

The Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross September 15, 2024

Great-martyr Nikitas the Goth; Martyr Porphyrios; Vissarion, bishop of Larisa; New-martyr John; Venerable Philotheos and Cerasimos; Joseph the New of Partos, the wonder-worker, Metropolitan of Timisoara

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 unto 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... 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. (*now sing the Troparion of the Holy Cross*)

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the

first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

Troparion of the Holy Cross (Tone 1)

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance, and to thy faithful people grant victory over their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross protect all those who follow Thee.

Troparion for St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Tone 3)

Rejoice, O Father Raphael, Adornment of the holy Church! Thou art Champion of the True Faith, Seeker of the lost, Consolation of the oppressed, Father to orphans and Friend of the poor, Peacemaker and good Shepherd, Joy of all the Orthodox, Son of Antioch, Boast of America. Intercede with Christ God for us and for all who honor thee.

Kontakion of the Holy Cross (Tone 4)

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will was lifted up upon the Cross, 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.

Prokeimenon

*Sing praises to our God, sing praises.
Clap your hands all ye peoples.*

Epistle

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.

Holy Gospel

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.”

Holy Bread: Kh Meleah Palke/Carol Ofiesh/Pr Vicki Kontogiorgis

Commemorations(Living): Fr Michael, Pr Vicki, John, Corgie, Karen, Maher, Fabiola, Christopher, Steven, Jonathan, Jaime, Justin, George, Joan, Fr Tom, Kh Meleah, Stephen, Carol, Michael, Joel, Lisa, Danny, Asa, Cody, Max, Levi, Courtney, Nina, Kenneth, Alex, Beth, Janni, Dominick, Yina, Lauren, Rashid, Hala, Irina, Alex, Lauren, Aaron, Adam, Atticus, Fr. Vladimir Paul, all Orthodox missionaries, the suffering believers throughout the world.

Departed: Christina

Know your faith. The parents of the Theotokos are Joachim and Anna. The word “Theotokos” means “God-bearer” or Birthgiver of God. What term do we use to describe a saint who prays for us? Fervent Intercessor. The first feast of the “new year” is The Nativity of the Theotokos. The last feast of the liturgical year is The Dormition of the Theotokos. In John 14:2 Jesus said “In my Father’s house are many mansions...I go to prepare a place for you.” To whom did Jesus talk about being “born again”? Nicodemus. What does this mean? The new birth in Christ. “Born from above.” How does this happen in the Church? Through reception of Holy Baptism. What miracle did Jesus perform in John 2? The changing of water into wine at the wedding at Cana. The disciples were in two major storms while traveling by boat. What was Jesus doing during each storm? In Luke 8? Jesus was sleeping in the boat. In Matthew 14? After prayer to the Father, Jesus came, walking on the water, to his disciples. In Matthew 17 the disciples tried, but failed, to cast out a demon from a boy. Jesus later told them why they failed—they lacked faith. He told them that this demon cannot be cast out except by prayer and fasting.

The Elevation of the Holy Cross was observed on September 14. The Feast is a celebration of the significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. The Cross is our source of light, hope and victory.

Today we honor Lisa Hamm and her many years of service to St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Church. She is a charter member of the church and has served as Treasurer, Parish Council member, and leader of many special projects and activities of the church. May God grant her many years!



St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese

Metropolitan Saba, Primate

Bishop Thomas, Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic

Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM

Meeting at Compton Village
14401 Compton Village Dr.
Centreville, Virginia 20121

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