

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America - Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross + September 14



On September 14 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the Universal Exaltation (Elevation) of the Honored and Life-giving Cross.

Let all the trees of the wood, planted from the beginning of time, rejoice; for their nature hath been sanctified by the stretching of Christ on the Tree. Wherefore, now, we worship Him, lifted up, and magnify Him.

+Canon of the Feast, Ninth Ode, Tone 8

By the mere planting of thy Cross, O Christ, the foundation of death did shake; for him whom Hades did swallow eagerly, it delivered up with trembling; for verily, thou didst reveal to us thy salvation, O holy One. Wherefore, do we glorify thee, O Son of God. Have mercy upon us.

+Second Kathisma, Orthros of the Feast, Tone 6

Today the Church celebrates the feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross. Two events connected to the honorable Cross of our Lord are commemorated this day: first, the finding of the Cross by the Empress Helena in the Holy Land; and second, the return of the Cross from Persia to Jerusalem in the year 628.

Historical background of the Feast

Liturgical Resources

By the power of Thy Cross, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us, and save us! Amen.

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