

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

TONE 3

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Afterfeast of/Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross

Greatmartyr Nicetas the Goth

"Lord I Call..." Tone 3

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!*

**Tone 3**      *(for the Resurrection)*

By Your Cross, O Christ our Savior,

death's dominion has been shattered;

the devil's delusion destroyed.

The race of man, being saved by faith,//

always offers You a song.

*v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*

All has been enlightened by Your Resurrection, O Lord.

Paradise has been opened again.

All creation, praising You,//

always offers You a song.

*v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

I glorify the power of the Father and the Son.

I praise the authority of the Holy Spirit:

the undivided, uncreated Godhead,//

the consubstantial Trinity which reigns forever.

*v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

*(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)*

We bow down in worship before Your precious Cross, O Christ,  
and we glorify and praise Your Resurrection,//  
for by Your wounds we have all been healed.

*v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

**Tone 5**     *Automelon*     *(for the Feast)*

Rejoice, O life-bearing Cross:  
invincible triumph of godliness,  
gate of Paradise, and protection of the faithful!  
The Cross is the might of the Church,  
through which corruption is abolished,  
through which the power of death is crushed.  
and we are raised from earth to heaven.  
O invincible weapon, the adversary of demons,  
the glory of martyrs, the true adornment of ven' rable saints,  
and the haven of salvation,//  
which grants the world great mercy.

*v. (5) For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Rejoice, O Cross of the Lord,  
through which mankind has been delivered from the curse!  
You are a sign of true joy,  
shattering our enemies by your Exaltation.  
O Cross, worthy of all honor,  
you are our help, you are the strength of kings.  
You are the power of the righteous.  
You are the majesty of priests.  
All who sign themselves with you are freed from danger.  
O rod of strength, under which we like sheep are tended,  
you are a weapon of peace around which the angels stand in fear.  
You are the divine glory of Christ,//  
Who grants the world great mercy.

*v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

Rejoice, O guide of the blind,  
physician of the sick and resurrection of all the dead;  
you have raised us up when we were fallen into mortality.  
O precious Cross,  
through you corruption has been destroyed,  
and incorruption has blossomed forth.  
We mortals are made divine,  
and the devil is completely overthrown.  
Today, as we see you exalted by the hands of bishops,  
we exalt Him Who was lifted up upon you,  
and we fall down in worship before you, //  
drawing rich streams of great mercy.

*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 1**      *(for St. Nicetas)      (Joy of the Heavenly Hosts)*

Arrayed in the armor of piety, O passion-bearer Nicetas,  
you were shown to be a champion of Christ, the King of All.  
As almighty Gideon of old, //  
you destroyed the foreign enemies by your noble boldness.

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

O godly-wise martyr who endured suffering,  
you conquered all that was foreign by your all-powerful faith in Christ.  
Thus, you converted the pagans to the Creator and Master of all, //  
and they piously glorified Him.

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

O martyr, the first fruits of the pagans who died for the Trinity,  
you were shown to be a godly sufferer, bringing glory to Christ.  
Therefore, you have indeed received a crown, O glorious one, //  
and shine with splendor in the world like a beacon.

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

**Tone 6**      *(for St. Nicetas, by Theophanes)*

O light-giver of the martyrs, Nicetas,  
forsaking the glory of earthly rank  
and despising the godlessness of your father,  
you shattered the false gods and put the pagans to shame.  
A warrior of the God of Heaven,  
you confessed Christ and suffered martyrdom.//  
Entreat the Benefactor of All that He take pity on us and save our souls!

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

**Tone 3**      *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

How can we not wonder  
at your mystical childbearing, O exalted Mother?  
For without receiving the touch of man,  
you gave birth to a Son in the flesh, O immaculate Virgin.  
The Son born of the Father before eternity  
was born of you at the fullness of time, O honored Lady.  
He underwent no mingling, no change, no division,  
but preserved the fullness of each nature.  
Entreat Him, O Lady and Virgin and Mother,  
to save the souls of those who, in the Orthodox manner, confess you//  
to be the Theotokos.

**Aposticha**

**Tone 3**      *(for the Resurrection)*

The sun was darkened by Your Passion, O Christ,  
but all creation was enlightened by the light of Your Resurrection.//  
Accept our evening song, O Lover of man!

*V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

Your life-bearing Resurrection, O Lord,  
enlightened the whole universe, recalling Your creation.  
Delivered from Adam's curse, we sing://  
O Almighty Lord, glory to You!

*V. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

You are the changeless God,  
Who, suffering in the flesh, were changed.  
Creation could not endure seeing You on the Cross.  
It was filled with fear while praising Your patience.  
By descending to hell and rising on the third day, //  
You have granted to the world life and great mercy.

*V. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!*

You endured death, O Christ,  
to deliver the race of men from death.  
You rose from the dead on the third day,  
raising with Yourself those who knew You as God //  
and enlightening the world. Glory to You!

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

**Tone 8**      *(for St. Nicetas)*

You showed yourself to be the namesake of victory,  
O most honored martyr Nicetas.  
Proclaiming Christ our God throughout your struggle,  
you confessed Him before kings and tormentors.  
Therefore, never cease to pray to Him, Who loves mankind,  
that He will deliver from all wrath and distress //  
those who faithfully keep your memory.

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

**Tone 8**      *(for the Feast)*

The voice of Your prophet Moses, O God,  
has been fulfilled, for he said:  
“You will see your Life hanging before your eyes.”  
Today the Cross is lifted up, and the world is set free from error.  
Today the church of Christ’s Resurrection celebrates its dedication,  
and the ends of the earth rejoice like David with cymbals,  
offering You a hymn and saying:  
“You have worked salvation in the midst of the earth, O God –  
Your Cross and Resurrection,  
through which You have set us free, as You are good and love mankind.” //  
O Almighty Lord, glory to You!

*(at Great Vespers)*

**Tone 3      Troparion    *(Resurrection)***

Let the heavens rejoice!  
Let the earth be glad!  
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.  
He has trampled down death by death.  
He has become the first born of the dead.  
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,  
and has granted to the world//  
great mercy.

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

**Tone 3      Troparion    *(St. Nicetas)***

You defeated error and triumphed in martyrdom,  
Nicetas, namesake of victory;  
for you conquered the ranks of the enemy  
and ended your contest by fire.//  
Pray to Christ our God to grant us His great mercy!

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

**Tone 1      Troparion    *(Feast)***

O Lord, save Your people,  
and bless Your inheritance!  
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians  
over their adversaries;  
and by virtue of Your Cross//  
preserve Your habitation!

*(at the Divine Liturgy)*

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**Tone 3      Kontakion    *(Resurrection)***

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,  
leading us from the gates of death.  
On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;  
with the Prophets and Patriarchs//  
they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

**Tone 2      Kontakion    *(St. Nicetas)***

You stood firm and defeated delusion  
and have received your martyr's crown, Nicetas, namesake of victory;  
you are rejoicing with the Angels//  
together with them you are praying unceasingly to Christ God for us all.

**Tone 4      Kontakion    (*Feast*)**

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!

**Tone 7      Prokeimenon      (*Sunday After*)**

Extol the Lord our God: / worship at His footstool for He is holy! (*Ps. 98:5*)

*V. The Lord reigns, let the people tremble! (Ps. 98:1a)*

**Epistle**

(203) Galatians 2:16-20 (*Sunday After*)

(158) 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

**Tone 1**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. Remember Your congregation, which You have gotten of old! (Ps. 73:2)*

*V. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps. 73:13)*

**Gospel**

(37) Mark 8:34-9:1 (*Sunday After*)

(79) Matthew 19:16-26

*(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)*

**Tone 8**

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord!

You are a mystical Paradise, O Theotokos,  
who, though untilled, have brought forth Christ;  
through Him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth.  
Now at its Exaltation,  
as we bow in worship before it, we magnify you.

**Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*)  
The light of Your countenance has been signed upon us, O Lord. (*Ps. 4:7*)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!