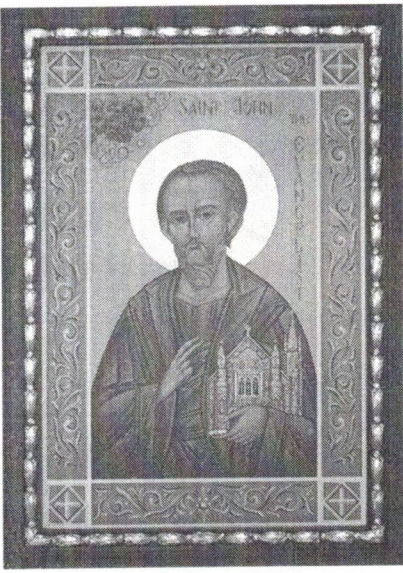




September 15, 2024



*ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH*

1501 8TH AVENUE

BEAVER FALLS, PA. 15010

(724) 847-1111

[WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG)

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK  
AND

METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE  
OF CHARLESTON, OAKLAND , AND MID-ATLANTIC

REVEREND FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER

---

---

*Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 16:23 )  
When a new person is baptized or Chrismated we say to that person, "Welcome Home!" The Church is where each person voluntarily belongs as one who believes in and belongs to Christ .*

\*\*\*\*\*

*We take this opportunity to welcome those guests worshipping with us.*

*Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer, please contact Fr. Seraphim*

*The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshipping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread.*

---

---

# DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

## TONE 3 / EOTHINON 1

### SUNDAY AFTER THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Great-martyr Nikitas the Goth and those with him

#### 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.

***after the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of the Holy Cross.***

### **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE**

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.

### **APOLYTIKION OF THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE**

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.

### **APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

O beloved Apostle of Christ God, Come quick and save a people with no recourse. He who let you rest your head on his breast, will not reject your pleas on our behalf. Beseech him then, O wise and holy theologian. Dispel from us the dark and ominous clouds of disbelief. Grant us all of his peace and great mercy.

### **KONTAKION OF THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE FOUR**

*(\*\*Thou Who wast raised up\*\*)*

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)

*Sing praises to our God, sing praises.*

*Clap your hands all ye peoples.*

**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."

## SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SERVICES

September 14th Saturday — Great Vespers 5PM

September 15th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM  
COUNCIL MEETING 12 NOON

\*SEPTEMBER 18TH WEDNESDAY — 6PM COMPLINE PRAYERS, A LIGHT MEAL, & TIME OF STUDY/FELLOWSHIP

Sept. 21st Saturday —Community Breakfast 8:30—10:30AM  
Great Vespers 5PM

September 22nd Sunday—Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

SEPTEMBER 25TH Wednesday —Evening Divine Liturgy 6PM  
REPOSE OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST & THEOLOGIAN  
A fasting buffet will follow hosted by the Parish Council.

September 28th Saturday — Great Vespers 5PM

September 29th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

\*October 2nd Wednesday — 6PM COMPLINE PRAYERS, A LIGHT MEAL, & TIME OF STUDY/FELLOWSHIP

October 5th Saturday — Great Vespers 5PM

October 6th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

October 9th Wednesday — 6PM COMPLINE PRAYERS, A LIGHT MEAL & TIME OF STUDY/FELLOWSHIP

October 12th Saturday — NO GREAT VESPERS

October 13th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

**Prayers are offered for the health and well-being of:**

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Ann, Carol, Debbie, Jim, Shannon, Aiden, Justin, Sassic Family, Harriet, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Yvonne, Mary Jo, Charlene, Cindy, Joann, and Julianna.

**For Thou are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Thy servants who have fallen asleep especially:**

Prayers are offered in memory of Infant Micah and Eleanor.

+++++

**REPORT FROM METROPOLITIAN SABA**

The following has been requested by Metropolitan Saba in a report to clergy:

- 1. “ We do not kneel in church on Sunday or during the Paschal season.”
- 2. The Metropolitan reminded the clergy that “we only offer fasting food at parish activities on fasting days.”

+++++

***THOUGHT FOR THE DAY***

“The three most comprehensive virtues of the soul and prayer, silence, and fasting. Thus you should refresh yourself with contemplation of created realities when you relax from prayer, with conversation about the life of virtue when you relax from silence, and with such food as is permitted when you relax from fasting.”

“(Elias the Presbyter).”

## FORGOTTEN FACTS ABOUT THE HOLY CROSS ELEVATION

**T**he Feast Day of the Elevation of the Holy Cross is an event whose details are engrained in the minds of all Orthodox Christians. We know of the pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 323 AD led by St. Helen - mother of the Emperor Constantine - in search of our Lord's Cross. We know that this feast received its name by virtue of the Cross being "elevated" for all to see by Patriarch Macarius after its discovery. But there are other facts about this blessed event that are often overlooked.

### Who told St. Helen to search for the Cross in the place it was found?

Tradition tells us that it was a Jew named Jude who advised the Empress. It is said that after the Cross was found, Jude was so overcome by what he witnessed that he was immediately baptized into the Church, taking the name "Cyriacus." He became a zealous follower of Christ - rising quickly to the office of Patriarch of Jerusalem.

What was initially done with the Cross? After its finding, St. Helen remained in Jerusalem, building churches in Gethsemane, Bethlehem and on the Mount of Olives. Her dream was to construct a great church over the place where our Lord was crucified and buried. She never lived to see her dream fulfilled, however, passing on into eternity before the church's completion. It was not until September 13/26, 335 AD that the magnificent Church of the Resurrection was formally consecrated. It coincided with the 30th Jubilee of Constantine's glorious reign as Emperor. The Cross would remain in the Church of the Resurrection for nearly 300 years, when King Chozroes conquered Jerusalem and carried it off to Persia. Fourteen years later, the Emperor Heraclius was able to bring it back to its rightful place in the great cathedral.

*The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin* . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.

CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES

[WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG)

**OFFICE HOURS**

By Appointment Only