

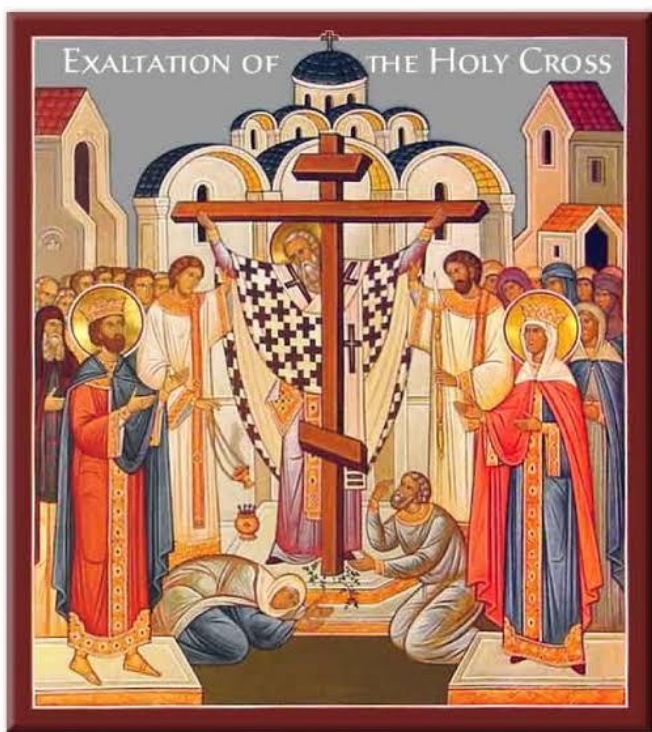


ALL SAINTS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America
4129 W. Newport Ave., Chicago, IL 60641
www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Exaltation of the Holy Cross



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Refrain of the Second Antiphon: O Son of God, who wast crucified in the flesh, save us who sing unto Thee: Alleluia!

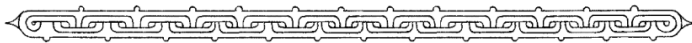
At the Small Entrance:

Entrance Hymn: Exalt ye the Lord our God; worship at His footstool, for He is holy. O Son of God, who was crucified in the flesh, save us who sing unto Thee: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Troparion for the Holy Cross (Tone 1): O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance! Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries, and by the virtue of Thy cross, preserve Thine habitation.

Kontakion of the Holy Cross (Tone 4): As You were voluntarily raised upon the cross for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Your name, O Christ God. Make all Orthodox Christians glad by Your power, granting them victories over their adversaries, by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Your weapon of peace.

In place of the Trisagion Hymn: Before Thy cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy holy resurrection, we glorify!



THE EPISTLE READING

Prokeimenon – Psalm 98:5, 1

Extol the Lord our God; worship at His footstool. Holy is He!
The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble.

**The reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians
(1:18-31)**

BRETHREN, the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.” Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom

of this world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—that, as it is written, “He who glories, let him glory in the Lord.”

Alleluia – Psalm 73:2, 13

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old, which
Thou hast redeemed to be the tribe of Thy heritage.
God my King is from of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.

THE GOSPEL READING

**The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John
(19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30)**

AT THAT TIME, when the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God.

When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?"

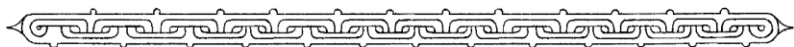
Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore he who delivered me to you has the greater sin." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gabbatha.

Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar."

Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

Then when Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.



Hymn to the Theotokos (Tone 8): Thou art the mystical paradise, O Theotokos; for that thou, being untilled, didst bud forth Christ, by whom was planted on earth the life-giving tree of the cross. Wherefore, as we adore it being elevated, we magnify thee.

Communion Hymn – Psalm 4 (Tone 8): The light of Thy countenance hath been impressed on us, O Lord. Alleluia.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

For a full calendar of events and services, visit www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Today:

- Orthros, Cross procession, & Divine Liturgy, beginning 8:30am
- Coffee hour provided by last names L-P
- Church school begins today! Children, youth, and teens will go to their designated classes after Liturgy; the adult class will be upstairs taught by Fr. Pat.

Tuesday, Sept. 15:

- Morning prayers, 9am
- Parish council meeting (online), 7:30pm

Wednesday, Sept. 16:

- Morning prayers, 9am
- Homeschool classes, 10am-4pm
- Vespers, 7pm

Thursday, Sept. 17 & Friday, Sept. 18: Morning prayers, 9am

Saturday, Sept. 19: Vespers, 7pm

Next Sunday, Sept. 20:

- Orthros & Divine Liturgy, beginning 8:30am
- Coffee hour provided by last names R-Z
- Church school for all ages follows coffee hour. Joseph Letendre will teach the adult class upstairs.

CHURCH SCHOOL: Today is the first day of church school for the 2026-27 year. Your priest would like to see ALL children, teens, and adults participating each week! Many thanks to Michelle C. and all of our teachers and staff for all of your hard work.

TOUCHSTONE CONFERENCE: Touchstone magazine will host its 40th anniversary conference, *City on a Hill? Christians in America at 250* on September 24-26 at the DoubleTree by Hilton hotel in Oak Brook, IL. Speakers include Rod Dreher and our good friend Fr. Theophan Warren.

Discounted tickets for All Saints parishioners are available here:

- <http://www.thetouchstoneconference.com/reduced-thursday>
- www.thetouchstoneconference.com/reduced-friday
- www.thetouchstoneconference.com/reduced-saturday
- www.thetouchstoneconference.com/reduced

ALL SAINTS EVE: We are rapidly approaching All Saints Eve on October 31. Last year we produced a wonderful storybook and enjoyed a fantastic turnout for our celebration of Saints. This year, we will once again extend the opportunity for everyone to nominate and research their favorite saints. I will compile the Saint of the Year storybook and distribute it at the end of October. Last year we elected Saint Miguel Pro Juarez as Saint of the Year. Who will it be this year?

The first step is to submit nominations. Is there a saint or two that you have recently learned about? Or an old favorite that has not recently been nominated? If so, we'd love to hear about them! The top 7 nominees will form our storybook of canonized saints (east or west). Please email nominations to Rich Coleman or to Fr. Andrew, including the name of your chosen saint and a short description (to distinguish between saints of the same name). **Nominations will close on Monday, September 14th.** Please also contact Rich C. if you are willing to help with writing the stories or creating artwork this year.

Volunteer Schedule

Date	Reader	Prospora	Greeter	Coffee	Food
Sun Sept 13	Joseph L	Sarah C	JoAnne T	<i>volunteer</i>	L-P
Sun Sept 20	Rich C	Sephora I	Richard B	<i>volunteer</i>	R-Z
Sun Sept 27	Michelle	Debbie K	Azizeh C	Zach C	A-F
Sun Oct 4	Jim K	Pat K	Nancy L	<i>volunteer</i>	G-K
Sun Oct 11	Paul K	Cristina P	Tobey L	<i>volunteer</i>	L-P

For Sunday coffee hour, the last names of our church members have been divided into four parts alphabetically (A-F, G-K, L-P, and R-Z). On your assigned week, please bring something simple to share with everyone for coffee hour.

THE CROSS IN OUR LIVES (Excerpt)

His Eminence Metropolitan Saba

The Christian bears this cross of the world—and the cross of his own existence—not only with acceptance but also with a certain joy, because he knows that beyond this cross there is a life that does not perish. Through this faith, the Christian sees the world as crucified and dead to him. He also sees himself, together with all his inclinations, as crucified and dead to this present world. The believer works to improve this present world, even as it moves toward decay and death. He cultivates within it the seeds of the coming resurrection by striving toward his own personal resurrection and toward the resurrection of this world, which is the gift.

Throughout this journey of life, a person may discover, through tragedy and suffering, the meaning behind losing certain things that had seemed essential to him. Many times, however, he may also discover grace within their loss. He then gives thanks to God, because he would never have noticed the things that are truly more essential had he continued to enjoy those things that were taken from him.

Such was the experience of some who spent years in solitary confinement because of their faith. Amid the tragedy of what they endured, they experienced and tasted a divine grace that filled them with a profound peace — a peace they found themselves missing after they were released from prison. Their crosses refined their characters and made them more illumined, preparing them to fulfill an essential role later in life.

Read some of biographies of the Orthodox Romanian prisoners during the communist era. In this sense, the Romanian priest and theologian, Saint Dumitru Stăniloae, who was himself imprisoned because of his Christian faith, says that the world, together with our existence within it, is the cross that we must bear until the end of our earthly lives. We experience the transitory nature of this world as an unceasing cross. Yet through our Christian faith and the grace of God, we can live this cross in the hope of the Resurrection. For this reason, we bear it with joy.

Read the entire essay at www.antiochian.org



Daily Bible Readings

September 13-19, 2026

*Based on the lectionary readings of the Antiochian
Archdiocese*

Sunday, Sept. 13: Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross

Luke 24:1-12 / Galatians 6:11-18 / John 3:13-17

Monday, Sept. 14: Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Exodus 15:22-16:1 / Proverbs 3:11-18 / Isaiah 60:11-18

John 12:28-36 / 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 / John 19

Tuesday, Sept. 15: Great Martyr Nikitas

Exodus 8 / Galatians 5:11-26 / Matthew 26:1-16

Wednesday, Sept. 16: Great Martyr Euphemia

Exodus 9 / Galatians 6:1-18 / Matthew 26:17-30

Thursday, Sept. 17: Sophia & her daughters Faith, Hope, Love

Exodus 10 / Ephesians 1:1-12 / Matthew 26:31-46

Friday, Sept. 18: Eumenius the Wonder-worker, Bishop of Gortynia

Exodus 11 / Ephesians 1:13-23 / Matthew 26:47-56

Saturday, Sept. 19: Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury

Ephesians 2:1-10 / Matthew 26:57-68

**All Saints is a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian
Archdiocese**

www.antiochian.org

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of North America
Archimandrite Jeremy Davis, Vicar for the Diocese of Toledo & the
Midwest