

JUNE 29

The Holy, Glorious, and All-Praised Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul

"Lord I Call..." Tone 2*

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Hear me, O Lord!
Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Your sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

- v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name!*
- v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*
- v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*
- v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*
- v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*
- v. (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*
- v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*
- v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Tone 2 *Automelon (by Andrew Pyrrhus)*

With what wreaths of praise shall we crown Peter and Paul?
Separated in body, they were united by the Spirit;
they rank first among preachers:
one was the leader of the Apostles,
while the other labored more than the rest.
Truly, Christ our God, Who has great mercy,//
has adorned them with the crowns of immortal glory.

* Music for the Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at www.oca.org.

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

How shall we worthily sing hymns to honor Peter and Paul?
Their hands were filled with grace and truth;
their feet carried them to the ends of the earth, preaching the Gospel of peace.
Once driven by the wind of the Spirit,
they are now carried up to heaven.
Truly they are rivers of wisdom and the arms of the Cross.
Through them Christ our God, Who has great mercy, //
has cast down the arrogance of demons.

v. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

With what spiritual songs shall we praise Peter and Paul?
They have silenced the sharp tongues of the godless.
They are awesome swords of the Spirit.
They are the adornment of Rome;
they have nourished the whole world with the Word of God.
They are the living tablets of the New Testament written by the hand of God. //
Christ, Who has great and rich mercy, has exalted them in Zion.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 4 *(by John the Monk)*

Three times Christ asked Peter: “Do you love Me?”
In this way Christ set aright the threefold denial.
Therefore Simon cried out to the One Who sees all hidden things:
“Lord, You know all things, You understand all things.
You know that I love You!”
Then the Savior said to him:
“Feed My sheep, feed My chosen ones,
feed My lambs, whom I have acquired for salvation by My own blood!” //
O blessed Apostle, pray that He may grant us great mercy!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 4 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The Prophet David was a father of the Lord
through you, O Virgin.
He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonder in you:
“At Your right hand stood the Queen,”
Your Mother, the mediatrix of life,
since God was freely born of her without a father.
He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion,
so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder
and brought it to His Father,
joining it to the heavenly pow’rs.//
Christ, Who has great and rich mercy, has saved the world, O Theotokos.

Readings

1 Peter 1:3-9 *(Sts. Peter and Paul)*

1 Peter 1:13-19 *(Sts. Peter and Paul)*

1 Peter 2:11-24 *(Sts. Peter and Paul)*

Litya

Tone 2 *Idiomela* *(by Andrew of Jerusalem)*

Let us come today and gather in chorus,
and give an offering of the faithful!
Let us exalt the Apostles Peter and Paul, the two vessels of grace!
Let us worthily crown them with praises!
For they bountifully spread the seed of the Word,
giving all mankind its rich harvest.
Filled with the grace of the Spirit,
they were branches of the True Vine
who tended the fruit that gladdens our hearts.
Let us sing to them with unveiled faces and pure hearts:
“Rejoice, guides of those without reason,
who cared for those who gained wisdom!
Rejoice, chosen friends of the Creator!
Rejoice, stewards of bounty and foes of illusion!”
Let us ever pray to them that they may intercede with their Creator and
Master//
that He may grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls!

Tone 2 *(by Arsenius)*

Let us praise as champions of all the world,
those leaders, Peter and Paul:
the disciples of Christ and founders of the Church,
true foundations, pillars, and trumpets of inspiration,
sounding forth the teachings and sufferings of Christ!
They indeed went out into all the earth
as husbandmen spreading the seed of the faith,
planting for all mankind divine understanding,
revealing the Word of the Trinity.
O Peter, the rock and foundation,
and Paul, the chosen vessel,
you were Christ's yoke of oxen, drawing all to the knowledge of God:
the Gentiles, men of the cities and islands.
You brought the Hebrews back again to Christ, //
and now you both intercede that our souls may be saved.

Tone 2 *(by Germanos)*

O Peter, leader of the glorious Apostles and rock of the faith,
and Paul, divinely inspired orator and light of the holy Churches,
as you stand before the throne of God, //
intercede with Christ on our behalf.

O Paul, the spokesman of Christ and founder of His teachings,
who earlier had persecuted Jesus the Savior,
now you fill the first throne of the Apostles, O blessed one.
Thus you saw things that cannot be spoken,
and ascending to the third heaven you cried: //
"Come with me, and be filled with good things!"

Tone 3 *(by John the Monk)*

O citizens of heavenly Jerusalem –
the rock of faith and the orator of the Church of Christ –
you were an invincible team for the Trinity,
and have caught the whole world in your net;
you have endured the contest of suffering,
and today you depart this world for the throne of God;
as you stand before Him with boldness, //
intercede that our souls may be saved!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 5 *(by Byzantius)*

O Apostles, praised throughout the world,
the Wisdom of God, the Word of the Father,
foretold in His Gospel that you would be His fruitful vines.
You carried in your branches the sweet-tasting fruit of life,
and we faithful partake and are filled with gladness.
O Peter, rock of faith, and Paul, the pride of all the earth, //
strengthen the flock established by your teachings!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 5 *(Theotokion)*

We rightly call you blessed,
O unshakable city and invincible wall,
firm intercessor and refuge of our souls! //
We glorify you, O Virgin Theotokos!

Aposticha

Tone 1 *Idiomela* *(by Andrew of Crete)*

O glorious Apostle Paul,
who can describe your bondage and tribulations in the cities?
Who can speak of your endless toil and effort for the Gospel of Christ?
You labored to gain all mankind and lead them into Christ's holy Church.
Pray that she may guard your true confession to the ends of the world, //
O Paul, Apostle and teacher of the churches!

*V. Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends
of the universe. (Ps. 18:4)*

O glorious Apostle Paul,
who can describe your bondage and tribulations in the cities?
You kept watch in hunger and thirst; cold, naked and weary;
and fleeing Damascus for your life, you were let down in a basket through the
wall.

Your back was torn by rods,
you were stoned and were kept a prisoner.
You were shipwrecked, cast adrift in the open sea.
Truly you are a spectacle for angels and men.
You endured all these things for Jesus Christ, Who strengthened you,
that you might win the whole world for Him.
We entreat you, as we faithfully keep your memory://
Pray unceasingly that our souls may be saved!

*V. The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.
(Ps. 18:1)*

Let us praise Peter and Paul, the two great stars of the Church.
They shine brighter than the sun in the sky of faith.
Let the nations follow the rays of their preaching,
and be led from ignorance to the knowledge of God!
One was nailed to a cross
and received the keys of the Kingdom from Christ in heaven.
The other, beheaded by the sword, departed to the Savior,
and is worthily counted blessed.
Together they proclaim to Israel:
"He Who was stretched out on the Cross is the Lord of all!"
By their prayers, O Christ our God,
strengthen the Orthodox Faith and destroy our enemies//
as You are the Lover of man!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 6 *(by Ephrem of Karia)*

A joyful feast dawns upon the earth today:
the memorial of Peter and Paul,
the wise leaders of the Apostles.
Let Rome rejoice and be glad with us!
Let us keep feast, O brethren, in songs and hymns!
Rejoice, Apostle Peter, true friend of Christ our God!
Rejoice, beloved Paul, herald of the faith and teacher of the universe!
You have boldness before him, O chosen pair//
pray unceasingly that our souls may be saved!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 6 *(Theotokion)*

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord,
was born of you, O most pure Virgin.
By accepting my nature, He freed Adam from his ancient curse.
Unceasingly we magnify you as the Mother of God!
Rejoice, O celestial Joy!
Rejoice, O Lady://
the Protection, Intercession and Salvation of our souls!

(at Great Vespers)

Tone 4 **Troparion**

O first-enthroned of the Apostles,
and teachers of the universe:
entreat the Master of all
to grant peace to the world,//
and to our souls great mercy!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Tone 4 **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

The mystery of all eternity,
unknown even by Angels,
through you, Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth:
God incarnate by union without confusion.
He voluntarily accepted the Cross for us,
by which He resurrected the first-created man,//

(at the Divine Liturgy)

Tone 4 Troparion

O first-enthroned of the Apostles,
and teachers of the universe:
entreat the Master of all
to grant peace to the world, //
and to our souls great mercy!

Tone 2 Kontakion

O Lord, You have taken up to eternal rest
and to the enjoyment of Your blessings
the two divinely inspired preachers, the leaders of the Apostles,
for You have accepted their labors and deaths as a sweet-smelling sacrifice, //
for You alone know what lies in the hearts of men.

Tone 8 Prokeimenon *(Sts. Peter and Paul)*

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, / and their words to the ends
of the universe. *(Ps. 18:4)*

*V. The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His
handiwork. (Ps. 18:1)*

Epistle

(193) 2 Corinthians 11:21-12:9 *(Sts. Peter and Paul)*

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. The heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord; and Your truth in the
congregation of the saints. (Ps. 88:5)*

V. God is glorified in the council of the saints! (Ps. 88:7a)

Gospel

(67) Matthew 16:13-19 *(Sts. Peter and Paul)*

Communion Hymn

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of
the universe. *(Ps. 18:4)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!