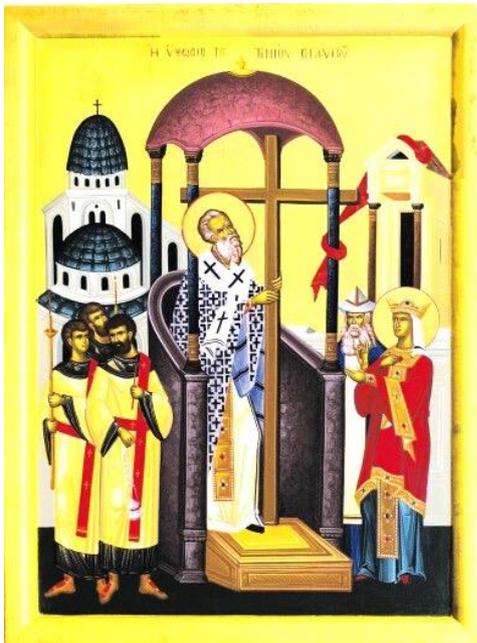




# PARISH BULLETIN

HOLY ARCHANGHEL MICHAEL'S ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

No. 226/20 September 2020



**Sunday after the  
Exaltation of the Holy  
Cross**

## **Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode Pl. 2.**

*When the angelic powers were at Thy tomb, then they that guarded Thee became as dead. And Mary stood beside the grave seeking Thine immaculate body. Thou hast despoiled Hades and wast not tried thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst grant life to us. O Thou*

*Who art risen from the dead, Lord, glory be to Thee.*

## **Seasonal Kontakion. Mode 4.**

*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.*

## **Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 2.**

**Psalm 27.9,1**

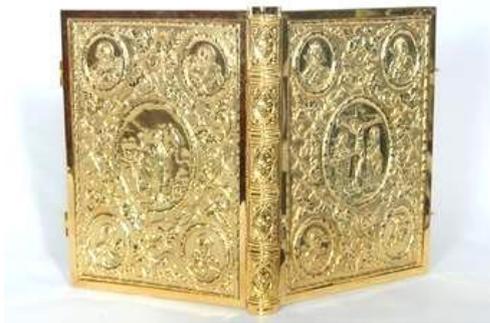
*O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.*

*Verse: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.*

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

Brethren, knowing 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 According to Mark 8:34-38; 9:1**

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to 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 life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and 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."

### **Word of the week – Reflection**

A sign of true knowledge is the ability to bear sufferings and not blame other people for the disasters that befall us. Sorrows come to us to instruct, to expunge previous sins, to correct our negligent attitude or to prevent transgressions in the future.

- *St. Maximos the Confessor*

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If you want to teach God's love, don't say anything. Try to be kind and loveable at all times.

- *St. Nikolaos Kavalas*

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It's obvious that wickedness and evil are the result of our intentions. Evil isn't part and parcel of our nature, but the result of our intentions. The devil in particular is called evil because of his excessive wickedness and because, though we've done nothing to harm him, he wages implacable warfare against us. This is why the Lord didn't say 'Deliver us from the evil ones', but 'from the evil one'. Christ trains and educates us not to turn away from other people if they do us some harm, but to direct our hatred away from them and

towards the devil, since he's the author of all wickedness.

- *St. John Chrysostom*

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Those who struggle against sin write the most beautiful pages in the book of God. Because everything's written there.

- *Elder Efsevios Yannakakis*

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The purer a heart is, the larger and more open it is, and the more easily it finds space to accommodate more people. The more sinful it is, the more it contracts, shuts down, and so it can find room for only a few.

- *St. John of Kronstadt*

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Don't worry if your mind strays sometimes during the Jesus Prayer. Just say it, because God hears and the demons are put to flight.

- *Elder Christodoulos Katounakiotis*

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The Church cures our deformation through its teaching, through the Gospel message, through asceticism, through its holy sacraments and through the pastoral care of its bishops.

- *Archimandrite Georgios Kapsanis, Abbot of the Holy Monastery of Gregoriou*

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If you deprive your soul of prayer, you'll end up like a fish out of water: as good as dead.

- *St. Basil the Great*

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Christians are earthen vessels into which divine power and light are poured. Whether this vessel sits upon a golden royal throne or lives in the dark hovel of a beggar, their value is the same in the eyes of God.

- *St. Nikolai Velimirovich*

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Knowing the wickedness of people, that is the evil that other people do, be it great or small, alters our reason. It saps our strength, because it's incongruous as regards God.

- *Elder Aimilianos Simonopetritis*

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The Jesus Prayer's a good habit. Christ enters us without our realizing.

- *Elder Christodoulos Katounakiotis*

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If the Lord allows people to be tormented by sicknesses then He'll give the strength to bear them. Those who suffer illness with patience and gratitude to God are crowned as martyrs and strivers. Just as wax can't accept a stamp unless it's first warmed and softened, so the soul can't take upon it the stamp of virtue unless it's tested with labors and illnesses.

- *St. Seraphim of Sarov*

*Quotations from Pemptousia.com*



## Liturgical Schedule for this week

|   |                 |  |
|---|-----------------|--|
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><i>September 23</i> | <b>10:00 pm</b> | <b>Vespers, Litia, Matins, Divine Liturgy – St. Silouan the Athonite</b> |
| <b>Saturday</b><br><i>September 26</i>  | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Divine Liturgy (St. John the Evangelist) &amp; Memorial</b>           |
|   | <b>5:00 pm</b>  | <b>Vespers</b>   |
| <b>Sunday</b><br><i>September 27</i>    | <b>9:00 am</b>  | <b>Matins</b>  |
|   | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Divine Liturgy</b>  |



### Announcements:

- **Happy name day** to Fr. John, Yannis Mironidis, Yannis Penna, and John DeAngelis (St. John the Evangelist – September 26th).
- **Vigil for St. Silouan the Athonite** – September 23rd at 10pm.
- **Soon: Bible Study** on Revelation Zoom & in person on Thursday Evening at 7:00?



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