

## LITURGICAL VARIABLES – SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025

### *Commemoration of All Saints*

#### FIRST ANTIPHON

It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy Name, O Most High!

**Refrain:** Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us! To proclaim in the morning Thy mercy and Thy truth by night. *(Refrain)* Upright is the Lord our God, and there is no unrighteousness in Him. *(Refrain)* Glory...Both now...*(Refrain)*

#### SECOND ANTIPHON

The Lord is King; He is clothed with majesty! The Lord is clothed with strength and hath girt Himself.

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

For He established the world which shall not be shaken. *(Refrain)* Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, unto length of days. *(Refrain)* Glory...Both now...O Only-begotten Son...

• During the Little Entrance, chant the Apolytikion of the Resurrection. Then, the following Entrance Hymn:

#### ENTRANCE HYMN OF THE RESURRECTION

Come let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

• After the Entrance, sing the hymns in the following order below:

#### RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE 8)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the threeday burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

#### APOLYTIKION OF ALL SAINTS (TONE 4)

Thy Church, O Christ God, hath regaled herself in the blood of Thy Martyrs throughout the entire world, as in porphyry and purple. Through them she lifteth her voice crying: Turn with Thy compassion toward Thy people, and grant peace to Thy city, and to our souls the Great Mercy.

#### APOLYTIKION OF ST. NICHOLAS (TONE 4)

In truth you were revealed to your flock, as a rule of faith, a model of meekness and a teacher of self-control. Therefore, you have won the heights by humility, riches by poverty. Holy Father, Bishop Nicholas, intercede with Christ our God that our souls may be saved.

#### KONTAKION OF ALL SAINTS (TONE 8)

As first-fruits of our nature to the Planter of created things, \* the world presenteth the God-bearing martyred Saints in off'ring unto Thee, O Lord. \* Through their earnest entreaties, \* keep Thy Church in deep peace and divine tranquility, \* through the pure Theotokos, O Thou Who art greatly merciful.



#### THE EPISTLE

*God is wonderful among His saints. Bless God in the congregations.*

**Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (11:33-12:2)**


Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfection of our faith.

***Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (9:36-10:8)***

At that time, when Jesus saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His Disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." And He called to Him His twelve Disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity. The names of the twelve Apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Him. These twelve Jesus sent out, charging them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And preach as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying, give without pay."

**SYNAXARION**

On this day, the Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate the feast of All Saints who shone forth throughout all the world, North and South, East and West. David the Prophet and king, who revered the beloved of God, and respected them because of his great piety, said in the Psalms, "How precious are Thy beloved unto me, O God" (138:17). And the Apostle Paul, in his Epistle to the Hebrews, recounted the lives of the saints, when he wrote, "Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that so easily besets us; and let us run with patience the race that is set before us" (12:1). Therefore, as Orthodox Christians, we honor the beloved saints of God, respecting them as keepers of God's commandments, shining examples of virtue and benefactors of humanity. We commemorate all of the holy ones every year on this day, as the list of saints ever increases, even though some of their names escape us. Nevertheless, we honor them for their piety and strive to imitate their good works.



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Welcome to our church community! We are blessed to have you worshipping with us today. We are the jurisdiction of the Orthodox Christian Church whose roots trace directly back to first century Antioch, the city in which the disciples of Jesus Christ were first called "Christians" (Acts 11:26). The Orthodox Church is the oldest and second largest Christian group in the world. We are called by God our creator to worship and follow Him, and to proclaim to the world His message of love, peace and salvation.