

The Forerunner

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He Must increase.....and I must decrease. (John 3:30)

Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

September 14



INTRODUCTION

The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each year on September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

BACKGROUND

In the twentieth year of his reign (326), the Emperor Constantine sent his mother Saint Helen to Jerusalem to venerate the holy places and to find the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Cross. Relying upon the oral tradition of the faithful, Saint Helen found the precious Cross together with the crosses of the two thieves crucified with our Lord. However, Helen had no way of determining which was the Cross of Christ.

With the healing of a dying woman who touched one of the crosses, Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem identified the True Cross of Christ. Saint Helen and her court venerated the Precious and Life-Giving Cross along with many others who came to see this great instrument of Redemption.

The Patriarch mounted the ambo (pulpit) and lifted the Cross with both hands so that all of the people gathered could see it. The crowd responded with "Lord have mercy".

This became the occasion of the institution in all of the Churches of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, not only in memory of the event of the finding of the Cross, but also to celebrate how an instrument of shame was used to overcome death and bring salvation and eternal life.

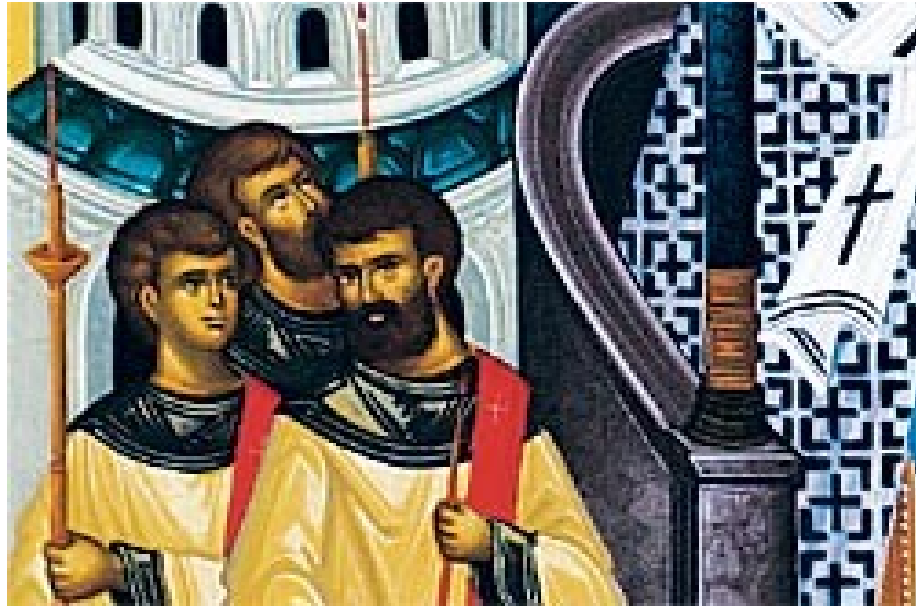
The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ's people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross, the new Tree of Life which provides nourishment for those who have been redeemed in Christ.

ICON OF THE FEAST

The icon of the Feast of the Precious Cross tells the story of the finding of the Cross and of its Exaltation. Patriarch Macarius is standing in the pulpit elevating the Cross for all to see and venerate. On each side of the Patriarch are deacons holding candles. The elevated Cross is surrounded and venerated by many clergy and lay people, including Saint Helen, the mother of Emperor Constantine.



In the background of the icon is a domed structure that represents the Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem. This church was one of the churches constructed and dedicated by Emperor Constantine on the holy sites of Jerusalem.



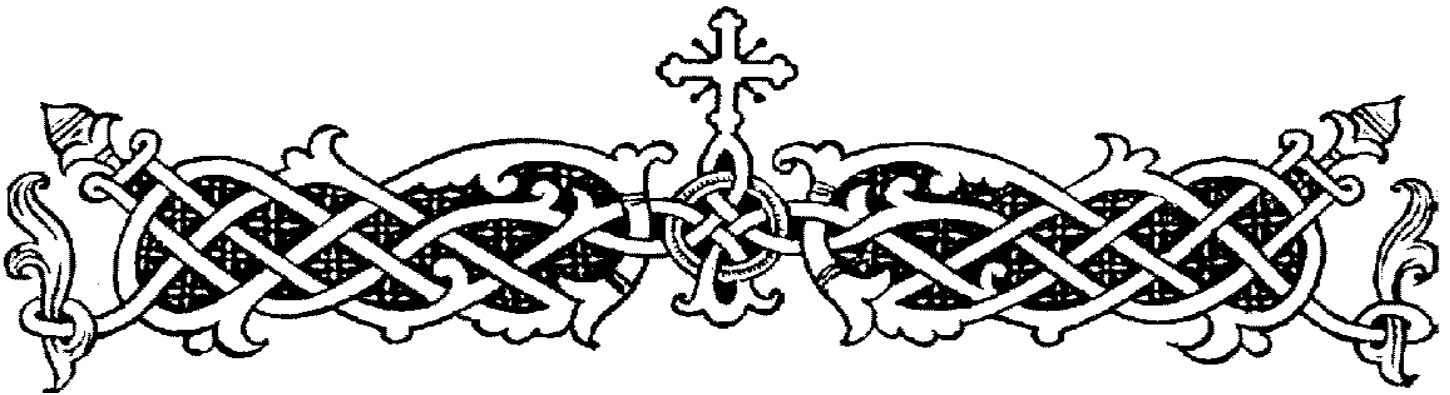
HYMNS OF THE FEAST

Troparion (First Tone)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; grant victory to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries. And by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation.

Kontakion (Fourth Tone)

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the cross for our sake, Grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God; Make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, Granting them victories over their adversaries, By bestowing on them the Invincible trophy, Thy weapon of Peace.



Calendar of Events

AUGUST

Sunday, August 3rd – 8th Sunday of Pentecost

- Resurrection Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM

Tuesday, August 5th – Eve of Transfiguration

- Vigil (Ellwood City Monastery) – 6:00 PM

Wednesday, August 6th – TRANSFIGURATION

- Divine Liturgy (Ellwood City Monastery) – 9:30 AM

- Unction (Ellwood City Monastery) – 2:30 PM

Saturday, Aug. 9th – Great Vespers & Confessions – 6:00 PM

Sunday, August 10th – 9th Sunday of Pentecost

- Resurrection Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM

Thursday, August 14th – Eve of Dormition

- Vespers (Dormition Church in Oakmont) – 7:00 PM

Friday, August 15th – DORMITION

- Dormition Divine Liturgy – 9:00 AM

Saturday, Aug. 16th Great Vespers & Confessions – 6:00 PM

Sunday, August 17th – 10th Sunday of Pentecost

- Resurrection Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM

Wednesday, August 20th – Daily Vespers – 6:30 PM

Thursday, August 21st – Moleben, St. Panteleimon – 6:30 PM

Saturday, Aug. 23rd Great Vespers & Confessions – 6:00 PM

Sunday, August 24th – 11th Sunday of Pentecost

- Resurrection Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM

Monday, August 25th - Perogie Workshop

- Morning – 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

- Evening – 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Tuesday, August 26th – Perogie Workshop and Pickup

- Workshop – 8:00 AM – Done

- Pickup – 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Friday, August 29th – Beheading of the Forerunner

- Divine Liturgy – 9:00 AM

Saturday, Aug. 30th Great Vespers & Confessions – 6:00 PM

Sunday, August 31st – 12th Sunday of Pentecost

- Resurrection Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM

SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 1st – Church New Year

- Festal Divine Liturgy – 9:00 AM

Wednesday, September 3rd – Daily Vespers – 6:30 PM

Thursday, Sept. 4th – Moleben, St. Panteleimon – 6:30 PM

Saturday, Sept. 6th Great Vespers & Confessions – 6:00 PM

Sunday, September 7th – 13th Sunday of Pentecost

- Resurrection Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM (NOTE TIME!)

Monday, September 8th – Nativity of the Mother of God

- Festal Divine Liturgy – 9:00 AM

Wednesday, September 10th – Daily Vespers – 6:30 PM

Saturday, Sep. 13th Great Vespers & Confessions – 6:00 PM

Sunday, September 14th – Exaltation of the Cross

- Resurrection/Exaltation Liturgy – 10:00 AM

Wednesday, September 17th – Daily Vespers – 6:30 PM

Thursday, Sept. 18th – Moleben, St. Panteleimon – 6:30 PM

Saturday, Sep. 20th Great Vespers & Confessions – 6:30 PM

Sunday, September 21st – 15th Sunday of Pentecost

- Resurrection Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM

Wednesday, September 24th – Daily Vespers – 6:30 PM

Saturday, Sep. 27th Great Vespers & Confessions – 6:00 PM

Sunday, September 28th – 16th Sunday of Pentecost

- Resurrection Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM

Wednesday, October 1st – Protection of the Mother of God

- Festal Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM

Altar Candles

Thursday, May 29th - donated by Fr. Paul and Matushka Helen Ziatyk for the health and well-being of Barb and Bob Haught, and Nick Bia.

Sunday, June 1st - donated by Fr. Paul and Matushka Helen Ziatyk for the Health and well-being of Damien Ziatyk on his 1st birthday, as well as Julianne and Lon Dailey on their Wedding Anniversary.

Saturday, June 7th - donated by Alice Eframo in memory of Arnold Paulson, and the memory of Pauline Johnny, Fred Eframo, Wasil Eframo, Anna Golubowska, and Seleny Crosby.

Sunday, June 8th - donated for the health and well-being of

Megan Kennedy in honor of her graduation from High School!

Sunday, June 15th - donated by Marlene Wray and Linda Soulcheck in memory of their Mother, Anastasia (Nancy) Wray.

3 Candles at the Icon to St. Panteleimon - donated by Subdeacon Harry and Catherine Papaila for the health and well-being of Dorothy Chlodney on her birthday.

Sunday, June 22nd - donated by Alice Eframo in memory of Arnold Paulson, and the memory of Pauline Johnny, Fred Eframo, Wasil Eframo, and Anna Golubowska.

Tuesday, June 24th (St. John's Nativity) - donated by Judy Goldberg and Joan Mitchum in memory of John and Jessie Fritzky.

Sunday, June 29th - donated by for the health and well-being of Marlene Wray on her birthday!

Sunday, July 6th - donated by for the health and well-being of Martin and Dawn Miller on their 9th wedding Anniversary.

Sunday, July 13th - donated for the health and well-being of Dawn Miller on her birthday!

Sunday, July 20th - donated by Fr. Paul and Matushka Helen Ziatyk in memory of Isabel Radon.

Sunday, July 27th - donated by Valerie Kennedy, for the

health and well-being of Alan Miller on his 4th birthday!

3 Candles at the Golgotha: - donated by Alice Eframo in memory of Arnold Paulson

3 Candles at the Golgotha - donated in memory of Pauline Johnny, Fred Eframo, Wasil Eframo, Anna Golubowska

Sunday, August 3rd - donated in memory of the newly departed, Tatiana Richards. May her memory be eternal!

3 Candles at the Golgotha - donated by Father Paul and Matushka Helen in memory of the newly departed, Ed Sirochman.

Perogie Making

Next Perogie workshops will be:

August 25th and 26th

October 20th and 21st

Thank You!

Perogies 6/8 - 6/10: Fr. Paul, Fr. Nikolai, Bruce Parshook, Alexis Parshook, Donald Rywak, Frank Kaminsky, Mark and Susan Kennedy, Joan Hughes, Barbara Haught, Valerie Kennedy, Becky Hixson, Donald and Dorothy Chlodney, Richard and Elaine Duncan, Evelyn Herrick, Marion Kuniak, Mary Joyce, Pam and Bob Kraynik, Leon and Ellie Parshook, and Kita Georgevich.

Rolls: Barbara Haught, Dorothy and Donald Chlodney, Fr. Nikolai, Leon Parshook, and Joan Hughes

Summer Food Festival: Fr. Nikolai, Bruce Parshook, Alexis Parshook, Donald and Dorothy Chlodney, Mark and Susan Kennedy, Barbara and Robert Haught, Valerie Kennedy, Jean Trebilcock, Joan Hughes, Hope Cain, Seraphim and Mary Joyce, Robert Abt, Matushka Helen, Becky Hanes, Rdr. Matthew Kowasic, Julliane Dailey.



Vigils 6/1 - 7/27

Alan Kennedy – 7 Valentine – 1 Lubov – 1 Joan Hughes – 1	Faith Hughes – 1 Gary Patz -1 Mary Eror & Christine Scott – 1 Tammie, Dominic, Miabella Scarano - 1	Lauren Cattone -1 Jerry Wheaton – 1 Patrick Rabickow - 1 Tyler Ciuca - 1
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FATHERs Day Vigils Living Fathers

Martin Miller Jay Rinebolt Mark Kennedy Richard Zalupski Melvin Miller James White John White Bob Haught Jim Purdy	Brent Hanes Pat Hanes Andrew Kuniak Jr. James Kuniak David Fry Philip Weremeychik Jr. Father Paul Ziatyk Mark Ziatyk	Paul Ziatyk Jerry Colclaser Bruce Parshook Leon Parshook Bob Hughes Eric Scarano George Nick Eror Paul Eror
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Departed FATHERS

Alex Papaila George Salovich Alan Kennedy Stanley Richard Zalupski Harry Fritzky Jacob Zalupski Stanley Zalupski Eugene Miller Ray Beveridge John Temchak Philip Weremeychik Sr. Adrian Weremeychik	Theodore Sudia Andrew Kuniak Sr. Toivo Laitinen Venice Pelisari Harold Haught Jim Purdy John Ziatyk Mitro Ziatyk John Thomas Walter Radon John Antonuk	John Parshook Archie Parshook Alvador Nightwine Philip Kaminsky Archie Parshook Richard Kapezynski John Klos Peter Wanchisen George Eror Nicholas Sprock Thomas Sprock Pete Sprock
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NEW CHURCH BOILER NEEDED!



A few months ago, the boiler inspector came, and informed us that the current Church Boiler (installed when the Church was built) is at risk of catastrophic failure within the next year.

In order to be proactive, and not be left out in the cold (literally!) we have requested quotes from 3 different HVAC companies and this new Boiler is likely to cost more than \$20,000 to purchase and install.

Aside from the fact that this project is needed, it will also give certain benefits. Currently, the system must be bled of air before it can even heat the Church effectively. This combined with the general inefficiency of such an old boiler means that we are wasting a lot of money in gas every winter. A new boiler will be at least 90% efficient, meaning a tremendous savings over the long term (and a lot less stress hoping that the Church will be warm enough for Liturgy!)

We are asking anyone who can help to please contribute toward the new boiler, which we hope to install very soon.

An Envelope is attached for your donation. Any amount is greatly appreciated. May God Bless you generously!

In Christ,
Priest Nikolai Breckenridge