Melissa, Astrid, Freyja, Evan, Caleb, Devin, Kaden, Leo, Tyler, Shannon, Mark, Bronson, Emerson, Halston, Lily, Andrew

Prisoners: Stefan, Daron (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 for all of those who are suffering in our community and in the world who are in need of prayers.

Orthodox Did You Know?

In many Greek villages, families keep a small wooden bowl with a sprig of basil dipped in holy water. Each day during the Nativity Fast, the bowl is sprinkled around the home to keep the heart focused on Christ and to chase away distractions. It's a simple way families remember that the Fast is about cleansing the home and the soul.

The Heartbeat of Parish Life

Greeter Team: Nate Hall and Kamaka Goings

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

Maintenance Items and Projects (Please see Tom before signing up):

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

Coffee Hour: <https://savannahorthodox.com/coffee-hour/> or see Mat. Lindsey to sign up.

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

Weekly Bible Studies: Classes on Wednesdays (6 PM) and Sundays (11:45 AM). All classes recorded and on all major podcast platforms. Catechumens are encouraged to attend Sunday Classes. Wednesday is optional.

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

Saturday Night Questing (Next Session December 13th): See David Reynolds (Cell: 706-224-2721) to learn more.

Saturday Night Dinners (Starts Next Week - Starts December 6th After Vespers)

Once a month after Vespers, we will head out together for dinner at a local restaurant in Rincon, Pooler, or sometimes downtown Savannah. It will usually be on the first Saturday, though dates may shift, so keep an eye on the schedule. Our first outing is December 6 at The Tin Fin in Rincon. If cost is an issue, or if you need help with transportation after dark, please speak with me and we will make arrangements. This is meant to be a simple outreach for all ages in our parish.

St. Gabriel of Georgia Fitness Club (Starts Next Week - December 6th @ 3:45 PM)

To help us grow in Christ and build more Church-centered community, we are starting the St. Gabriel of Georgia Fitness Club. It offers free training advice for anyone who wants to get stronger, with hopes of forming a parish strength team for local events. Ladies are warmly encouraged to join. We meet each week before Vespers from 3:45 to 4:45 PM. Come early, set up, and lift. All ages and skill levels are welcome. For details, see the sign up sheet in the Narthex or speak with Nate Hall or Josh Takacs.

St. Nicholas is Coming to Town! (Next Week After Liturgy)

Our Church family will be celebrating St. Nicholas following Divine Liturgy on December 7 and it is my understanding that St. Nicholas plans on visiting the children (and everyone!) of the parish following Divine Liturgy. We will also have our usual, albeit more festive, fellowship meal so please consider bringing a dish to share (we do not want St. Nicholas to think we are not hospitable).

Christmas Service Schedule (December 24th & 25th)

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming Nativity celebrations in December. On Christmas Eve, December 24, we will gather at 2:30 PM for the Christmas Eve Nativity Vigil. On Christmas Day, December 25, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM. This is a good time to invite someone new and all are welcome as we come together to rejoice in the birth of Christ.

2026 Pledge Forms

As we begin preparing our budget for the coming year, we want to have a clear and organized picture of how our parish can continue to grow and serve Christ faithfully. Pledge forms for 2026 are available now and we are asking they be returned the week before Christmas, on Sunday, December 21st. These forms are more than financial planning tools; they help us discern how we can offer our time, talents, and resources to God and to the building up of His Kingdom. By returning your pledge form, you help our parish plan wisely, strengthen our ministries, and support the work God has entrusted to us. Thank you for your prayerful participation.

2026 Church Calendars - On Their Way

We have ordered 75 Lectionary Wall Calendars for a total cost of \$500. They will arrive in a few weeks. The calendars are free, but if you are able, a donation of \$10 per calendar will help cover the expense. If you would like to donate now, you can write a check to the church and give it to Ron, our treasurer, and please note "Calendars 2026" in the memo line.

PRIEST: Fr. Stephen Osburn 702-521-6988 / frsteve@savannahorthodox.com | DEACON: Dn. Vassily Kocher 912-756-5178

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