

Blessed  
are You, Holy Cross,  
wood of life, destroyer  
of delusion and giver of  
salvation to the  
world.



Prayer in Preparation for  
the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

By the power of the cross,  
we obtain relief

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Day 5



Priest: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Cong: Amen.

Priest: Make us worthy, O Lord Jesus Christ, to always make the sign of Your cross with the utmost faith and reverence, for it is the sign of Your life-giving passion, and of Your victory over pain and death. Make Your Spirit breathe upon us, and always grant us security in this world of danger, so that we may reach Your holy dwellings; and there we shall praise You forever, and render glory to You, to Your father and to Your Holy Spirit now and forever.

**Cong: (two choirs)**

- \* Great Is The Lord And Most Worthy Of Praise.
- \*\* The LORD is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.
- \* You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, and I will exalt You.
- \*\* Who among the gods is like You, Lord? Who is like You - majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?
- \* In Your unfailing love You will lead the people You have redeemed. In Your strength You will guide them to Your holy dwelling.
- \*\* The peoples have heard; they tremble; until Your people pass by, Lord, until the people You bought pass by.
- \* You will bring them in and plant them on the mountain of Your inheritance.
- \*\* The place, Lord, You made for Your dwelling, the sanctuary, Lord, Your hands established. The Lord reigns for ever and ever.
- \*/\*\* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.



Reader: : O Christ, Redeemer of mankind, Creator of our earth, You who have been lifted up on the Cross between earth and heaven, and that Cross witnessed that You rose from the dead and overcame evil. Be for us, O Lord, a Savior every day, every hour, and help us to obtain relief. May Your cross be our constant companion in every minute of our life so that we avoid being led astray from our faith in You, and that we may always rely upon You and love You. We praise You with the entire creation, and give glory to You and to your blessed Father and your living Holy Spirit now and forever.

### **Holy Cross of Light and Glory**

**Bo'oto dmor ya'qoob (moryo moran)**

1. Holy Cross of light and glory, we sing with joy,  
For the miracles of Jesus pour forth from you.  
Cross of splendour, Cross of wonder, clothe us with light.  
To the heights of heaven lift us and give us life.
2. You have conquered death and evil, O mighty Cross,  
and the captive ones praised Jesus who set them free.  
You have joined both earth and heaven, O saving Cross,  
and have reconciled and brought us to God most high.



### Psalm 142 (two choirs)

- \* With my voice I cry to the LORD; with my voice I make supplication to the LORD.
- \*\* I pour out my complaint before him; I tell my trouble before him.
- \* When my spirit is faint, you know my way. In the path where I walk they have hidden a trap for me.
- \*\* Look on my right hand and see— there is no one who takes notice of me; no refuge remains to me; no one cares for me.
- \* I cry to you, O LORD; I say, “You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.”
- \*\* Give heed to my cry, for I am brought very low. Save me from my persecutors,  
for they are too strong for me.
- \* Bring me out of prison, so that I may give thanks to your name. The righteous will surround me, for you will deal bountifully with me.
- \*/\*\* Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, and goodwill toward humankind

## Psalms 141

Cantor: Let my prayer, O Lord God, rise like incense before you. And the raising of my hands, as an evening sacrifice.

Cong: Let my prayer, O Lord God, rise like incense before you. And the raising of my hands, as an evening sacrifice.

(Repeated after each paragraph)

Cantor: 1. I call upon you, O Lord, make haste to help me!

Turn your ear to my appeal and hear my voice.

2. To you, O Lord God, to you my eyes are turned.

My refuge lies in you alone; Spare my soul.

3. O Lord. The righteous shall gather around me,

for you have shown your faithful love and goodness.

## Litanies

Reader: For the sake of those who are mired in poverty and need, we ask you by the power of your cross, Tree of Salvation, to give them daily bread and keep them safe from the evil.

Cong: Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy

Reader: For the sake of those who are persecuted for the sake of faith, especially those who suffer all kinds of violence and danger, we ask you by the power of your cross, Tree of Salvation, to comfort them, to help them stand firm in difficult times, and to let them trust your plans with faith.

Cong: Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy

Reader: For the sake of Lebanon sinking into continuous and successive Crises over the past two years, we ask you by the power of your cross, Wood of Salvation, to grant relief to its people who are tired and seek to settle permanently in other countries.

Cong: Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy



## Readings

People: Holy and immortal Lord, sanctify our minds and purify our consciences, that we may praise You with purity, and listen to Your Holy Scriptures. To You be glory, forever. Amen

### Psalm of the Readings

**Cong:** Guard the Church and her children  
With your cross of light and life  
By your cross, O Redeemer,  
Prophecies have been fulfilled

**Cel:** with the sign of your cross, Lord,  
You ordain your holy priests,  
And they give us the Mysteries  
Through the power of your cross

**Cong:** Lord, your cross is a ladder  
Leading us to heaven's heights.  
May your church and her children  
Join the angel hosts on high.

## From the Gospel According to Saint Matthew

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

## Constantine Beheld the Cross

(Msheeho natareh l'eedokh)

1. Constantine beheld the cross, shining brightly in the sky. Like a banner held on high, it was seen throughout the land. In awe he professed his faith in Jesus Christ and his saving cross.

Glory to the son of God, who laid down his life for us. He died on the cross and redeemed us by his blood. All the peoples that were saved by his great love sing their thanks and praise to God.

2. With the cross of Christ our Lord, we are raised to heaven's heights from this world of sin and death to the joys of paradise. The cross is the path and bridge that Martyrs take on their way to life.

Now the faithful Church is signed with the saving cross of Christ and sings hymns of praise as she glorifies the Lord, who was hung upon the cross and conquered death, granting life to all the world.

Priest: Blessed are You, Holy Cross, wood of life, destroyer of delusion and giver of salvation to the world. You are the banner of victory in battle. Through You miraculous signs were given. You have repealed the ancient sacrifices and fulfilled the new mysteries. Through You, peace has been given and joy has come dwell among us. Through You the church has been edified and her children protected. Through You our bodies and souls are sanctified and purified. Through You, our debts are erased and our righteousness is increased. Through You, the faithful will obtain perfection. Through You faithful are armed. Through You, the faithful departed find rest. Through You we shelter in the day of judgment. With You we walk to the dwelling of eternal life and we render glory to Christ, the word who was crucified on You, and to his father and to the Holy living Spirit now and forever. Cong: Amen





Priest: Holy Are You, O God

Cong: You who appeared among us to bring us back to the Father.

Priest: Holy Are You Lord God Almighty

Cong: You who by Your strength have triumphed and saved us.

Priest: Holy Are You O God, You will never die

Cong: You who died, then rose, and left us Your cross as a witness.

Priest: O Lord, You were crucified for the sake of Your people, and You shone upon them with the Cross of light. So, today, they honour Your cross and adore it. Have mercy on them, and make them worthy to call upon Your blessed father and saying:

**Cong: Our Father who art in heaven (...).**

Priest: Eternal Father, accept our prayers and bless us for we have come to celebrate the Exaltation of Your Son's holy Cross. Strengthen us so that we may wait for his second coming standing firm, and remain faithful to the duties entrusted to us, like the wise and faithful servant. Make us worthy to remain children of light, full of faith and love and hope, waiting for the joy of our eternal meeting. We raise glory to You and Your only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and to Your Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Cong: Amen



Our Lady of Lebanon  
Co-Cathedral