

## **Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross on Mt. Athos - (PHOTOS)**



**The Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross was commemorated today with millennia-old Athonite tradition at the Holy and Great Monastery of Vatopedi, on the semi-autonomous monastic community of Mt. Athos.**

The Divine Liturgy was officiated by Archimandrite Elder Ephraim, the Abbot of the Holy and Great Monastery of Vatopedi, and co-officiated by other Vatopedi Elders.

A litany of the True Cross and Holy Relics followed around the catholicos (main cathedral) of the monastery, with Vatopedi Elders chanting the Apolytikion of the Sunday of the Holy Cross.

***First Tone: "Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting our rulers to prevail over adversaries, and protecting Your commonwealth by Your Cross."***

The Sunday of the Holy Cross is commemorated on the third Sunday of Great and Holy Lent, where the Orthodox Church celebrates the Precious and Life-Giving Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**This year's commemoration comes days after a decision by the Mount Athos council to ban the arrival of visitors and pilgrims to the monastic community, a precaution against the coronavirus outbreak.**

**READ MORE: [The Causes of the Pandemic - photo journal from the Sunday of the Cross \(Audio\)](#)**

**Photos : [asceticexperience.com](http://asceticexperience.com)**































































