

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 5. Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Sunday before Elevation. Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora, at Nicomedia (305-311). Ven. Paul the Obedient, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th-14th c.). Bl. Prince Andrew, in monasticism Joasaph, of Kubensk (Vologda—1453). Holy Apostles of the 70 Apelles, Luke (Loukios), and Clement (1st c.). Martyr Barypsabas in Dalmatia (2nd c.). Rt. Blv. Pulcheria, the Empress of the Greeks (453). Ss. Peter and Paul, Bishops of Nicaea (9th c.).

2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Matthew 22:1-14

On September 14th, for centuries, when the feast of the Elevation of the Cross was celebrated, the bishop would take his place in the center of the church and . . . majestically raise the Cross high above the crowd and bless the worshippers on all four sides of the church while the choir thundered in response, "Lord have mercy." This is the feast of Christianity's triumph over kingdoms, cultures and civilizations, the feast of that Christian world which now lies in ruins . . .

It seems to me that we continue to celebrate the Elevation of the Cross and repeat ancient words of victory not simply . . . to recall a past which no longer exists, but in order to reflect more deeply on the meaning of the word 'victory' for Christian faith. It may be that only now, stripped as we are of outward power and glory, government support, untold wealth, and all the apparent symbols of victory, are we capable of understanding that all of this was, perhaps, not genuine victory . . .

To honor the Cross, to raise it up, to sing of Christ's victory: does this not mean, above all, to believe in the Crucified One and to believe that the Cross is a sign of staggering defeat? . . . No, Christ did not enter the world to win outward victories . . . Christianity's victory resides within the joyful faith that here, through this rejected, crucified and condemned Man, God's love began to illumine the world and a Kingdom was opened which no one has the power to shut.

-- Fr Alexander Schmemmann, *Celebration of Faith II*

**The Cross is the Guardian of the whole earth,
The Cross is the beauty of the church,
The Cross is the strength of kings,
The Cross is the support of the faithful,
The Cross is the glory of angels and wounder of demons.**

SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 9.....6:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday, September 10.....9:30am Third Hour
9:45am General Confession
10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, September 13.....6:00pm Great Vespers with Litiya
Eve of Exaltation of Holy Cross

Thursday, September 14.....9:00am Divine Liturgy
Exaltation of Holy Cross

Sunday, September 17.....9:30am Third & Sixth Hours
10:00am Divine Liturgy
12:30pm Baptism: Dylan John Zawisa

THANK YOU to the Coffee Hour Committee for hosting Coffee Hour last Sunday. Thank you, also, to those who contributed salads or casseroles to the "Basic" Coffee Hour. God grant them Many Years!

FRESH CORN SALAD – Did you enjoy Larisa Bohensky's corn salad offered as part of last Sunday's Coffee Hour? The recipe will soon be posted to the online cookbook on the Church's webpage so you can make it yourself. <https://www.holytrinityrandolph.com/>

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Registration is now open for Holy Trinity's 2023-2024 Sunday School Classes. Please refer to this week's email update for a link to register your child by **Friday, September 15th**. Class information and start dates to follow.

ATRIUM 2023-2024 is being rebuilt and some materials are needed:

- Foreign Language Bibles (any language)
- Thin (¼ inch - ½ inch) pieces of wood for a variety of miscellaneous projects and items to be made
- Low shelving (child height: no higher than 3 – 4 feet)
- Flowers for students to arrange in vases; they can be from your yard (on Sundays beginning October 1st)

If you can help, please contact Chris Wood mikam905@yahoo.com or Barbara Timpani btimpani@icloud.com



*The Nativity of our Most Holy Lady
the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin
Mary (commemorated September 8)*

Troparion — Tone 4

*Your Nativity, O Virgin, has
proclaimed joy to the whole
universe! The Sun of Righteousness,
Christ our God, has shone from You,*

*O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By
destroying death, He has granted us eternal Life.*

Kontakion — Tone 4

*By Your Nativity, O Most Pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed
from barrenness; Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death. And
we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you:
The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our
life!*



Forefeast of the Elevation of the Cross

Troparion — Tone 4

*We offer in supplication the life-creating Cross of Your goodness, O
Lord, which You have granted to us although we are unworthy.
Through the Theotokos, save all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover
of mankind.*

Kontakion — Tone 4

*Your precious Cross rises like the sun and mystically makes all
things holy and pure. Let us prepare to welcome it with faith.*

*“Behold, for years and generations, the way of God has been leveled
by the cross and by death. How is this with thee, that thou seest the
afflictions of the way as if they were out of the way? Dost not thou wish
to follow the steps of the saints? Or dost thou wish to go a way which
is especially for thee, without suffering? The way unto God is a daily
cross. No one can ascend unto heaven with comfort, we know where
the way of comfort leads.”*

+ St. Isaac the Syrian, *Mystic Treatises, Homily LIX*

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

Offering the Fullness of the Christian Faith

Orthodox Church in America

Diocese of New York and New Jersey

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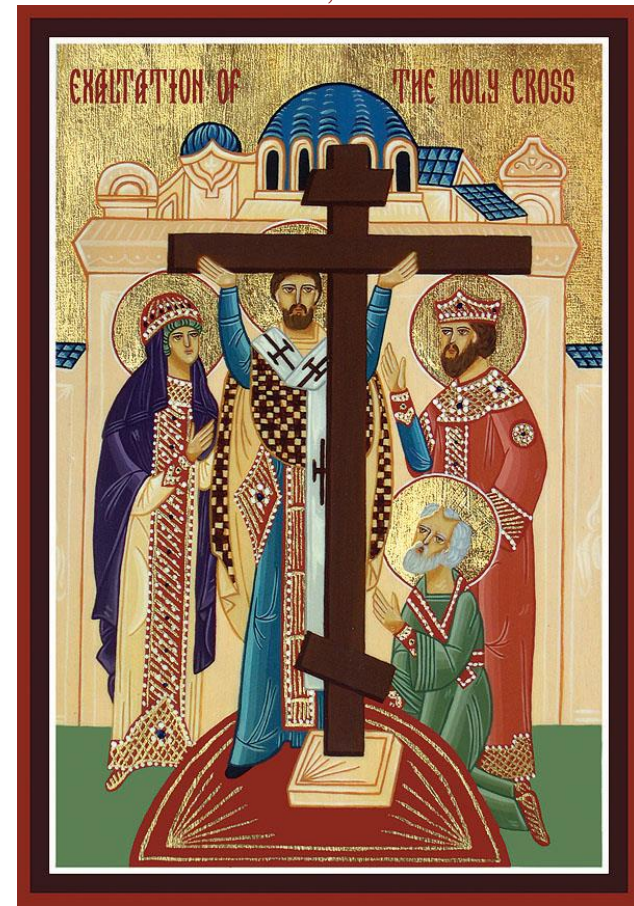
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Archpriest David R. Fox, Rector

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Mitred Archpriest George Hasenecz, Attached

Carol Wetmore, Choir Director



*Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (commemorated on Sept. 14)
September 10, 2023*