**The Nativity of the Holy Virgin**

**RUSSIAN ORTHODOX GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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**Первое Воскресенье После Троицы – Всех Святых – Глас 8**

**Тропари и Кондаки после Малого Входа:**

**Тропарь Воскресный Глас 8:**

С высоты снизшел еси, Благоутробне,/ погребение приял еси тридневное,/ да нас свободиши страстей,/ Животе и воскресение наше.// Господи слава Тебе.

**Тропарь Всех Святых Глас 4:**

Иже во всем мире мученик Твоих,/ яко багряницею и виссом,/ кровым Церковь Твоя украсившиеся,/ теми вопиет Ти, Христе Боже:/ людем Твоим щедроты Твоя низпосли,/ мир жительству Твоему даруй// и душам нашим велию милость.

**Кондак Всех Святых Глас 8:**

Яко начатки естества, Насадителю твари,/ вселенная приносит Ти, Господи, богоносныя мученики,/ тех молитвами в мире глубоце// Церковь Твою, жительство Твое Богородицею соблюди, Многомилостиве.

**Послание к Евреям (11:33-40; 12:1-2):**

33которые верою побеждали царства, творили правду, получали обетования, заграждали уста львов, 34угашали силу огня, избегали острия меча, укреплялись от немощи, были крепки на войне, прогоняли полки чужих; 35жены получали умерших своих воскресшими; иные же замучены были, не приняв освобождения, дабы получить лучшее воскресение; 36другие испытали поругания и побои, а также узы и темницу, 37были побиваемы камнями, перепиливаемы, подвергаемы пытке, умирали от меча, скитались в ми́лотях и козьих кожах, терпя недостатки, скорби, озлобления; 38те, которых весь мир не был достоин, скитались по пустыням и горам, по пещерам и ущельям земли.

39И все сии, свидетельствованные в вере, не получили обещанного, 40потому что Бог предусмотрел о нас нечто лучшее, дабы они не без нас достигли совершенства.

1Посему и мы, имея вокруг себя такое облако свидетелей, свергнем с себя всякое бремя и запинающий нас грех и с терпением будем проходить предлежащее нам поприще, 2взирая на начальника и совершителя веры Иисуса, Который, вместо предлежавшей Ему радости, претерпел крест, пренебрегши посрамление, и воссел одесную престола Божия.

**Евангелие От Матфея (10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30):**

32Итак всякого, кто исповедает Меня пред людьми, того исповедаю и Я пред Отцем Моим Небесным; 33а кто отречется от Меня пред людьми, отрекусь от того и Я пред Отцем Моим Небесным. 37Кто любит отца или мать более, нежели Меня, не достоин Меня; и кто любит сына или дочь более, нежели Меня, не достоин Меня; 38и кто не берет креста своего и следует за Мною, тот не достоин Меня. 27Тогда Петр, отвечая, сказал Ему: вот, мы оставили всё и последовали за Тобою; что же будет нам?

28Иисус же сказал им: истинно говорю вам, что вы, последовавшие за Мною,- в пакибытии, когда сядет Сын Человеческий на престоле славы Своей, сядете и вы на двенадцати престолах судить двенадцать колен Израилевых.

29И всякий, кто оставит до́мы, или братьев, или сестер, или отца, или мать, или жену, или детей, или зе́мли, ради имени Моего, получит во сто крат и наследует жизнь вечную.

30Многие же будут первые последними, и последние первыми.

**Слово от Феофана Затворника:**

Святая Церковь всякий день творит память святых. Но так как были угодники Божии, безвестно подвизавшиеся, не явленные Церкви, то, чтобы не оставить и их без чествования, св. Церковь установила день, в который прославляет всех от века угодивших Богу, чтобы не осталось никого не прославляемого ею. Творить же это тотчас после сошествия Святого Духа узаконила она потому, что все святые соделались и соделываются святыми благодатью Святого Духа: благодать Святого Духа приносит покаяние и оставление грехов, она же вводит в борьбу со страстями и похотями и венчает этот подвиг чистотою и бесстрастием. И таким образом является новая тварь, годная для нового неба и новой земли. Поревнуем же и мы идти вслед святых Божиих. Как это делать - учит нынешнее Евангелие: оно требует небоязненного исповедания веры в Господа, преимущественной любви к Нему, поднятия креста самоотвержения и сердечного от всего отрешения. Положим же начало по этому указанию.

**First Week After Pentecost –– All Saints –– Tone 8**

**Hebrews 11:33-12:2  *(Epistle)***

**33** who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

**34** quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

**35** Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.

**36** Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment.

**37** They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented –

**38** of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

**39** And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise,

**40** God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

**1** Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

**2** looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30  *(Gospel)***

**32** Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.

**33** But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

**37** He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

**38** And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

**27** Then Peter answered and said to Him, “See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?”

**28** So Jesus said to them, “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

**29** And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.

**30** But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

**On All Saints – from OCA.org:**.

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God’s directive to “be holy, for I am holy” (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

Saint Peter of Damascus mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints. Saint Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain (July 14) adds the Righteous to Saint Peter’s five categories.

Some of the saints are described as Confessors, a category which does not appear in the above lists. Since they are similar in spirit to the martyrs, they are regarded as belonging to the category of Martyrs. They were not put to death as the Martyrs were, but they boldly confessed Christ and came close to being executed for their faith. Saint Maximus the Confessor (January 21) is such a saint.

The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The Apostles are listed first, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The Martyrs come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death.

Although they come first chronologically, the Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs. This is because the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament.

The holy Hierarchs comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

The Monastic Saints are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. Although some people erroneously believe that monks and nuns are useless and unproductive, Saint John Climacus had a high regard for them: “Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men” (LADDER, Step 26:31).

The last category, the Righteous, are those who attained holiness of life while living “in the world.” Examples include Abraham and his wife Sarah, Job, Saints Joachim and Anna, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, Saint Juliana of Lazarevo, and others.

**Tone 8** **Troparion**  *(Resurrection)*

You descended from on high, O Merciful One!

You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//

O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

**Tone 4** **Troparion**  *(from the Pentecostarion)*

As with fine porphyry and royal purple,

Your Church has been adorned with Your martyr’s blood shed through-

out all the world.

She cries to You, O Christ God:

“Send down Your bounties on Your people,//

grant peace to Your habitation and great mercy to our souls!”

**Tone 8 Kontakion** *(from the Pentecostarion)*

The universe offers You the God-bearing Martyrs

as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator.

By their prayers keep Your Church, Your habitation, in abiding peace//

through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!