



ST MARY MAGDALENE FEBRUARY 16TH, 2025

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN RINCON/SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Scripture Readings

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (Epistle)

Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Luke 15:11-32 (Gospel)

The Lord said this parable: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

Lives of the Saints:

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to "come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong...(FLIP OVER)

FEB Birthdays, Names Day, & Anniversaries

- 2nd - Jordan White
- 2nd - Camron Farrell-Haynes
- 3rd - Anthony Ally
- 8th - Mat. Yvonne Matsko
- 11th - Heath Vincent
- 18th - Andreas Savasir

SCHEDULE

February 22nd:
Great Vespers (5 PM)

February 23rd:
Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

WISDOM

"He heals those who are sick; He raises those who are fallen; He gives a helping hand to those who have stumbled; He brings back him who has wandered."

- St. Cyril of Alexandria

"In a few words the Lord... has shown in the person of one man how the deceptive sweetness of sin separates us from the truly sweet life according to God."

- St. John of Kronstadt

"That prodigal son also the father's patience receives, and clothes, and feeds, and makes excuses for, in the presence of the angry brother's impatience."

- St. John Chrysostom

WEEKLY JOKES

A dentist and a manicurist had a terrible fight. They fought tooth and nail.

Roses are red, Chocolates are nice. But you'll get yours today, Since they're both marked half price.

Prayers for my sister in law's husband, who very tragically got her nothing for Valentine's Day, when she specifically told him she wanted nothing for Valentine's Day.

COME AND SEE! YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Lives of the Saints Continued:

(Luke 15:11-24). After the Polyeleion at Matins, we first hear the lenten hymn "By the Waters of Babylon." It will be sung for the next two Sundays before Lent begins, and it serves to reinforce the theme of exile in today's Gospel. Starting tomorrow, the weekday readings summarize the events of Holy Week. On Monday we read Saint Mark's account of the Entry into Jerusalem. On Tuesday we read how Judas went to the chief priests and offered to betray the Lord. On the night before His death Christ tells His disciples that one of them will betray Him. He also predicts that they will desert Him, and that Peter will deny Him three times. On Wednesday the Gospel describes how Judas betrayed the Savior with a kiss. Thursday's Gospel tells how Jesus was questioned by Pilate. On Friday we read the narrative of Christ's crucifixion and death.

Serving Our Community

Weekly Church Clean-up (through March 30):

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4BAAAC23ABF49-52968691-weekly>

Maintenance Items and Projects:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4BAAAC23ABF49-52940655-maintenance>

Coffee Hour (February):

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoE48ADAD2DA0F94-54799493-february>

Church School

Parents, if you have not yet filled out the registration form, see Jeanie.

St. Christopher Society: (Carpool Volunteering)

We still need volunteers to sign up and over the coming weeks/months will put together a special directory that will be available on our website (with a Google Map and pins). Please see me if interested.

All links on our website (under the Calendar tab): <https://www.stmmo.org/calendar>

2024 Financial Statements

Individual Financial Statements for last year are in the Narthex for picking up. If you cannot find yours, please see Ron.

Tithing Envelopes

Tithing envelopes are available in the Narthex. Feel free to take some if you prefer to give privately.

Youth Schedules Needed

To reiterate what I stated in my annual report, I am again asking that you all provide me with your children's schedules—whether it's ball games, recitals, competitions, or other events—so that I can do my best to be there and cheer them on (and trust me I will...I'll be the loudest one there).

Diocesan Pastoral Conference (February 18th-20th)

I will be away for the Diocesan Conference in Dallas this week. If there are any emergencies, please contact me or Dn. Vasily as normal.

Parish Council Meeting (Next Sunday - February 23rd)

Sunday of Orthodoxy (March 8th)

On Saturday, March 8th we will be having Fr. James Bozeman and his parish, St. James (Beaufort) with us to celebrate the Vespers for Sunday of Orthodoxy. Normally this service is done on a Sunday night but we felt it would be more fitting liturgically if it was served on the actual Sunday time (being that our Vespural services are the night before) so it will be on that Saturday night in a month's time. I will also be reaching out to St. Paul Orthodox Church to invite them as well. For this evening, we are going to have a Lenten Potluck.

Lenten Service: Homeless Care Bags (March 15th - 1 PM)

On March 15th, we will meet at the hall to assemble care bags for the homeless. These bags will then be given out to all parishioners to put in their cars so that you have something any time you encounter someone in need. In the meantime, we are collecting donations of zip lock bags (the large ones), socks, gloves, hygiene items, bottled water, non-perishable snacks, and first aid supplies. If you are able to donate any of these items, please let me know. We will store all of them in my office.

Monthly Parish Financial Report (As of February 14th, 2025):

January	February
Income Goal: \$9,610	Income Goal: \$11,535
Collections: \$10,039	Collections: \$5,720
Difference: \$429 / 4.46%	Difference: -\$5,815 / -50.41%

PRIEST: Fr. Stephen Osburn [702-521-6988](tel:702-521-6988) | **DEACON:** Dn. Vasily Kocher [912-756-5178](tel:912-756-5178)

E-MAIL: frsteve@osburnfamily.com | STMMOCA.org | Facebook.com/St.MaryMagdaleneRincon

Confessions Every Saturday Before and After Vespers or By Appointment

Prayer List

Living

Clergy: Abp. Benjamin, Abp. Nathaniel, Abp. Alexander, Met. Isaiah, Fr. Matthew

Community: Tammy, Litsa, child Lilliana, Carl, Christina, Olga, Rita, Lucinda and her newborn child Ciana Rose, Jamie, Alexandra, Dorothy, Issac, Ron, Sandy, Donald, Cole, Marco, Joseph, Chad, Landin, Austin, Catherine Ann, Katherine, Jeff, David, Andrew, Eftihia

Catechumens: Andrew, Braden, Camilo, Chandler, Dan, Dusty, Evan, Felix, Garrett, Jordan, Kamaka, Kate, Kendra, Megan, Nathan, Nicole, Rachel, Sherrell, Van, William, Winry, Wyatt, Camron, Jason

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 and USA.

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

Departed

Abp. Anastasios, Fr. Symeon, Fr. John, Fr. George, Ronald, George, Veronica, Braswell, Dolores, Alkinoi, David

Youth Group

Man of God Movie (March 22nd): After Vespers on the 22nd of March, we will gather for a movie over at the Hall, to watch and discuss the film Man of God. We have a TV but are in need of a white screen for outside, since we do have the Somichs' bringing a projector. Also, it will be a Lenten potluck dinner that evening. Everyone is welcome!

Brett and Lucia Baby Registry: If you still want to purchase something for their registry you can do so here (It is also included in the weekly email): <https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/brett-tomlinson-lucia-tomlinson-february-2025-springfield/>