

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
TONE 7 / EOTHINON 5
SUNDAY AFTER THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

GREAT-MARTYR EUSTATHIOS AND HIS FAMILY;
VENERABLE-MARTYR HILARION OF ST. ANNE SKETE ON ATHOS

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

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

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O 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. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... (*Refrain*)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

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

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast crucified in the flesh, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

This is Mount Zion wherein Thou hast dwelt. (*Refrain*)

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

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD 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.

- *During the Little Entrance, after the verses of the Third Antiphon, **chant the Apolytikion of the Holy Cross**. The Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) is "O come, let us worship... save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead..." After the Little Entrance, chant these hymns in the following order:*

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SEVEN (KAZAN) (CROW)

Thou didst abolish death by Thy Cross; Thou didst open Paradise to the thief; Thou didst transform the myrrh-bearers' lamentation, and didst bid Thine Apostles to preach that Thou art risen, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

APOLYTIKION OF THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE

(CHANT) (CHORAL)

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.

- *Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.*

KONTAKION OF THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE FOUR

(***Thou Who wast raised up***) (CHANT) (CHORAL)

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will was lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by Thy Name; make glad in Thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

THE EPISTLE

(For Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

The Lord will give strength to His people.

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord glory and honor.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul 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.

THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

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."

- *The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom continues as usual.*

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May he who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the precious and life-giving cross—as we now celebrate its Elevation—by the protection of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers; of Saint N. (*patron saint of the church*); of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

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