

SEPTEMBER 21 - LEAVETAKING OF THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS,  
ST QUADRATUS

FESTAL ANTIPHONS FOR THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

**First Antiphon:**

God, my God, look upon me; why have You forsaken me? (*Psalm 21:2a*)

***Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.***

The words of my transgressions are far away from my salvation. (*Psalm 21:2b*)

***Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.***

O my God, I will cry out by day, but You will not hear me. (*Psalm 21:3*)

***Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.***

But You, the praise of Israel, dwell in the holy place. (*Psalm 21:4*)

***Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.***

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.  
Amen.

***Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.***

**Second Antiphon:**

O God, why have You cast us off forever? (*Psalm 73:1*)

***Refrain: O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!***

Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased from of old. (*Psalm 73:2a*)

***Refrain: O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!***

This is Mount Sion, the [place] where You have dwelt. (*Psalm 73:2c*)

***Refrain: O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!***

But God is our King from of old; he has worked salvation in the midst of the earth. (*Psalm 73:12*)

***Refrain: O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!***

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.  
Amen. Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation willed to be  
incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and  
was crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, Who are one of the Holy  
Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit - save us!

**Third Antiphon:**

The Lord reigns, let the peoples rage; He sits upon the Cherubim, let the earth tremble. (*Psalm 98:1*)

**Tone 1 - O Lord, save Your people...**

The Lord is great in Sion, and He is exalted above all the peoples. (*Psalm 98:2*)

**Tone 1 - O Lord, save Your people...**

Let them give thanks to Your great Name, for It is holy. (*Psalm 98:3*)

**Tone 1 - O Lord, save Your people...**

### **EISODIKON:**

**Priest:** Wisdom! Upright!

**Choir:** Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, O Son of God, crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

### **TROPARIA**

**Tone 1** O Lord, save Your people  
and bless Your inheritance!

Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians  
over their adversaries;  
and by virtue of Your Cross,//  
preserve Your habitation!

**Tone 4** In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith,  
a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence,  
so you won the heights by humility,  
and riches by poverty,  
O Holy Father Nicholas,  
intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

### **KONTAKION**

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 4** Lifted on the Cross willingly,  
give Your mercies, Christ God, to the new citizenship of Your name;  
make glad by Your power our faithful rulers,  
granting them victories over the enemies;  
may they have Your help, a weapon of peace //  
an invincible trophy.

*Instead of "Holy God..." we sing Before Your Cross...*

*The prokeimenon in the third tone: My soul magnifies the Lord / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. (Luke 1:46-47)*

*v: For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. (Luke 1:48)*

**THE READING IS FROM THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE GALATIANS. (3:15-22)**

Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is only a man's testament, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it. Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the testament that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise. What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one. Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

*Alleluia, Tone 8*

*v. Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear. (Psalm 44:11)*

*v. Before your face the richest of people will pray. (Psalm 44:13)*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (4:1-15)**

*(Instead of "It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos...", we sing:)*

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord!  
You are a mystical Paradise, O Theotokos,  
who, though untilled, have brought forth Christ;  
through Him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth.  
Now at its Exaltation,  
as we bow in worship before it, we magnify you.

**COMMUNION HYMN** The light of Your countenance has been signed upon us, O Lord.

*(Psalm 4:7) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*