

The Exaltation of the Cross

The Roman emperors tried to completely eradicate from human memory the holy places where our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and was resurrected for mankind. The Emperor Hadrian gave orders to cover over the ground of Golgotha and the Sepulchre of the Lord, and to build a temple of the pagan goddess Venus and a statue of Jupiter. Desiring to find the true Cross, Saint Constantine sent his mother, the Empress Helen, to Jerusalem. Searching for the Life-Creating Cross, she made inquiry of Christians and Jews, but for a long time her search remained unsuccessful. Finally, they directed her to a certain elderly Hebrew by the name of Jude who stated that the Cross was buried where the temple of Venus stood. They demolished the pagan temple and, after praying, they began to excavate the ground. Soon the Tomb of the Lord was uncovered. Not far from it were three crosses, a board with the inscription ordered by Pilate, and four nails which had pierced the Lord's Body. In order to discern on which of the three crosses the Savior was crucified, Patriarch Macarius alternately touched the crosses to a corpse. When the Cross of the Lord touched the dead one, he came to life. The Patriarch raised up the Holy Cross, and the people, saying "Lord have mercy," reverently prostrated before the Venerable Wood. This solemn event occurred in the year 326.

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the West

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Reflection adapted from and Hymnography from oca.org

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

Port Townsend, WA



Sunday, September 19th, 2021

*Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross; Martyrs
Trophimus, Sabbatius, & Dorymedon*

13th Week of Pentecost

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Readings

Epistle 1 Corinthians 16:13-24; Galatians 2: 16-20
Gospel Matthew 19:16-26; Mark 8:34-9:1

Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen,// granting the world great mercy!"

Tone 1 Troparion (Cross)

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!

Tone 8 Troparion (Martyrs)

God praised in Trinity has glorified a trinity of martyrs: Trophímus, Sabbátius, and Dorýmedon. By their faith, they overthrew the adversary.// Through their prayers, O Christ our God, have mercy on us!

Tone 4 Kontakion (Resurrection)

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master,// He has risen on the third day!

Tone 8 Kontakion (Martyrs)

As the foundation of athletes and the confirmation of piety, the Church honors and glorifies thy brilliant suffering, wise and glorious Trophímus, ever-praised and blessed athlete.// Together with thy fellow sufferers, ask cleansing for those who hymn thee, for thou art invincible.

Tone 4 Kontakion (Cross)

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God; make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, granting them victories over their adversaries// by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

This Week at St. Herman's

Sunday, September 19th– *Sunday after the Exaltation*

- 9:30 AM—Divine Liturgy
- 12:30 PM—Patristic Reading Group

Tuesday, September 21st— *Leavetaking of Exaltation of the Cross*

- 6:30 AM—Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, September 22nd– *Hieromartyr Phocas*

Fast

- 6:30 PM—Great Vespers
- 7:30 PM—Catechesis; Port Townsend

Thursday, September 23rd– *Conception of John the Baptist*

- 7:00 PM—Catechesis; Port Angeles

Friday, September 24th– *New Martyrs of Alaska & St. Silouan* *Fish Wine & Oil*

- 8:00 AM—Divine Liturgy
- 6:30 PM—Great Vespers

Saturday, September 25th - *St. Sergius of Radonezh*

- 6:30 PM—Great Vespers and Confession