

The 18th Day of September

The Afterfeast of the Exaltation of the Cross; Commemoration of our Venerable Father Eumenius, Bishop of Gortyna in Crete.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera

3 stichera of the Feast in Tone 4: *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs...”*

Lifted high upon the Cross, O Master, /
With Thyself Thou hast raised up Adam and the whole of fallen nature. /
Therefore, exalting Thine undefiled Cross, O Thou who lovest mankind, /
We ask Thee for Thy strength from above, /
Crying: O God Most High, in Thy great mercy ///
Save those who honor the sacred, light-giving and divine Exaltation of Thy Cross!

With the psalmist, O Master, /
Do we now behold /
The footstool on which Thine undefiled feet rested — /
Thy precious Cross, exalted this day with love. /
And with devotion lifting it on high, we beseech Thee crying: /
O Thou who hast sanctified mankind by Thy divine Cross, ///
Make us sharers in Thine ineffable compassion and grace.

As an unconquerable token of victory /
An invincible shield and a divine scepter, /
We worship Thy most Holy Cross, O Christ, /
Whereby the world has been saved and Adam filled with joy. /
With the whole assembly of those born on earth we honor it, singing its praises, ///
And as we celebrate its divine Exaltation, we entreat Thee for forgiveness.

And these 3 stichera of the Saint, in the same Tone: (and melody)

Having cleansed thy body and soul from passions /
Thou didst become the abode of the Holy Spirit, /
And didst adorn thyself with the myrrh of holiness. /
Now thou standest at the right hand of God in the company of the angels /
As an heir of the glory of the Lord, ///
And as an intercessor for those who praise thee, O Eumenius.

Thy wondrous life, O Eumenius, /
Wast illumined by the virtues; /

It shone forth with the brightness of thy miracles /
Making thee known to the ends of the earth, /
Establishing thee as a beacon of pure light, and companion of all the saints, /
And a hierarch-citizen of the of the holy city of heaven, ///
O Eumenius, thou praiseworthy worker of wonders.

Having assembled together, /
Let us praise in song /
The adornment of the Isle of Crete, /
The bishop of Gortýna, the unshakeable foundation of the Church, /
The holy hierarch Eumenius, /
Who is most wondrous in his miracles /
Which enlighten the hearts of those in darkness, ///
As the lamp of the faithful.

Glory..., now and ever..., of the Feast, in Tone 2:

The divine treasure hidden in the earth, /
The Cross of the Giver of Life /
Appeared in the heavens to the godly King, /
And its inscription spiritually signified his victory over the enemy. /
Rejoicing with faith and love, /
Inspired by God he made haste to raise on high the Cross /
Which he had seen in his vision; /
And with great zeal he brought it forth from the bosom of the earth, ///
For the deliverance of the world and the salvation of our souls.

At the Aposticha, these stichera, in Tone 2: To the melody, "O House of Ephratha...."

Today the Cross of Christ, is lifted up; /
It is the Tree of life /
Upon which He was nailed in the flesh ///
Thus confirming our faith.

Verse: Extol the Lord; worship at His footstool for it is holy.

Rejoice, O Cross of the Lord, /
Thou divine guardian of the faithful, /
Thou invincible rampart ///
Which is raised up today from beneath the earth.

Verse: God is our King before the ages: He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

Come and let us venerate with joy today, /
The life-giving Tree /
For Christ, our Deliverance ///
Was stretched out upon it.

Glory..., now and ever..., in Tone 4:

Moses prefigured the power of the precious Cross, O Christ /
When he put to flight Amalek, his adversary, in the wilderness of Sinai, /
For when he stretched out his arms in the form of a Cross /
The people became strong again. /
Now the fulfillment of these images hath come to pass for us. /
Today the Cross is exalted and the devils are put to flight! /
Today all creation is set free from corruption! /
For through the Cross every gift of grace hath shone on us. /
So we all fall before Thee rejoicing and saying: ///
How marvelous are Thy works, O Lord, glory to Thee!

The Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 4:

We have thee as a friend and helper, /
O gracious advocate Eumenius, /
For flowing with streams of compassion /
Thou dost pour healing upon the Church. ///
O ven'erable father, protect those who honor thee!

Glory..., now and ever.... The Troparion of the Feast, in Tone 1:

O Lord, save thy people /
And bless Thine inheritance. /
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians /
Over their adversaries; /
And by virtue of Thy Cross ///
Preserve Thy habitation.

Matins

At “God is the Lord...,” the Troparion of the Feast, O Lord, save Thy people... (*thrice*)

Two Canons: the Canon for the Exaltation of the Cross, with 8 Troparia including the Irmos; and that of St. Eumenius, with 4 Troparia. — *incomplete as of 7/2016*

The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 2: *To the melody, “Seeking the highest....”*

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Illumined by the Light divine, /
Thou dost enlighten us, O all-blessed one, /
Who lovingly sing the praises /
Of thy precious, glorious and holy translation to heaven. /
And we beseech thee, O hierarch father Eumenius, ///
To ceaselessly pray on behalf of us all.

The Kontakion of the Feast, in Tone 4:

As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake, /
Grant mercy to those who are called by Thy name. /
Make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power /
Granting them victories over their adversaries ///
By bestowing upon them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace.

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