

Divine Liturgy Variables for March 29, 2020

TODAY'S SAINTS

Commemoration of St. John Climacus; Hieromartyr Mark, Bishop of Arethusa; Martyr Cyril the Deacon, of Heliopolis; St. John the Anchorite, of Egypt; St. Eustathius the Confessor, Bishop of Bithynia; Martyr Secundus of Asti; Saint Firminus, Bishop of Viviers; Saint Eustace, Abbot of Luxeuil; St. Nicetas, desert-dweller of the Roslavl Forests, near Bryansk

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE EIGHT

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! / Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings! // O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

TROPARION OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS IN TONE ONE

Dweller of the desert and angel in the body, / you were shown to be a wonder-worker, our God-bearing Father John. / You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer: / healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith. / Glory to Him who gave you strength! / Glory to Him who granted you a crown! / Glory to Him who through you grants healing to all!

- *Choir sings the troparion of Ss. Peter and Paul in Tone Four*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION IN TONE EIGHT

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. / Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, // and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

PROKEIMENON IN TONE EIGHT

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God!
v. In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (6:13-20)

Brethren, for when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (5:9-19)

Brethren, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and

arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

ALLELUIA IN TONE EIGHT

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

v. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

v. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

v. They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (9:17-31)

One of the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (4:25-5:12)

And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and from beyond the Jordan. Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven."

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!