



# SAINT INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### *The Holy Spirit and the Christian Life*

**AT ST. INNOCENT  
ORTHODOX CHURCH,  
WE SEEK TO MAKE OUR  
LORD  
JESUS CHRIST  
THE CENTER OF  
EVERYTHING WE DO.**

**WE AIM TO GLORIFY  
GOD THROUGH THE  
BEAUTY OF OUR  
WORSHIP AND TO  
FAITHFULLY PRESERVE  
THE PRACTICES OF THE  
EARLY CHURCH.  
WE STRIVE TO LOVE AND  
CARE FOR ONE  
ANOTHER AND FOR  
THOSE IN OUR WIDER  
COMMUNITY.**

**WE PRAY THAT OUR  
PARISH WILL CONTINUE  
TO BE A  
LIFE-GIVING SPRING OF  
THE ORTHODOX  
CHRISTIAN FAITH,  
BY THE GRACE OF THE  
HOLY SPIRIT.**

In the secular, materialist world we live in, it is easy to fall into the temptation of reducing Christianity to a self-help program in which we try, by our own efforts, to conform ourselves to the virtues presented in the Scriptures. Some people can veneer their lives and appear virtuous, but when pressed, these facades begin to crack. Others may possess certain natural virtues, conferred by good genetics or proper parenting, yet one can be strong in one area while remaining weak in many others.

Unfortunately for those of us who would like to accomplish everything in our own strength and according to our own design, real growth in Christ is always guided and accomplished through the grace of the Holy Spirit. On the other hand, the reality that God's plan can be fully accomplished in us only by grace can be a great relief to those who have strived and failed.

In the spiritual life, it behooves us to remember that the "goals" of Christianity are transcendent. As Christians, we are not simply being asked to put on the appearance of virtue or to shame ourselves into conformity with the saints. Rather, we are called into a reciprocal relationship with the transcendent God who has revealed Himself as Trinity. There is no pragmatic action, philosophy, psychology, or self-help program by which we can grasp or lay hold of the Kingdom. Our Lord told Nicodemus that one cannot enter or even see the Kingdom of God "unless one is born of water and the Spirit" (John 3:5).

## ARTICLE CONTINUED

When we are baptized into Christ and chrismated, the Holy Spirit indwells us. Divine life takes up residence within us, and we become temples of the Holy Spirit. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit marks the beginning of the restoration of what God created us to be.

After we put on Christ in baptism, we continue to need God's grace and action in our lives. St. Paul tells us to "put to death the deeds of the body." It is by the Spirit that this mortification and subsequent resurrection occur (Rom. 8:13). As we die and rise over and over again, we are sanctified, and the fruit of the Holy Spirit begins to manifest itself in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Gal. 5:22–23). These virtues gradually emerge in the Christian life only as we put off the "old man" and are renewed by the Holy Spirit.

Importantly, it is the Holy Spirit who guides us into all truth and convicts us of sin. This can be difficult for those of us who desire to be entirely self-sufficient. The Christian life is not one of independent self-improvement, but of continual repentance, surrender, and cooperation with divine grace. The more we yield ourselves to the Holy Spirit, the more Christ is formed within us.

What blessed and terrible words these are: that we must surrender, yield, and cooperate! Such words strike against our fallen desire for self-sufficiency and control. Yet this is the very path of life in Christ. As we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, and once again sing, "O Heavenly King," may the Holy Spirit teach us how to surrender, how to yield, and how to cooperate with divine grace, so that we may ultimately find rest in God's saving providence, which lovingly orders our salvation.

# WORSHIP



## IMPORTANT DATES

**Sunday the 14th**  
All Saints of America  
Divine Liturgy

**Sunday the 28th**  
Great Vespers @ 1:30  
pm

**Monday the 29th**  
Saints Peter & Paul  
Divine Liturgy

## REGULAR SERVICES

### SUNDAYS

9:40 am Hours  
10:00 am Liturgy  
12:00 pm Coffee Hour

### WEDNESDAYS

6:00 pm Daily Vespers

### SATURDAYS

5:00 pm Choir Practice  
6:00 pm Great Vespers  
6:45 Confession

## PLEASE REMEMBER!

**The Church Office is closed on Mondays.**

# PARISH LIFE



## COFFEE HOUR

**Every Sunday 12 PM**

Join us every Sunday!

This is a great way to build community within the parish!

When we are better connected to one another, we can better impact the world around us!



## MANY YEARS AND BIRTHDAYS!

Perlita	McKoon	6 - 1
Serena	Talmage	6 - 1
Nicole	Thomae	6 - 5
Ion	Munteanu	6 - 7
Lidia	Kuznetcova	6 - 7
Michelle	Marble	6 - 13
Ellie	Pelt	6 - 14
Thomas	Pace	6 - 15
Olga	Plummer	6 - 16
Paul	Ories	6 - 16
Jordan	Thomae	6 - 17
Joshua	Marble	6 - 18
Andrew	Ennis	6 - 19
Michael	Pemberton	6 - 19
Sarah	Andrews	6 - 26
Matthew	Talmage	6 - 27
Elena	Berger	6 - 29

## CLEAN UP TEAMS

<b>Team #3</b>	<b>June 7th</b>
<b>Team #4</b>	<b>June 4th</b>
<b>Team #5</b>	<b>June 21st</b>
<b>Team #6</b>	<b>June 28th</b>

If you are on a Clean Up team Please be aware of when your team is working.

If you are not able to make it please let your Team Lead know.

## PARISH UPDATE

There will be a Parish Update on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June in the Parish Hall at 12:30

# PARISH LIFE



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Ladies' Fellowship will meet  
**Monday, June 8th at 6:30 PM.**

Our discussion will center on the Theotokos, informed by a short interview with Fr. Thomas Hopko of blessed memory and a blog post by Fr. Stephen Freeman.

**Participants are encouraged to read "Don't Panic, It's Just the Mother of God" beforehand.** If you would like, please bring a Lenten dish to share, as the Apostles' Fast begins that day.

See Realm for additional details.

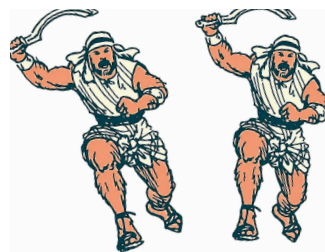


## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**PARISH WORK DAY**

**Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of June**

We need help from men to put up scaffolding for the iconography project  
Prepare your loins to be girded.



## FAITH & FELLOWSHIP (KATHLEEN)

**June 9<sup>th</sup> & June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 PM**

JOIN US for a time of spiritual instruction led by Fr. Theophan, followed by a shared meal and fellowship.

This group offers a welcoming, informal setting to grow in the Orthodox faith, ask questions, and build deeper relationships—especially for those in the Warner Robins area, as well as catechumens and newly illumined members. Families and children are warmly welcome.

All are invited to come as they are able. **Please, RSVP on Realm**

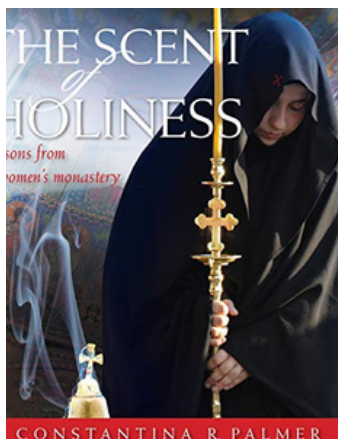
# CATECHISM AND EDUCATION



## PRAY FOR OUR CATECHUMEN

Shekinah Aquino  
 Blake & Jessica Brooks  
 Jefferson & Rebekah DeMott  
 John Dirks  
 Zion & Rebekah Dixon  
 Bob & Jessie Drnek  
 Seth Elrod  
 Dakota & Brittany Fox  
 John & Eyndia Henderson  
 Aaron Hensley  
 Jacob Lamberth  
 Rodney Lamberth  
 Michael & Raena Liscio  
 Christopher Mallory  
 Ethan Mckinnon  
 Seth & Mindy Moon  
 Jacob Owens  
 Michael Pemberton  
 Logan Pind  
 Francisco & Chavva Rodriguez  
 Sebastien Rodriguez  
 Elizabeth & Jamie Sauer  
 Scott & Sarah Shelton  
 Nadia Stephens  
 Tyler & Savannah Stewart  
 Emmanuel Stout  
 Emily Tawk  
 Zeke Taylor  
 Chase Toy  
 Chad & Anzlie Vessell  
 Logan Ward  
 John Paul Williams

## BOOK OF THE MONTH



*The Scent of Holiness:  
 Lessons from a  
 Women's Monastery  
 and The Sweetness of  
 Grace: Stories of  
 Christian Trial and  
 Victory*, both by  
 Constantina R. Palmer

*The Scent of Holiness* and *The Sweetness of Grace* feature stories of modern-day Orthodox people living out their faith in monasteries and in the world. They also focus on Orthodox people outside the United States, especially in Greece and South Korea. *The Scent of Holiness* is a nice tie-in to the recent pilgrimage that parishioners took to Saints Mary and Martha Monastery! The library has two copies of *The Scent of Holiness* and one copy of *Sweetness of Grace* on display in our new "Book of the Month" stand, so please check them out!



## ST. JOHN'S YOUTH ALLIANCE

**LOCK-IN is from June 5-6<sup>th</sup>**

Join us for a pilgrimage to St. John the Wonderworker, Rigby's, friends and fun and so much more!

# CATECHISM AND EDUCATION



## CATECHUMEN CLASSES

**Wednesday, June 3rd**  
**Wednesday, June 10th**  
**Wednesday, June 17th**  
**Wednesday, June 24th**  
**7:00 pm**

## BIBLE STUDY



**Wednesday, June 3rd**  
**Wednesday, June 10th**  
**Wednesday, June 17th**  
**Wednesday, June 24th**  
**7:00 pm**  
Contact Ian Truhn or Dcn.  
Columab

## CHURCH SCHOOL

**On break till the Fall**



## INQUIRER'S CLASS

Father Theophan will  
begin anew the  
inquirer's classes on  
Sundays at  
**Starting June 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**12:30 pm**

# CHARITY



The Pregnancy Center  
of Monroe County



**May 10<sup>th</sup> - June 21<sup>st</sup>**

We will be participating in the annual Baby Bottle Boomerang for the Pregnancy and Family Life Center of Monroe County from Mother's Day (May 10) through Father's Day (June 21).

Here's how it works: Take home a baby bottle (located in the Narthex), fill it up with your loose change over the next several weeks and bring it back by Father's Day. You can also donate on Realm, write a check (indicating it is for the pregnancy center on the memo line) or give directly to them at their website: [pregnancyfamilylifecenter.com](http://pregnancyfamilylifecenter.com)

This amazing local organization helps mothers and families choose life by offering support, adoption options, and equipping them with supplies, skills, and medical care, all free of charge to their clients. Your donation will help them continue this lifesaving work!

## RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

Come help prepare a meal for the Ronald McDonald House on **June 29th from 3pm - 5pm** in the Parish Hall. No skills or materials required - just a willing heart!



**Ronald McDonald  
House Charities®**

Keeping families close®

For more information on any of our Charitable Adventures  
Contact: Nicole Thomae

# MINISTRIES AND SERVICE



## ST. OLGA'S SOCIETY

We're excited to announce that Saint Olga Society will soon be offering more volunteer opportunities!

This summer SOS will be launching the Garments & Gifts committee, which will cover an assortment of fun, creative areas of service.

Volunteer tasks will include crocheting, sewing, embroidering, decorating candles, and arranging gift bags. Stay tuned to hear when training workshops will be held and when the committee will officially launch!



For volunteer inquiries contact Amanda Mosallam on realm or via email at [amanda\\_email@aol.com](mailto:amanda_email@aol.com)

## LOAVES & FISHES



**Saturday, June 27th 9:00 am**  
**Monthly Meal Prep**  
 For more information,  
 Contact: Amanda Mosallam

## NEW A/V TEAM

As the church grows we are discovering the need for an Audio / Visual Team. If this is part of your skill set and would like to serve the parish in this way, please **contact John (Jack) Miller**



# EVANGELISM



## SOCIAL MEDIA

### **The Week Ahead Events on Social Media**

This will be posted every Thursday, highlighting events for the following week.

### **If you have a church event planned:**

- **Please email [social@st-innocent.org](mailto:social@st-innocent.org) with the details (Who, What, Where, Why, When)**

If you have a graphic or photo you'd like to include, please attach it. (If you would like help with a graphic, you can reach out to Jack "John" Miller)

- Please try to get it submitted a month prior to the event.

This could be a ministry event, fellowship event, or even a personal event (baptism, for example) that you'd like to announce to the parish community.

Thank you so much for all your understanding and help with this!

## NEWSLETTER

### **If you have a church event planned:**

- **Please email [office@st-innocent.org](mailto:office@st-innocent.org) with the details (Who, What, Where, Why, When)**
- If you have a graphic or photo you'd like to include, please attach it. (If you would like help with a graphic, just let me know)
- Please submit all information by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to go into the next months newsletter.

This could be a ministry event, fellowship event, or even a personal event (baptism, for example) that you'd like to announce to the parish community.

If you have any questions, please contact Jack (John) Miller

# ADMINISTRATIVE & COMMITTEES



## NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

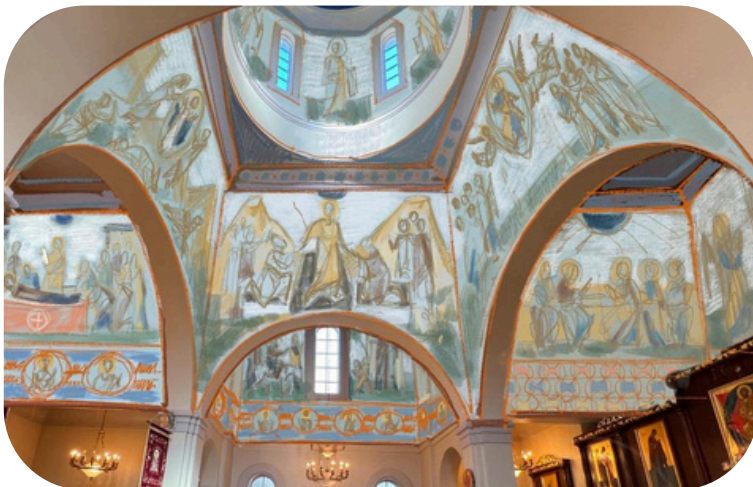
**Jack "John" Miller has been selected by the Parish Council to be the Admin. Assistant to He can be contacted through the office email: [office@st-innocent.org](mailto:office@st-innocent.org)**



## ICONOGRAPHY COMMITTEE

### **Phase 2 Plans:**

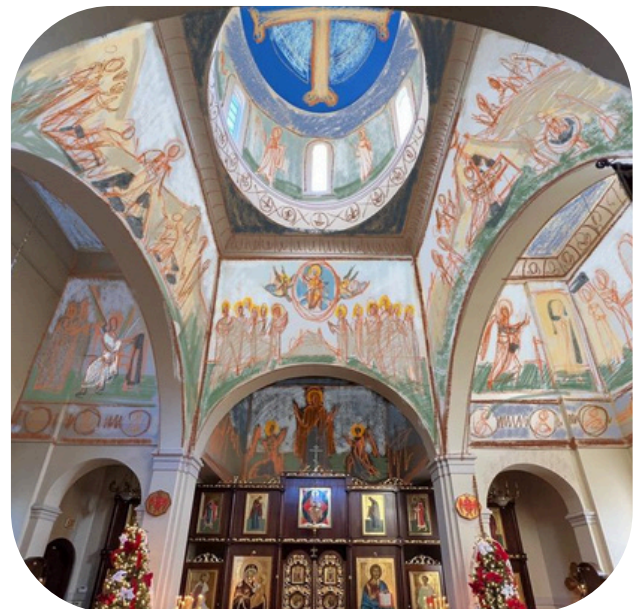
- Completing the top side walls behind the altar that can be seen from the nave and adding the 4 center walls underneath the dome.
- Tentatively, Vladimir is scheduled to return in the fall in 2026.



We kindly request your generous donations to bless our second phase of iconography. Donations can be made on the SIOC Website or on Realm.

Work on drywall is starting in June to prep for the iconography. Please excuse the mess!

Any Questions, Contact: Mark Dorogy



## PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE



### MAY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**Our meeting in May was on May 22 at 6:45 pm.**

- Scaffolding will be going up in the church in June to prepare for the 2nd phase of iconography work hopefully in 2028.
- It was another good month financially. Thanks be to God, and thanks to all for their financial support of the parish!
- Our new administrative assistant, Jack Miller, is getting up to speed on his various new tasks.
- There are now TVs mounted in the library and main dining area in the parish hall, to allow for streaming of the services and classes in those spaces.
- The first Warner Robins Small Group Meet-Up at the Armstrongs went well and was well attended. The next meeting will be led by James and Sarah Andrews.
- We recently had 195 people in church on a Sunday, a record for a non-Pascha service! With this comes the increased difficulty with finding parking, and the parish council discussed some short-term and long-term options. More on this will be brought up at the June 21 parish update during coffee hour.
- We are looking into more trash cans and a company to take over air conditioning maintenance.

**Our next meeting is scheduled for June 20 at 3:00 pm.**

#### April Financial Snapshot

	Current Year	Last Year
Total Monthly Collections	\$ 24,785.47	\$ 20,269.32
* Total Monthly Operating Revenue	\$ 26,671.42	\$ 21,909.11
Total Monthly Operating Expenses	\$ (21,711.82)	\$ (18,978.51)
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 4,959.60</b>	<b>\$ 2,930.60</b>
YTD 2026 Collections	\$ 94,495.30	\$ 70,078.64
* YTD 2026 Operating Revenue	\$ 99,256.85	\$ 75,032.10
YTD 2026 Operating Expenses	\$ (73,961.75)	\$ (72,474.09)
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 25,295.10</b>	<b>\$ 2,558.01</b>

\*Total Operating Revenue includes:

Collections, Bookstore Sales, Candle Sales and Processing Costs reimbursed by donors



**ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**7301 Rivoli Road - Macon, Georgia 31210**



JUNE 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 31 <b>PENTECOST</b>  9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy with Kneeling Prayers 12:15pm Food and Fellowship	1 <i>Office closed</i>	2 <i>Office closed</i>	3  6:00pm Daily Vespers 7:00pm Catechism 7:00pm Bible Study	4  9:00am Divine Liturgy	5  10:00am Teen Lock-In	6  9am Parish Work Day (scaffolding)  5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Confession 7:00pm Teen Lock-In ends
7 <b>All Saints</b>  9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Food and Fellowship 12:30pm Inquirers Class	8 <i>Office closed</i>  6:30pm Ladies Fellowship	9  6:00pm Faith and Fellowship (Kathleen)	10  6:00pm Daily Vespers 7:00pm Catechism 7:00pm Bible Study	11	12	13  5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Confession
14 <b>All Saints of America</b>  9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Food and Fellowship 12:30pm Inquirers Class	15 <i>Office closed</i>	16	17  6:00pm Daily Vespers 7:00pm Catechism 7:00pm Bible Study	18	19	20  5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Confession
21 <b>Father's Day</b>  9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Food and Fellowship 12:30pm Parish Update	22 <i>Office closed</i>	23  6:00pm Faith and Fellowship (Kathleen)	24 <b>Nativity of the Baptist</b>  6:00pm Daily Vespers 7:00pm Catechism 7:00pm Bible Study	25	26	27  5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Confession
28  9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Food and Fellowship 12:30pm Inquirers Class 1:30pm Great Vespers for Ss. Peter and Paul	29 <b>Ss. Peter &amp; Paul</b>  9:00am Divine Liturgy  3:00pm Ronald McDonald House	30	Jul 1 <b>Ss. Cosmas and Damian</b>  6:00pm Daily Vespers	Jul 2  Atlanta, Divine Liturgy at St. John the Wonderworker	Jul 3	Jul 4  5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Confession

Please consult the Sunday bulletin for changes to the monthly calendar.



**ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**7301 Rivoli Road - Macon, Georgia 31210**



JULY 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Jun 28</b> 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Food and Fellowship 12:30pm Inquirers Class 1:30pm Great Vespers for Ss. Peter and Paul 5	<b>Jun 29</b> <b>Ss. Peter &amp; Paul</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy 3:00pm Ronald McDonald House	<b>Jun 30</b>	<b>1</b> <b>Ss. Cosmas and Damian</b> 6:00pm Daily Vespers	<b>2</b> Atlanta, Divine Liturgy at St. John the Wonderworker	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Confession
<b>St. Elisabeth the New-Martyr</b> 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Food and Fellowship 12:30pm Inquirers Class	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 6:00pm Faith and Fellowship (Kathleen)	<b>8</b> 6:00pm Daily Vespers	<b>9</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy 6:30pm Men's Gathering TBA	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Confession
<b>12</b> 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Food and Fellowship 12:30pm Inquirers Class	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>St. Vladimir</b> 6:00pm Daily Vespers	<b>16</b> 9:00am Divine Liturgy	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Confession
<b>19</b> <b>St. Seraphim of Sarov</b> 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy Blessing of the "Chariots" 12:00pm Food and Fellowship 12:30pm Inquirers Class	<b>20</b> <i>Office Closed - DOS Assembly</i>	<b>21</b> <i>Office Closed - DOS Assembly</i> 6:00pm Faith and Fellowship (Kathleen)	<b>22</b> <i>Office Closed - DOS Assembly</i> 6:00pm Readers Vespers	<b>23</b> <i>Office Closed - DOS Assembly</i>	<b>24</b> <i>Office Closed - DOS Assembly</i>	<b>25</b> 5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Confession
<b>26</b> <b>St. Jacob of Alaska</b> 9:40am 3rd and 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy 12:00pm Food and Fellowship 12:30pm Inquirers Class	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 6:00pm Daily Vespers	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Aug 1</b> <b>Procession of the Cross</b> 9:00am Loaves and Fishes food prep 5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Great Vespers 6:45pm Confession

Please consult the Sunday bulletin for changes to the monthly calendar.

TENT