

THE DOMESTIC CHURCH PRAYS

Week of September 18-23

The following prayers and Scripture Readings are meant to accompany the daily prayers of the family, which is called the “Domestic Church.” It is recommended that the *Horologion* (available from: melkite.org) be used in part, or the small green *A Book of Hours* published by Bishop Nicholas. If these are not available; in the evening say Psalm 141 (140) *Lord to You I call...*; and in the morning say Psalms 148-150. To these add the troparia of the day, (and the Scripture Readings, if desired), and your petitions to God.

Readings of the Week

17TH MONDAY - Ephesians 1:22-2:3; Menaion Gospel

17TH TUESDAY - Ephesians 2:19-3:7; Menaion Gospel

17TH WEDNESDAY - Ephesians 3:8-21; Menaion Gospel

17TH THURSDAY - Ephesians 4:14-17; Menaion Gospel

17TH FRIDAY - Ephesians 4:17-25a; Menaion Gospel

SATURDAY – *Use the Readings of September 23*

OCTAVE OF FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS *September 14-21*

Troparion of the Holy Cross (*Tone 1*)

“O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting peace to the world. And preserve Your community by the power of Your Cross.”

Kontakion of the Holy Cross (*Tone 4*)

O Christ God, who chose by Your free volition to be elevated upon the holy cross, grant Your mercies to Your new people who are called by Your name. In Your power gladden the hearts of our public authorities. Strengthen them in every good deed so that Your true alliance may be for them a weapon of peace and a standard of victory.

Apostichon of the Holy Cross: Psalm 98:5; 73:12 *Used at Vespers and Matins*

V: Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool, for He is holy.

V: The Lord is King from of old, and He has brought about salvation in the midst of the earth.

Glory be to the Father... Now and always and forever...

MONDAY, 9/18 – 5TH DAY OF THE FEAST, SAINT EUMENIUS, BISHOP OF GORTYNA IN CRETE

Use the Troparion of the Holy Cross, and the Apostichon Psalm of the Cross at Vespers and Orthros.

TUESDAY, 9/19 – 6TH DAY OF THE FEAST, SAINTS TROPHYMUS, SABBATIOS & DORYMEDIUS – 5th Class

Use the Troparion of the Holy Cross, and the Apostichon Psalm of the Cross at Vespers and Orthros.

WEDNESDAY, 9/20 – 7TH DAY OF THE FEAST, SAINTS EUSTATIUS, THEOPISTA, AGAPIOS AND THEOPISTOS

Troparion of the Martyrs (*Tone 4*)

Your Martyrs Eustatius, Theopista, Agapios and Theopistos, O Lord, received the crown of immortality from You, O our God, on account of their struggle. Armed with Your strength, they have vanquished their persecutors and crushed the powerless arrogance of demons. Through their supplications, O Christ God, save our souls. *And the Troparion of the Holy Cross*
Use the Apostichon Psalm of the Feast in Vespers and Orthros

THURSDAY, 9/21 – CLOSING OF THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Troparion of the Holy Cross (*Tone 1*) *Sung 3 times at Vespers and Matins*

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting peace to the world. And preserve Your community by the power of Your Cross.

Kontakion of the Holy Cross (*Tone 4*)

O Christ God, who chose by Your free volition to be elevated upon the holy Cross, grant Your mercies to Your new people who are called by Your name. In Your power gladden the hearts of our public authorities. Strengthen them in every good deed so that Your true alliance may be for them a weapon of peace and a standard of victory.

Apostichon of the Holy Cross: Psalm 98:5; 73:12 *Used at Vespers, and Matins after Psalm 150*

V: Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His footstool, for He is holy.

V: The Lord is King from of old, and He has brought about salvation in the midst of the earth.

Glory be to the Father... Now and always and forever...

Troparion of the Holy Cross after the Great Doxology
Use the Readings of the day

FRIDAY, 9/22 – SAINT CODRATUS, APOSTLE & SAINT PHOCAS

Troparion of the Apostle Codratus (Tone 3)

O holy Apostle Codratus, intercede with the merciful God that He may grant our souls the forgiveness of sins.

Troparion of the Bishop and Martyr Phocas (Tone 4)

Sharer in the Apostles' way of life and successor on their thrones, inspired by God, you found ascetical effort as the means to contemplation. And so, dispensing rightly the word of truth, you fought for the faith unto the shedding of your blood, O hieromartyr Phocas. Intercede with Christ God, for the salvation of our souls.

Weekday Theotokion for Wednesday and Friday (Tone 4)

O Virgin all-immaculate, Mother of Christ God, a sword pierced your all-holy soul when you saw your Son and God willfully crucified. Wherefore, O Blessed One never cease to pray to Him that He may grant us forgiveness of our sins.

SATURDAY, 9/23 – CONCEPTION OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST –
4th Class

Troparion of John the Baptist (Tone 4)

Joy to you, O barren one unable to give birth! Behold, you conceive today the one who is really a Torch of the Sun, who will enlighten the whole world that suffered from blindness. Rejoice, O Zachary, and cry out in all confidence: "The One who will be born is a Prophet of the Most High!"

4th Tone Resurrection Theotokion

All your mysteries, O Theotokos, are beyond understanding and most glorious. Sealed by purity and preserved by virginity, you have indeed been acknowledged as the Mother of the True God. Intercede with Him to save our souls.

Kontakion of John the Baptist (Tone 1)

Zachary rejoices greatly with his wife Elizabeth, for she has conceived John the Forerunner whom the angel announced in gladness. As for us, we honor him in witness of this blessing.

Apostichon Psalm: Luke 1: 76 Used at Vespers, and Matins after Psalm 150

1. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High.
2. We should serve Him devoutly and through all our days be holy in his sight.
3. Glory to the Father... Now and always...

Troparion of the Conception after the Great Doxology.

Epistle: Galatians 4:22-27 **Gospel:** Luke 1:5-25

