

Order of the Divine Liturgy

Sunday before Epiphany

Commemoration of Eve of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, The Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas, Righteous Synkletike of Alexandria, Apollinaria of Egypt

January 5, 2014

APOLYTIKIA

Today is Salvation -- Third Mode

Today is salvation come unto the world. Let us sing unto the Author of our life Who arose from the tomb; for, destroying death by death, He granted us the victory and great mercy.

Resurrectional Apolytikion -- Third Mode

Let all things above in heav'n rejoice, let all things below on earth be glad. With all the might and strength of His arm, an eternal deed the Lord did perform: beneath His feet, He has trampled down death by death, and first born of the dead has He become. From the depths of Hades, has He delivered us, and to all the world has granted His great redeeming mercy.

The Eve of Theophany -- Fourth Mode

River Jordan was turned back by Elisseus's mantle once, when the fiery man of zeal Elias had been taken up; then were its waters divided hither and thither. The running streams became dry passage unto him, truly as a sign and type of Baptism, whereby we pass to the other side of the shifting stream of this fleeting life. Christ hath appeared in the Jordan River, to sanctify the waters.

The Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas -- Fourth Mode

Thy Martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for Thee received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. For since they possessed Thy strength, they cast down the tyrants and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

Saint Synkletike -- Plagal of the Fourth Mode

In thee the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother; for taking up thy cross, thou didst follow Christ, and by thy deeds thou didst teach us to overlook the flesh, for it passeth away, but to attend to the soul since it is immortal. Wherefore, O righteous Synkletike, thy spirit rejoiceth with the Angels.

Troparion of the Church -- Fourth Mode

Having seen the image of Thy Cross in Heaven, and, like Paul, having received the call not from men, Thine apostle among kings entrusted the commonwealth to Thy hand, O Lord. Keep us always in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Friend of man.

KONTAKION

The Eve of Theophany -- Fourth Mode

In the running waters of the Jordan River, on this day the Lord of all crieth to John: Be not afraid and hesitate not to baptize Me, for I am come to save Adam, the first-formed man.

EPISTLE

II Timothy 4:5-8

GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8