



ST MARY MAGDALENE

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN
RINCON/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Scripture Readings

Romans 12:6-14 (Epistle)

Brethren, having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Matthew 9:1-8 (Gospel)

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

6th Sunday After Pentecost: Martyrs Proclus and Hilary of Ancyra

The Holy Martyrs Proclus and Hilarion were natives of the village of Kallippi, near Ancyra, and they suffered during the time of a persecution under the emperor Trajan (98-117). Saint Proclus was put under arrest first. Brought before the governor Maximus, he fearlessly confessed his faith in Christ. The governor decided to compel the saint to submit himself to the emperor and offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. During his tortures, the martyr predicted to Maximus that soon he himself would be compelled to confess Christ as the true God. They forced the martyr to run after the chariot of the governor, heading towards the village Kallippi. Exhausted, Saint Proclus prayed that the Lord would halt the chariot. By the power of God the chariot halted, and no force could move it from the spot. The dignitary sitting in it became petrified. The martyr told him that he would remain unmoving until such time as he would sign a document with a confession of Christ. Only after this could the chariot continue on its way with the governor. The humiliated pagan took fierce revenge on Saint Proclus. He commanded that Proclus be led out beyond the city, tied to a pillar and shot with arrows. The soldiers, leading Saint Proclus to execution, told him to give in and save his life, but the saint said that they should follow their orders. Along the way to the place of execution, they met Hilarion, the nephew of Saint Proclus, who with tears embraced his uncle and also confessed himself a Christian. The soldiers seized him, and he was thrown into prison. The holy Martyr Proclus prayed for his tormentors and surrendered his soul to God beneath a hail of arrows. Saint Hilarion was brought to trial and, with the same courage as Saint Proclus, confessed himself a Christian. After tortures he was sentenced to death. They tied the martyr's hands and dragged him by his feet through the city, wounded and bloody, and then they beheaded him three days after the death of his uncle, the holy Martyr Proclus. Christians buried them together in a single grave.

Troparion - Tone 4 - Your holy martyrs Proclus and Hilary, O Lord, / through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from You, our God. / For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries, / and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. / Through their intercessions, save our souls!

Kontakion - Tone 4 - Like the morning star, / your glorious sufferings enlighten us with holy miracles. / We celebrate your memory, Proclus and Hilary; / pray to Christ God for us / that He will save our souls.

JULY 12TH, 2026

PROCLUS & HILARY OF ANCYRA
6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY Birthdays, Names Day, & Anniversaries

8th - Jeff and Kate Bright
11th - Carson Hendrix
14th - Leo Bass
15th - Bridgette Harrod
16th - Fr. Michael and Mat. Yvonne Matsko
17th - Charlene Griffin
20th - Dan and Kamaka Legers
22nd - Nadia Holley
23rd - David Sullivan
24th - Bree Hall
24th - Josh and Akira Takacs
26th - Chesney Cowart
27th - Litsa Osburn (Name's Day)
27th - Mat. Lindsey Osburn (Name's Day)
29th - Courtney Bass
30th - Zen Roberts
31st - Charis Ally
31st - Sam and Nancy Nessim

SCHEDULE

July 16th - Thursday
Coffee Chat at Paddles (401 N Laurel St, Springfield, GA 31329) (10:00 AM)
Father will not be there

July 17th - Friday
Online Bible Study (6:30 PM) <https://savannahorthodox.com/zoom/>

July 18th - Saturday
Great Vespers (5:00 PM)

July 19th - Sunday
Hours (9:00 AM)
Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)
Coffee Hour (After Liturgy)

WISDOM

"He shews the greatness of His power by saying, 'The Son of Man hath power on earth to forgive sins.'"

- St. John Chrysostom

"His rising up is the drawing off the soul from carnal lusts." He interprets the paralytic's rising, taking up his bed, and going home as the soul turning from sin, lifting the flesh toward spiritual things, and returning to watchfulness before God."

- St. Rabanus Maurus

WEEKLY JOKES

What's a sailor's favorite candy? Shipment.

I took a picture of a wheat field for my digital photography class. Came out grainy.

You know, some people have said to me recently that I should stop posting so many jokes. But... I'm sticking to my puns.

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY FOREVER!

Parish Financial Report (July 5th, 2026) | 2026 Goal/Budget: \$175,000

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

June 2026 Collections: To be Updated Upon Father's Return July 19th
2026 Year to Date: To be Updated Upon Father's Return July 19th
July 2026 Goal: \$13,552

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the parish through faithful giving. Summer can be a slower season, but the needs of the parish continue, especially as we grow and look toward the future need for a new church and hall. Please continue to prayerfully consider your tithe as part of serving Christ and building up His Church here. Our treasurer and I have both been traveling recently, so I apologize for the lack of updated financial reports. We will have the finances fully updated once I return, by the weekend of July 19th.

Full Report here: <https://savannahorthodox.com/reports/>
Give Securely Online: <https://savannahorthodox.com/help-us-grow/>

Greeters: July 12th – Heath, Chandler | July 19th – Anthony, Chastity | July 26th – Josh, Chastity
Coffee Hour Schedule: July 12th – Team Craig | July 19th – Team Nate | July 26th – Team Kamaka

Sign Up to Serve: Serving the Church is one of the simplest and most meaningful ways to live out your faith in love. Please consider signing up for Maintenance and Projects or Weekly Church Clean Up at <https://savannahorthodox.com/serve/> and help care for the house of God and our parish family.

Youth Church School: Off for the Summer. Classes Resume September 13th.

Online Weekly Bible Studies: Fridays at 6:30 PM at <https://savannahorthodox.com/zoom/> All classes recorded and posted on all major podcast platforms. Catechumens are encouraged to attend the Class.

Coffee Chat: Thursdays at 10 AM at Paddles (401 N Laurel St, Springfield, GA 31329)

Saturday Night Questing: On Hold Until September – Summer Break.

St. Bridget Ministry (Narthex): This is a food ministry for our community. Items needed for donation to local food pantry includes any canned goods, including peanut butter. This is a good time to clean out your pantry, and restock! We are also looking for volunteers to deliver food to God's Mission House this summer. Please see Ruth: (814) 227-7632

St. Ambrose Ministry (Narthex): This is a ministry for babies is also in the narthex; please donate, it can include open packages of diapers. Anything helps. Please see the shelves in the back of the narthex, if in need or to donate!

St. Timothy's Young Adult's Group: A new Young Adult Group has started at the parish for activities, fellowship, discussion, and staying connected. Catechumens in the young adult age range are also welcome. Anyone interested should see Anastasia Collins.

OCF at GSU: In association with St. Timothy's Young Adult Group, we are working to start the OCF group at GSU. This will give our college students another opportunity for fellowship and growth in the Church. Anyone interested should speak with Rdr. Ron or Kristin Somich.

Parish Library Inventory and Book Return

If you have checked out or borrowed a book from the parish library, please return it to the church. We are currently redoing the library and would like to get a full inventory of what we have. We are happy to lend books out again, but first we need to know what is currently in the collection. Please see Dn. Vassily if you have any questions.

A Gentle Reminder: Food and Drink in the Church

Please remember that food and drinks should remain in the parish hall and not be brought into the church. This applies during Divine Liturgy, other services, and Adult Class. Plates of food, coffee, soda, and other drinks should be finished in the hall before entering the church. The only exception is water for the clergy and choir during services. This is not meant to single anyone out, but to preserve the church as a sacred space set apart for prayer, worship, and teaching. Thank you for helping us care for the church with reverence and love.

Baby Registry for Samson & Rachel Woodthorp

Samson and Rachel Woodthorp, former parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene, are preparing to welcome their little one. If you would like to bless and support them during this joyful season, their baby registry is available here: <https://savannahorthodox.com/woodthorp> Please keep them all in your prayers as they prepare for this beautiful gift of new life.

Church School Teacher Needed for Ages 11-17 Class

We are looking for a second Church School teacher to help with our older youth class, ages 11 to 17. Due to recent changes, this class is currently without a teacher and we want to make sure our older youth continue to receive faithful instruction, encouragement, and guidance in the Orthodox faith. Classes will resume on Sunday, September 13th. If you are interested in serving in this way, please see me. You do not need to have all the answers, but you should be faithful, dependable, willing to learn, and committed to helping our young people grow in Christ and in the life of the Church.

Greeter Team Expanding

We are looking for a few more people to help with our parish Greeter Team. This is a simple but important ministry of hospitality, helping welcome visitors, answer basic questions, and make sure people feel at home when they come to church. You do not need to know everything, only to be friendly, dependable, and willing to help. If you are interested in serving in this way, please see me.

Father Stephen Back (July 19th) and Thank You to Father Michael for Serving

Thank you to Fr. Michael for serving our parish this weekend while I am away. I will return next weekend and will be available again after I am back. Fr. Michael will not be available for confessions this weekend, so please plan to see me once I return if you need to schedule confession.

Deacon Vassily's Elevation to Protodeacon (July 22nd)

On Wednesday, July 22nd, during the Diocesan Assembly in the Jacksonville area, Dn. Vassily will be elevated to the rank of Protodeacon. This is a great honor and joy for our parish and I encourage everyone who is able to make the drive down to attend and support him. Divine Liturgy will begin at 9:00 AM. We are waiting for which church it will be at from our hierarchy (Annunciation or St. Alexis). Once I know more, I will send out the full details. It would be a blessing to have many from our parish present for this important day in Dn. Vassily's ministry and in the life of our community.

Daily Reminder:

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

Are you praying the Jesus Prayer at least 40 times a day?

Are you giving your first offering of 10% to God/tithing regularly?

Prayer List

Departed

Infant McIntyre, Maria, Elias, Carmela, Butch, Jay, Oisin, Barbara, Carol, Jan, Elizabeth, Carlos, Anastasia, all children killed through the evil act of abortion, and all the fallen soldiers who defend our nation.

Living

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

Community: Mother Cassiana, Tammy, Litsa, child Lilliana, child Ciana Rose, Jaimie, Ray, Polly, Pina, Vic, Owen, Attiat, Chastity, Boris, Harry, Maegan, Lara, Nicholas, Kathy, Sam, Jerry (Gerasimos), Marvin, Jerome, Ayu, Vanessa, James, Abby, John, Kathleen, Gregory, Gabby, Benny, and especially all children suffering or in need throughout the world.

Expecting Mothers: Meagan, Ori, Rachel, Erin, Michaela, Kara, Noel, Taylee

Military and First Responders: Rdr. Alex, Van, Nick, Tyler, Shannon, Landan, Austin, Chad, Vladimir, Andrew, Justin, Mark, Tammy, Nika, Laila, Josh, Kamaka (Olga), Lia, Russell, Evan, Ignatius

Catechumens: Audra, Austin, Kasey, Bently, Raelynn, Emma, Oakleigh, Tyler, Nick, Melissa, Astrid, Freyja, Devin, Courtney, Kaden, Leo, Tyler, Shannon, Evan, Eric, Lia, Wyatt, Renata, Dawson, Katylin, James, Joshua, Kris, Ruth, Breanne, Samuel, Wyatt, Cody, Michaela, Anna, Aidan, Aaron, Tim, Anthony, Evan, Tristan, Kirsten, Jackson, Connor, Zen, Eleia, Carson, Christopher, Sarah, Chesney, Lily, Grayson, Frejya, Zachary, Chandler, Angelina, Sidney, Billy, Tom, Kayla, Henry, Kristine, Jacob, Sean, Cody, Mckenzie, Ryker, Saylor, Raymond

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, OCA, USA, Canada, and Mexico.

And for all of those who are suffering in our community and in the world who are in need of prayers.

Latest Reflection:

“I so happy” Traditions We Build for Life

This week's Almost Christian article reflects on Disney's Midnight Magic commercial, family vacations, and the Christian meaning of memory. It asks how Orthodox Christians can receive joy, family time, and even ordinary recreation with discernment, gratitude, and love.

<https://savannahorthodox.com/traditions-we-build-for-life/>

Please read and share this on your social media accounts.

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