



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



Our Lady of Lebanon
Co-Cathedral

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

By the power of the cross
we forgive

Day 6

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)

- * Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, and goodwill toward humankind.
- ** We praise You, we bless You, we adore You, we glorify You, and we give You thanks for Your great glory.
- * O Lord Creator, O Heavenly King, Father Almighty, God of our fathers
- ** O Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, O Holy Spirit
- * Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, O living Word of God, You Who take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
- ** You who take away the sins of the world, hear my prayer and give ear to my supplication!
- * You who sit at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
- ** For You alone are holy. You alone are the Lord. Together with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.
- * Glory to God the Father, always and all the days of our lives, Amen!
- */** Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, and goodwill toward humankind now and forever.



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 forgive. 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.

Jesus Christ, Lord of all the World

(Ehnono noohro shareero)

1. Jesus Christ, Lord of all the world, great and mighty is your cross.

You defeated the evil one and have conquered sin and death.

We exalt your living cross, raised on high triumphantly.

Nations of the earth cry out: "holy, holy, holy Lord!

By your cross we have been saved."

2. As a wall keeps a city safe, so the cross protects the Church.

As a king governs in his land, Christ the king rules all the world.

Lord do not forsake your church, for you shed your blood for her.

Hear her children who proclaim: "we profess our faith in you;
guard us with your holy cross."



Psalm 15 (two choirs)

- * O LORD, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?
- ** Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;
- * who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;
- ** in whose eyes the wicked are despised,
but who honor those who fear the LORD;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
- * who do not lend money at interest,
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be moved.
- */** 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 have experienced betrayal from a partner or from a friend, we ask you by the power of your cross, Wood of Salvation, to be the strength of their wounded hearts so they confront in love, forgive and start all over again.

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

Reader: For the sake of victims of bullying, we ask you by the power of your cross, Wood of Salvation, to let them be confident of your love so that they don't strike back or seek revenge but they forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing

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

Reader: For the sake of mothers and fathers who have lost their children due to others' neglect, we ask you by the power of your cross, Wood of Salvation, to console them and remove hatred from their hearts, and to grant them the gift of forgiveness so they become witnesses to your forgiveness.

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

“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

Lord Your Cross was taken from the Tree

(Fsheeto)

1. Alleluia! Lord, your cross was taken from the tree in Eden, And your death upon the cross has granted new life to all the world. In its shadow refuge can be found, for the rich and poor.

All the prophets and the martyrs sang its praises. On this day we join with them in giving glory.

Alleluia! The cross is our light.

2. Alleluia!

With the cross we bless ourselves for Christ's protection. When the tempter comes to us with his deception and sees the cross; far from it he flees and hides himself in the darkest depths, for the holy cross is mighty and defends us. On this day we raise it up in exaltation.

Alleluia! The cross is our light.

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



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