



# HOLY ASCENSION

## ORTHODOX CHURCH

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*A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America*

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America  
His Grace Bishop BASIL, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America

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**Sunday, September 20, 2020**

**Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross; Saints of the Day: Great-Martyr Eustathios and his family; Venerable-Martyr Hilarion of St. Anne Skete on Athos; Venerable John of Crete; Martyrs Michael, Prince of Chernigov, and his councilor Theodore**

**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS** – We are very happy to have you worshipping with us today. After the service, please join us for coffee hour in the Parish Hall so we can get to know you.

**RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION** – We believe that the reception of Holy Communion is the highest expression of our unity in the ancient Orthodox Christian faith. While we work and pray for true unity among all Christians, it is not a reality at this time. For this reason, Communion may only be received by members of the Orthodox Church who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and recent confession. Everyone, however, is welcome and encouraged to venerate the Cross and receive blessed bread following the dismissal.

**PARENTS & CHILDREN** – We enjoy having children with us in worship as much as possible. A little Commotion is no reason to take them out of a service, but sometimes they may need to be taken out of church, so as not to become a distraction. In these situations, parents are welcome to use the alcove to the right of the sanctuary entrance, where there is a window that allows you to see the service. There is also an unstaffed nursery downstairs, which you are welcome to use as needed.

# VARIABLES IN TODAY'S DIVINE LITURGY

## THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

*The service begins on page 37 in the red pew book ("Orthros and Divine Liturgy"); the letter symbols below are coordinated with the book, to help you follow along.*

### **A** The 1<sup>st</sup> Antiphon

O God, my God, attend to me; why hast thou forsaken me? Far from my salvation are the words of my transgressions.

**Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.**

My God, I will cry by day, and wilt thou not hearken? And by night, and it shall not be unto folly for me. But as for thee, thou dwellest in the sanctuary, O Praise of Israel.

**Through the intercessions...**

Glory ... Now...

**Through the intercessions...**

### **B** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Antiphon

O God, why hast thou cast us off unto the end? Remember thy congregation which thou hast purchased from the beginning.

**Save us, O Son of God, who wast crucified in the flesh, as we sing to thee: Alleluia**

This is Mount Zion wherein thou hast dwelt.

**Save us, O Son of God, who wast crucified ...**

God is our King before the ages. He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

**Save us, O Son of God, who wast crucified ...**

Glory. . . Now. . .

**Save us, O only-begotten Son. . .**

### **C** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Antiphon

The Lord reigneth, let the people rage; he sitteth upon the cherubim, let the earth be shaken. The Lord is great in Zion; and he is high above all peoples. Let them confess thy great name, for it is terrible and holy.

**Troparion of the Holy Cross – Tone 1**

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance, granting to thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of thy Cross preserving thy commonwealth.

### **D** The Entrance Hymn – *As usual...*

## **E** Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 6

When Mary stood at thy grave, looking for thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to thee.

## **Troparion of the Holy Cross – Tone 1**

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance, granting to thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of thy cross preserving thy commonwealth.

## **Troparion of St Eustathios and His Family– Tone 4 (To the melody *Be quick to anticipate*)**

Thy martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for thee \* received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from thee, our immortal God. \* For since they possessed thy strength, they cast down the tyrants \* and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. \* O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since thou art merciful.

## **Troparion of the Ascension – Tone 4**

Thou ascended in glory, Christ our God, making the disciples rejoice with the promise of the Holy Spirit; assuring them through thy blessing that thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

## **Kontakion of the Holy Cross – Tone 4 (The original melody)**

Thou who wast raised up on the cross of thine own will, O Christ our God, do thou bestow thy compassions upon this, thy new commonwealth named after thee. Gladden with thy sovereign might our most Orthodox hierarchs, and vouchsafe them victory over every false teaching; and as thy help in war may they possess the weapon of peace, the trophy invincible.

## **F** The Thrice-Holy Hymn – *As usual...*

## **G**

### THE EPISTLE

O Lord, how magnificent are your works. You have made all things in wisdom.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul.

### **The reading is from St Paul's Letter to the Galatians (2:16-20).**

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the Law but through faith in Jesus Christ. Even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the Law, because by works of the Law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the Law died to the Law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the

life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**Alleluia Verses:**

- v. Draw your bow and prosper and reign, for the cause of truth and meekness and justice.
- v. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

**THE GOSPEL**

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Mark. (8:34-9:1)**

The Lord said, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

**H** The Megalynarion – *As usual...*

**I** The Communion Hymn – *As usual...*

**J** “We have seen the true Light...”

**THIS WEEK AT HOLY ASCENSION**

Monday, Sept 21	7pm Men's Study Group on Zoom
Tuesday, Sept 22	8pm OCF at the Powers home
Wednesday, Sept 23	6pm Paraklesis to the Theotokos (open to the public)
Saturday, Sept 26	9am Divine Liturgy (signup required) 12:30pm Vacation Church School on Zoom 5pm Great Vespers (open to the public)
Sunday, Sept 27	8:45am Orthros (signup required) 10am Divine Liturgy (signup required)