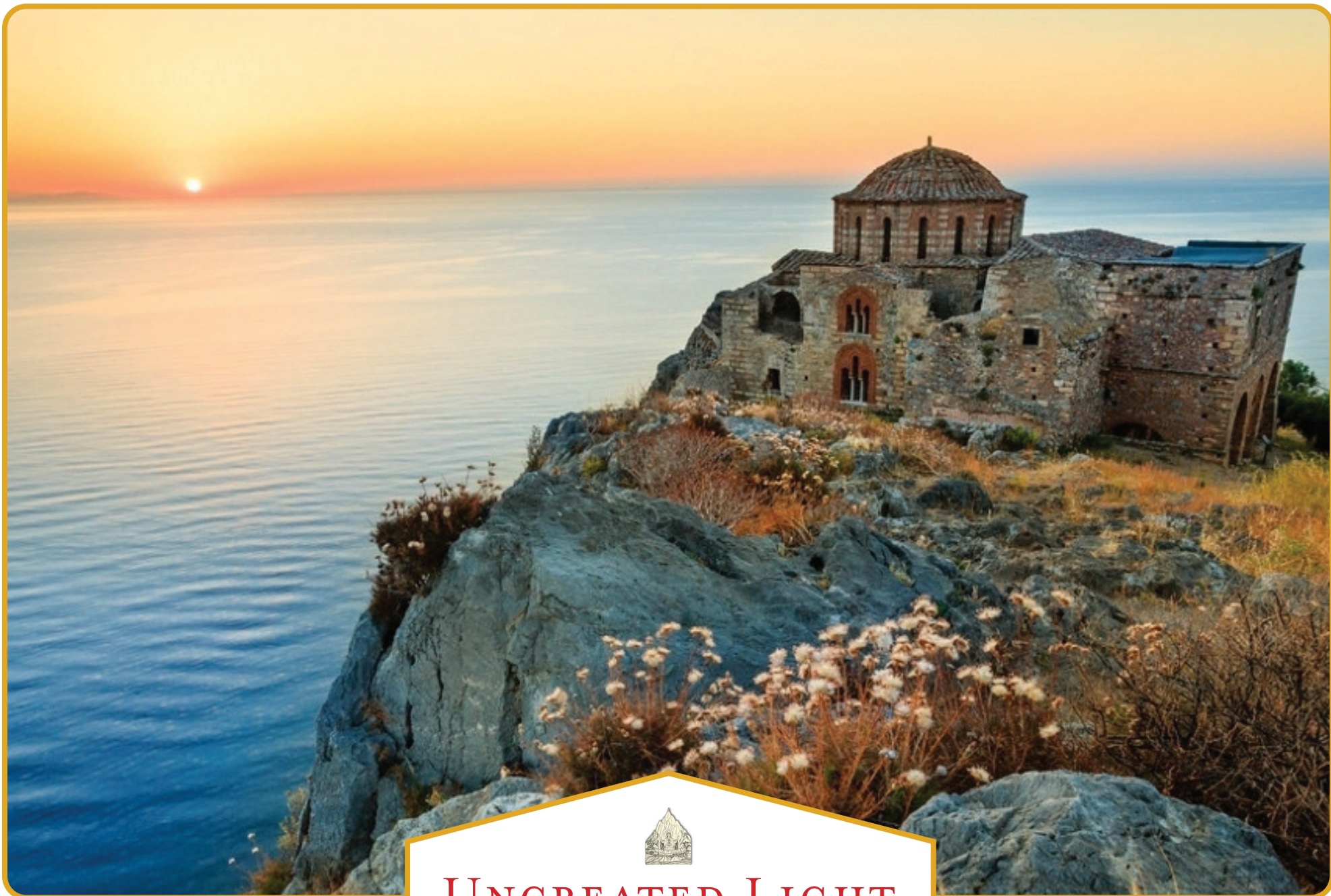




UNCREATED LIGHT

ORTHODOX STUDENT PLANNER

2026—2027



UNCREATED LIGHT: ORTHODOX STUDENT PLANNER 2026–2027

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Fasting symbols by Yorlmar Campos from Noun Project.

On the cover: The 12th-century church of Holy Wisdom (*Hagia Sophia*) resisting the passing of the centuries in the historic Roman fortress that rises 300 meters above the Aegean Sea, overlooking the town of Monemvasia, Greece. (See also *October* in this planner.)

The prayers are taken from the Great Horologion, ©1997, Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Brookline, MA.

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Subjects:

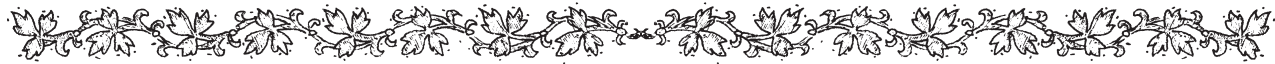
- I. Orthodox Christian Education
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UNCREATED LIGHT

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STUDENT PLANNER

2026-2027



THIS PLANNER BELONGS TO:

NAME _____

GRADE _____

SCHOOL _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____





Dearest to Christ, beloved students,

You hold in your hands the *Uncreated Light Orthodox Student Planner 2026–2027*, third in our series, dedicated to the Children Saints of the Church.

The Children Saints teach us that holiness is not reserved only for adults. From their earliest years, they loved God wholeheartedly, remained faithful to Christ amidst trials, showed compassion to those around them, and sought to do His will in all things. Though they were children like you, they became shining lights in the world through their faith, obedience, purity, courage, and love.

As you begin this school year, remember that every day is a gift from God and an opportunity to grow in wisdom, virtue, and holiness. Whether you are studying, praying, helping your family, serving your parish, or showing kindness to a friend, you are learning to live in and for Christ.

May the examples of these Children Saints inspire you to pray every day, participate faithfully in the life of the Church, honor your parents and teachers, and use the talents God has given you for His glory. When challenges arise, do not be discouraged. Trust in the Lord, ask for the prayers of the Saints, and remember that God is always near those who seek Him. Through the prayers of our Children Saints, may God grant you a blessed and fruitful school year!

In Christ Jesus,
Father Peter Heers
Founder of Uncut Mountain Press

ABOUT THE PLANNER

HOW TO USE THE PLANNER:

As Orthodox Christians, our lives revolve around the Church calendar, and so does this planner. Designed to better equip you to walk with the Saints, this planner offers you the following:

- Monthly planning pages to look ahead and consider your goals, important dates, and general tasks, track your daily prayer rule, and write notes.
- A class schedule spread with a page for each semester.
- Fifty-two weekly planner pages.
- A nine-week calendar for Nativity, following the November calendar, and an eleven-week calendar for Great Lent and Bright Week, following the February calendar.
- A children's guide to prepare for Confession.
- On the monthly calendars, the date above is according to the New Calendar, as are the feasts and saints that are listed next to it. The Old Calendar date is given in smaller font below each New Calendar date. For example, on the 14th of September (New Style, NS), when those on the New are celebrating the Elevation of the Precious Cross, those on the Old are celebrating the feast of the 1st of September, the Ecclesiastical New Year (see example to the right). Note that this does not apply to the festal cycle of Pascha, which is celebrated simultaneously on both calendars.



- Major feasts are highlighted in red, fasting days are highlighted in light beige, while Bright Week is highlighted in bright gold.

While the overall fasting schedule for the Church is uniform, there are some slight variations among local churches or traditions with regard to whether a fast is strict or it allows for wine and oil, or for fish. Within the calendar you will find further details about these variations. When in doubt, consult your spiritual father.

As this calendar contains sacred images (e.g. icons), we ask that you not throw it out at the end of the year, but either burn it or cut out the icons and use them in a respectful manner.

On the monthly calendars, the Church's fasting days are denoted using the following symbols:



Strict Fast: No meat, fish, dairy, wine or oil.



Wine and Oil: No meat, fish, or dairy.



Fish, Wine and Oil: No meat or dairy.



Dairy, Fish, Wine & Oil: No meat.

Feasts & Saints of the Day (NS)

New Calendar Date	→	14	Elevation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross
Old Calendar Date	→	1	
Fasting Symbols	→		
See Further Details	→	*	
Tone of the Week	→	Plagal 1st Tone	
Scriptural Readings	→	1 Corinthians 1:18-24 John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35	



WHY DO WE PLAN?



ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DAILY SCHEDULE IN OUR LIFE

One of the duties that the memorable Elder Joseph first taught the disciples under his wise guidance was orderliness and the daily schedule, while he spoke very disparagingly of disorder.

He would often refer to the saying of Saint Ephraim the Syrian: “Those who have no self-governing fall like the leaves...”

Elder Joseph used to relate many incidents from the lives of contemporary ascetics regarding their precise observance of the daily schedule. He used to say that the beginning of acquiring character and personality lies in the insistence to follow a scheduled and systematic way of life.

A man who has made the decision to keep inviolate the schedule acquires determination and bravery, which are very important and necessary in our life, since our (spiritual) struggle is a battle, and a fierce one at that.

Another vital reason that necessitates having a schedule is that after the fall of Adam, man’s character is unstable and

fluid. Also, the comprehensive sinfulness that accompanies each one of us blunts our courage and decisiveness.

Our inexperience, our ignorance, the unknown form of the invisible warfare and its inequality naturally increase our discouragement. No other human factor reinforces our success (in this warfare) as much as strong and persistent decisiveness and a methodical schedule.

—*Saint Joseph the Hesychast*

+ 15/28 August 1959

From the book by Elder Joseph of Vatopedi,
Elder Joseph the Hesychast: Life and Teachings





MORNING PRAYERS

IN the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then the introductory prayers:

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Heavenly King, O Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art everywhere present and fillest all things, O Treasury of every good and Bestower of life; come and dwell in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, be gracious unto our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's Sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

OUR Father, Which art in the Heavens, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Then the following Troparia to the Holy Trinity:

As we arise from sleep, we fall down before Thee, O Good One, and we cry unto Thee with the

PRAYERS

hymn of the Angels, O Mighty One: Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O God. Through the Theotokos, have mercy on us.

Glory.

HAVING raised me from bed and from sleep, O Lord, enlighten my mind and my heart, and open Thou my lips that I may praise Thee, O Holy Trinity. Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O God. Through the Theotokos have mercy on us.

Both now.

OF a sudden the Judge shall come, and the deeds of each shall be laid bare. But let us cry out with fear in the midst of the night: Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O God. Through the Theotokos have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy. (12)

And the following prayer:

As I rise from sleep I thank Thee, O Holy Trinity, for because of Thy great goodness and long-suffering Thou wast not wroth with me, the slothful and sinner, nor didst Thou destroy me in mine iniquities, but didst show Thy wonted love for man, and when I was prostrate in despair, Thou didst raise me to keep the morning watch and glorify Thy dominion. And now enlighten Thou the eyes of my mind, open my mouth to meditate on Thy words and to understand Thy commandments, and to do Thy will, and to chant unto Thee in heartfelt confession, and praise Thine All-holy Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O come, let us worship and fall down before our King and God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and God.



O come, let us worship and fall down before Him, Christ the King and our God.

PSALM 50

HAVE mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression.

Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me.

Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged.

For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me.

For behold, Thou has loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me.

Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.

Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice.

Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me.

I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee.

Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness.

O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise.

	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
1	ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR	PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS			CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD	
2						MEETING OF THE LORD
3						
4						
5						
6					THEOPHANY	
7						
8	NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS					
9				THE CONCEPTION BY ST. ANNA OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS		
10						
11						
12						
13						
14	ELEVATION OF THE CROSS					
15			NATIVITY FAST BEGINS			
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21			THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE			SUNDAY OF PUBLICAN & PHARISEE (THE TRIODION BEGINS)
22						
23						
24						
25				CHRISTMAS: NATIVITY OF CHRIST		
26						
27						
28						SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON
29						
30						
31						



FIRST SEMESTER



CLASS SCHEDULE

COURSE	INSTRUCTOR	LOCATION	PERIOD/TIME	M	T	W	TH	F

DAILY HABITS

TIME(S)	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY

GOALS	PRIORITIES



SEPTEMBER



Church of Saint Mamas (18th century), where his relics lie, in the occupied town of Morphou, Cyprus

Source: <https://www.arrivalguides.com/en/Travelguide/CYPRUS/doandsee/guzelyurt-morphou-133675>

SAINT MAMAS

SAINTE MAMAS was from Paphlagonia, a region of Asia Minor. His pious parents Theodotus and Rufina were arrested for their Christian Faith and died in prison, but not before Rufina had given birth to a little boy, whom they entrusted to God's providence. A rich Christian widow adopted the boy and raised him as her own son in the Christian Faith. By his conversations and example, young Mamas converted many of his peers to the Faith. When the governor was informed of this, he had the 15-year-old Mamas arrested; yet out of respect for the boy's illustrious parentage, he sent him off to the emperor Aurelian (270-275). The emperor tried at first kindly, then with threats, to turn Mamas back to the pagan faith, but all in vain. The saint bravely confessed himself a Christian and pointed out the madness of their worship of lifeless idols. Infuriated, the emperor tried to drown the saint, but an angel saved Mamas and bade him live on a mountain in the wilderness, not far from Caesarea in Cappadocia. Obeying God's will, the saint built a chapel there and lead a life of temperance, fasting and prayer. Soon he received power over the forces of nature: wild beasts gathered at his abode and listened to the reading of the Holy Gospel. Saint Mamas nourished himself on the milk of wild goats and deer. The saint did not ignore the needs of his neighbors. Preparing cheese from this milk, he gave it away to the poor. Soon the fame of Mamas's life spread throughout all of Caesarea.

The governor sent a detachment of soldiers to arrest him. At first, the soldiers mistook him for a shepherd. The saint gave them a drink of milk and then told them his name, knowing that death for Christ awaited him. The servant of God told the servants of the Emperor to go on ahead of him into Caesaria. The soldiers waited for him at the gates of the city, and Mamas, accompanied by a lion, met them there. Surrendering himself into the hands of the torturers, Mamas was tried by a deputy governor named Alexander, who subjected him to intense and prolonged tortures. Yet they could not break the saint's will, who was strengthened by words from above: "Be strong and take courage, Mamas."

When they threw Mamas to the wild beasts, these creatures would not touch him. Finally, one of the pagan priests struck him with a trident. Mortally wounded, Mamas went out beyond the city limits. There, in a small stone cave, he gave up his spirit to God, Who in the hearing of all summoned the holy martyr Mamas into His heavenly habitation. He was buried by believers at the place of his death. Christians soon began to receive help from him in their afflictions and sorrows. In the seventh century, Roman frontiersmen (*Akritai*) who were stationed to Cyprus brought with them the bier of Saint Mamas, whom they had as their patron, and built a church for him, which then became the Cathedral of the Bishopric of Morphou.



LIFETIME: A.D. 250 - 275

BIRTHPLACE: Paphlagonia, Asia Minor

FEAST DAY: September 2nd



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 19 Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year Symeon the Stylite 40 Virgin Martyrs <i>1 Timothy 2:1-7</i> <i>Luke 4:16-22</i>	2 20 Martyr Mamas John the Faster, patriarch of Constantinople <i>2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5</i> <i>Mark 3:13-21</i>	3 21 Translation of the relics of Saint Nectarius, bishop of Pentapolis Hieromartyr Anthimus <i>2 Corinthians 9:12-15, 10:1-7</i> <i>Mark 3:20-27</i>	4 22 Prophet Moses Hieromartyr Babylas <i>2 Corinthians 10:7-18</i> <i>Mark 3:28-35</i>	5 23 Prophet Zacharias, father of Saint John the Baptist <i>2 Corinthians 11:5-21</i> <i>Mark 4:1-9</i>
6 24 Miracle of the Archangel Michael at Chonae Martyr Calodote <i>1 Corinthians 2:6-9</i> <i>Matthew 22:15-22</i>	7 25 Martyr Sozon Cassiani the Hymnographer <i>4th Tone</i> <i>Galatians 6:11-18</i> <i>John 3:13-17</i>	8 26 Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos Sophronius, Bishop of Iberia <i>Philippians 2:5-11</i> <i>Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28</i>	9 27 Righteous Joachim & Anna Commemoration of the Fathers of the 3rd Ecumenical Council <i>2 Corinthians 12:20-13:2</i> <i>Mark 4:24-34</i>	10 28 Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora & Nymphodora Poulcheria the Empress <i>2 Corinthians 13:3-13</i> <i>John 3:16-21</i>	11 29 Theodora of Alexandria Euphrosynus the Cook <i>Galatians 1:1-3, 20-24, 2:1-5,</i> <i>John 12:19-36</i>	12 30 Hieromartyr Autonomus Hieromartyr Coronatus of Iconium <i>Galatians 2:6-10</i> <i>John 11:47-54</i>
13 31 Sunday before the Elevation Consecration of the Church of the Resurrection at Jerusalem Hieromartyr Cornelius the Centurion <i>1 Corinthians 2:6-9</i> <i>Matthew 10:37-11:1</i>	14 1 Elevation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross <i>1 Corinthians 1:18-24</i> <i>John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35</i>	15 2 Great-martyr Nicetas the Goth Symeon, Archbishop of Thessalonica <i>Galatians 2:11-16</i> <i>Mark 5:24-34</i>	16 3 Great-martyr Euphemia Martyr Ludmilla Sebastiana, Disciple of St. Paul the Apostle <i>Galatians 2:21-3:7</i> <i>Mark 6:1-7</i>	17 4 Martyrs Sophia, Faith, Hope & Love Herakleides & Myron, bishops of Cyprus <i>Galatians 3:15-22</i> <i>Mark 6:7-13</i>	18 5 Eumenius, bishop of Gortynia Martyr Ariadni <i>Galatians 3:23-4:5</i> <i>Mark 6:30-45</i>	19 6 Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius & Dorymedon Plato the New Hieromartyr of Patmos <i>Galatians 4:8-21</i> <i>Mark 6:45-53</i>
20 7 Sunday after the Elevation Great martyr Eustathius & his family Eustathius, Archbishop of Thessalonica <i>1 Corinthians 1:26-2:5</i> <i>John 8:21-30</i>	21 8 Apostle Codratus of the 70 Prophet Jonah <i>Plagal 2nd Tone</i> <i>Galatians 2:16-20</i> <i>Mark 8:34-9:1</i>	22 9 Hieromartyr Phocas, bishop of Sinope 26 martyrs of Zographou Monastery, Mt. Athos, martyred by the Latins <i>Galatians 4:28-5:10</i> <i>Luke 3:19-22</i>	23 10 Conception of Saint John the Baptist Ven. Xanthippi & Polyxeni <i>Galatians 4:22-31</i> <i>Luke 1:5-25</i>	24 11 Miracle of the Theotokos Myrtidiotissis in Kythera First Woman-Martyr Thecla, Equal-to-the-Apostles Ven. Silouan the Athonite <i>Galatians 6:2-10</i> <i>Luke 4:1-15</i>	25 12 Ven. Euphrosyne of Alexandria Paphnoutius the Martyr & his companions in Egypt Ven. Sergius of Radonezh <i>Ephesians 1:1-9</i> <i>Luke 4:16-22</i>	26 13 Apostle John the Theologian Righteous Gideon <i>1 John 4:12-19</i> <i>John 19:25-27, 21:24-25</i>
27 14 1st Sunday of Luke Martyr Callistratus & his companions Apostles Aristarchus, Zenas, Mark of the 70 Saint Akylina the New Martyr in Zagliveri <i>1 Corinthians 10:23-28</i> <i>Luke 4:31-36</i>	28 15 Chariton the Confessor Prophet Baruch Neophytus the Recluse of Cyprus <i>Grave Tone</i> <i>2 Corinthians 6:1-10</i> <i>Luke 5:1-11</i>	29 16 Kyriakus the anchorite Gr. martyr Govdelaas Martyr Gudelia of Persia <i>Ephesians 1:22-2:3</i> <i>Luke 4:38-44</i>	30 17 Hieromartyr Gregory of Armenia Martyrs Rhipsimia & Gaiani <i>Ephesians 2:19-3:7</i> <i>Luke 5:12-16</i>		“The main thing is the quality of our prayer. Prayer must be from the heart; it must be said with pain and compassion.” <i>—St. Paisius the Athonite, “Spiritual Awakening”</i>	

SEPTEMBER



SEPTEMBER PLANNING



DATES TO REMEMBER

FEAST DAYS / APPOINTMENTS / EVENTS	
SEPT. 1	Ecclesiastical New Year
SEPT. 8	Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos
SEPT. 14	Elevation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

GOALS

SPIRITUAL	SCHOOL	HOME	PERSONAL

To Do

☐
☐
☐
☐
☐
☐
☐
☐
☐

BOOKS TO READ

NOTES

MY PRAYER RULE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

