

# Saintly Notes

## Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14)

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**T**wo events in connection with the Honorable Cross of Christ are commemorated on this day: first, the finding of the Honorable Cross on Golgotha and second, the return of the Honorable Cross from Persia to Jerusalem.

Visiting the Holy Land, the holy Empress Helena decided to find the Honorable Cross of Christ. An old Jewish man named Judah was the only one who knew where the Cross was located, and, constrained by the empress, he revealed that the Cross was buried under the temple of Venus that Emperor Hadrian had built on Golgotha. The empress ordered that this idolatrous temple be razed and, having dug deep below it, found three crosses. While the empress pondered on how to recognize which of these was the Cross of Christ, a funeral procession passed by. Patriarch Macarius told them to place the crosses, one by one, on the dead man. When they placed the first and second cross on the dead man, the dead man lay unchanged. When they placed the third cross on him, the dead man came back to life. By this they knew that this was the Precious and Life-giving Cross of Christ. They then placed the Cross on a sick woman, and she became well. The patriarch elevated the Cross for all the people to see, and the people sang with tears: "Lord, have mercy!" Empress Helena had a silver case made and set the Honorable Cross in it.

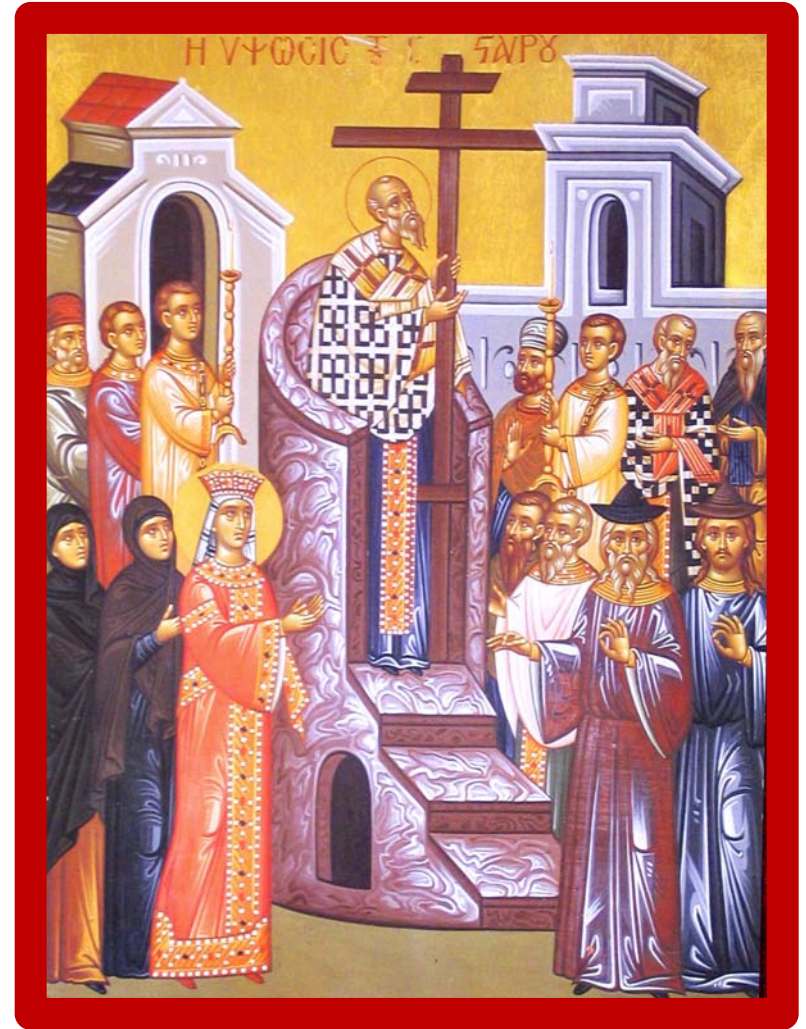
Later, the Persian Emperor Chozroes conquered Jerusalem, enslaved many people, and took the Lord's Cross to Persia. The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years. In the year 628 the Greek Emperor Heraclius defeated Chozroes and, with much ceremony, returned the Cross to Jerusalem. As he entered the city Emperor Heraclius carried the Cross on his back, but suddenly was unable to take another step. Patriarch Zacharias saw an angel preventing the emperor from bearing the Cross on the same path that the Lord had walked barefoot and humiliated. The patriarch communicated this vision to the emperor. The emperor removed his raiment and, in ragged attire and barefoot, took up the Cross, carried it to Golgotha, and placed it in the Church of the Resurrection, to the joy and consolation of the whole Christian world.

*(The Prologue from Ochrid, Birmingham, 1985, Lazarica Press)*

# Transference of Feast: Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 13, 2009

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# Transference of Feast: Exaltation of the Holy Cross

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The V. Rev. Nicholas R. A. Sorensen, Archpriest  
The Rev. Philip Pelikan, Priest  
The Rev. David Keim, Deacon

September 13, 2009

## The Saints Whom We Remember Today

Consecration of Resurrection Church in Jerusalem

### This Week's Schedule

**Today:** 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy  
**Monday:** Church Office Closed; 9:00a Lasagna Preparation  
**Wednesday:** 9:15a 3<sup>rd</sup> Hour Prayers; 6:30p Vespers; 7:30p Intro. to Orthodoxy  
**Saturday:** 5:30p Great Vespers  
**Sunday:** 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy

## First Antiphon

Refrain

Through the intercession of the Theotokos...

## Second Antiphon

Refrain

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

## Third Antiphon

Refrain & Troparion  
of the Holy Cross—Tone 1

The Lord reigneth, let the people rage; He  
sitteth upon the cherubim, let the earth be  
moved. The Lord is great in Zion; and He is  
high above all the people. Let them give  
thanks to Thy great Name, for it is holy.

*Troparion of the Holy Cross:* 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.

## Entrance Hymn

Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at  
His footstool; for He is holy. Save us, O Son  
of God, Who wast crucified in the flesh;  
who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

## Troparion

for the Resurrection—Tone 5

Let us believers praise and worship the  
Word; coeternal with the Father and the  
Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation.  
For He took pleasure in ascending the Cross  
in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the  
dead by His glorious Resurrection.

## Troparion

for the Holy Cross—Tone 1

See above.

## Troparion

of All Saints—Tone 4

As with fine porphyry and royal purple Thy  
Church has been adorned with Thy martyr's  
blood shed throughout all the world. She  
cries to Thee, O Christ God, send down Thy  
bounties on Thy people, grant peace to Thy  
habitation and great mercy to our souls.

## Kontakion

for the Exaltation

of the Holy Cross—Tone 4

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 Anti-Trisagion

Before Thy Cross we bow down . . .

## Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday:

*Epistle:* Gal. 2:16–20

*Gospel:* Mark 8:34—9:1

## Alleluyarion

Tone 8

*Magnify, O my soul, the most precious  
Cross of the Lord.*

Thou art the mystical paradise, O  
Theotokos; for that thou, being untilled,  
didst bud forth Christ, by Whom was  
planted on earth the life-giving tree of the  
Cross. Wherefore, as we adore it being  
elevated, we magnify thee.

## Communion Hymn

Tone 8

The light of Thy countenance hath been  
impressed on us, O Lord. Alleluia.

## Post-Communion Hymn

Troparion for Holy Cross—Tone 1

See above.

## Parish Notes

### Altar Servers Today

Ethan Haynes, Rim Gibrealfa, John Pridgen,  
Jonah Sieck, Michael Fogg, Justin Fogg.

### Special Attention

- **Ground Breaking for New Temple and Education Wing.** We have confirmed that the ground breaking ceremony for our new temple will be on the weekend of Oct 30–Nov 1. Bishop Antoun will be with us.
- **Church School Begins.** All Saints Church School has begun today. All our children are invited to attend. Parents. Our Church School Coordinator this year is Gretchen Ormond (469-5596).
- **Installation of Teachers and Blessing of the Children.** Today following the Divine Liturgy we will install our Church School teachers for 2009–2010, and all our Church School students will be blessed.
- **Adult Class with Fr Nicholas has Begun.** The topic will be the Sacrament of Marriage. All adults are welcome to attend.
- **"Precious in the sight of the LORD Is the death of His godly ones."** Our brother Melaku fell asleep in the Lord Monday August 31<sup>st</sup> and his funeral was on September 3<sup>rd</sup> here at All Saints. Please pray for Lichia and her three boys and for our departed brother Melaku. May his memory be eternal!

*(We are asking for and accepting donations to help cover the funeral expenses. Please make checks payable to All Saints and mark for "funeral expenses.")*

## Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

### Prokeimenion:

Exalt ye the Lord our God.

*The Lord reigneth; let the people tremble.*

### †Epistle: 1 Cor. 1:18–24 (RSV)

Brethren, the word of the Cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the cleverness of the clever I will thwart." Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

### †Gospel: John 19:6–11, 13–20, 25–28, 30–35 (RSV)

At that time, the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death. And they came to Pontius Pilate saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no crime in Him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law He ought to die, because He has made Himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where art Thou from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to Him, "Wilt Thou not speak to me? Knowest Thou not that I have power to release Thee, and power to crucify Thee?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over Me unless it had been given you from above.

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called "The

Pavement", and in Hebrew, "Gabbatha." Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed Him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus and led him away, and He went out, bearing His own Cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew "Golgotha." There they crucified Him, and with Him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the Cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

Now standing by the Cross of Jesus were His mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother, and the Disciple whom He loved standing near, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then He said to the Disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the Disciple took her to his own home. After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now fulfilled, said, "It is finished"; and He bowed His head and gave up the spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him; but when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true.

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## A Word from Our Fathers

“[Christ] came in utter meekness, the poorest of the poor with nowhere to lay His head. He had no authority, neither in the State nor even in the Synagogue founded on revelation from on High. He did not fight those who spurned Him. And it has been given to us to identify Him as the Pantocrator [Almighty] precisely because He ‘made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant’ (Phil. 2:7), submitting finally to duress and execution. As the Creator and true Master of all that exists, He had no need of force, no need to display the power to punish opposition. He came ‘to save the world’ (John 12:47), to tell us of the One True God.”

*(Archimandrite Sophrony)*

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