

**12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 3**  
**SS Alexander, John and Paul, Patriarchs of Constantinople**

**Typika (Reader's Service)**

*When a priest is not present in order to celebrate the Divine Liturgy*

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**NOTE:** Choose one person to be the Reader.

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**Reader:** Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

**All:** Amen.

O heavenly King,  
the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth,  
Who are everywhere and fill all things;  
Treasury of blessings  
and Giver of life,  
come and abide in us,  
and cleanse us from every impurity,//  
and save our souls, O Good One!

**Reader:** Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. **(3x)**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake. Lord have mercy. **(3x)**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

**All:** Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespasses against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

**Reader:** Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

**All:** Amen.

**Reader:** Lord have mercy. **(12x)**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O come let us worship God our King.

O come let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

O come let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

### **The First Antiphon (Ps. 103)**

Bless the Lord, O my soul; blessed are You, O Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:

Who forgives all your iniquity, Who heals all your diseases.

The Lord is compassionate and merciful,

Longsuffering and of great goodness!

Bless the Lord, O my soul; blessed are You, O Lord.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

### **The Second Antiphon (Ps. 146)**

Praise the Lord, O my soul.

I will praise the Lord as long as I live,

I will sing praises to my God while I have being.

Put not your trust in princes,

In sons of men, in whom there is no salvation.

When his breath departs, he returns to his earth;

On that very day his plans perish.

The Lord will reign forever, Your God O Zion to all generations.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

## Hymn of St. Justinian

Only-begotten Son and Immortal Word of God,  
Who for our salvation willed to be incarnate  
Of the Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary,  
Who without change became man and were crucified,  
Who are one of the Holy Trinity,  
Glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
O Christ, our God, trampling down death by death,  
Save us.

### Third Antiphon (*Matthew 5*)

In Your kingdom remember us, O Lord, when You come in Your Kingdom  
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are you when men shall revile you, and persecute you,  
and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.  
Rejoice, and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

### Tone 3      Troparion      (*Resurrection*)

Let the heavens rejoice!  
Let the earth be glad!  
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.  
He has trampled down death by death.  
He has become the first born of the dead.  
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,  
and has granted to the world//  
great mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

**Tone 3      Kontakion    *(Resurrection)***

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,  
leading us from the gates of death.

On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;  
with the Prophets and Patriarchs//  
they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

**Trisagion Hymn**

Holy God, Holy mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal have mercy on us.  
Holy God, Holy mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us.

***Prokeimenon***

**Reader:**      The Prokeimenon in the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tone**  
Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! *(Ps 46/47:6)*

**All:**            Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

**Reader:**      *Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!* *(Ps 46/47:1)*

**All:**            Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

**Reader:**      Sing praises to our God, sing praises!

**All:**            Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

**Epistle**

**Reader:**      The Reading is from the First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians –  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11

**Reader:**      In the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tone:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
*In You, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame!* *(Ps 30/31:1)*

**All:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Reader:** *Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me!* (Ps 30/31:2)

**All:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Reader:** *Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me!* (Ps 30/31:2)

**All:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

### **The Gospel**

**Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

**All:** Glory to You, O Lord, Glory to You!

**Reader:** Matthew 19:16 – 26

**All:** Glory to You, O Lord, Glory to You!

### **The Creed** *(Read Together)*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  
the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages;  
Light of Light, true God of true God;  
begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father;  
by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from  
heaven,  
and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man;  
And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried;  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures;  
And ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father;  
And He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead;  
Whose kingdom shall have no end.  
And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life; Who proceeds from the Father;  
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;

Who spoke by the prophets.  
In One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.  
I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.  
I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come.  
Amen.

**Reader:** Remit, pardon, forgive, O God, our offenses, both voluntary and involuntary, in deed and word, in knowledge and ignorance, by day and by night, in mind and thought; forgive us all things, for You are good and the Lover of mankind.

**All:** Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

**Reader:** Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

**All:** Amen.

**Reader:** Lord, have mercy. **(12x)**

**All:** One is Holy, One is the Lord, Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **Hymn to the Theotokos**

It is truly meet to bless you O Theotokos,  
Ever-blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God.  
More honorable than the Cherubim,  
and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim:  
without defilement you gave birth to God the Word:  
true Theotokos, we magnify you.

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### **Litanies (optional) – Lead by Reader**

General:

O Lord, Jesus Christ our God, in Your mercies and loving-kindness, You regard the humble prayers of all who call upon You with their whole heart. Incline Your ear and hear now our prayer, offered to You in humility.

Be mindful, O Lord, of Your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. Confirm and strengthen it. Increase it and keep it in peace, and preserve it unconquerable forever.

Be mindful, O Lord, of our Father, Archbishop Irénée, and of every bishop of the Orthodox; the priests and deacons and all the clergy of the Church; which You have established to feed the flock of Your Word; and by their prayers have mercy on us sinners.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all civil authorities, of our armed forces, of this city in which we dwell, and of every city and country; grant them peaceful times that we, in their tranquility, may lead a calm and peaceful life in all godliness and holiness.

Be mindful, O Lord, of those who travel by land, by sea, and by air; of the old and the young; the orphans and widows; the sick, the suffering, the sorrowful, the afflicted, the captives, and the needy poor; and send down Your mercies on all of them, especially     N     for You are the Giver of all good things.

Be mindful of us, O Lord, Your humble servants; and grant us Your grace, that we may be diligent and faithful, avoiding evil company and influence resisting temptation ; that we may lead a godly and righteous life, blameless and peaceful, ever serving You; that we may be accounted worthy to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all those who have fallen asleep in the hope of resurrection unto life eternal, especially,           N          ; pardon all their transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, whether in word, or deed, or thought. Shelter them in a place of brightness, a place of green pastures, a place of repose, where all sickness, sorrow, and sighing have fled away, and where the sight of Your countenance rejoices all Your saints from all the ages. Grant them Your heavenly Kingdom and a portion in Your ineffable blessings, and the enjoyment of Your unending Life.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, for You are merciful and compassionate, and love mankind, and to You are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**All:**                   Amen

#### For the Sick

O holy Father, heavenly Physician of our souls and bodies, Who have sent Your Only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to heal all our ailments and deliver us from death: Visit and heal Your servant(s)

\_\_\_\_N\_\_\_\_, granting him/her/them release from pain and restoration to health and vigor, that he/she/they may give thanks unto You and bless Your holy Name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**All:** Amen

**In times of Forest Fires**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who in Your disciples' necessity rebuked the wind, and said to the sea: 'Peace be still' Hear our cry. We pray for our brothers and sisters and all your innocent forest creatures in danger from forest fire. Rebuke for them the wind that it may be calm; send for them a sufficient rain; and grant Your comfort to all who live or work in the forests of our land, that enjoying the beauty of Your creation, we may ever give thanks to You, our heavenly Father; to whom with You and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen

**All:** Amen

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**Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. **(3x)**

**All:** O Lord, Bless.

**Reader (Facing the Main Icons):**

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

**All:** Amen.

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## SS Alexander, John and Paul, Patriarchs of Constantinople



Saints Alexander, John, and Paul, Constantinople Patriarchs, lived at different times, but each of them happened to clash with the activities of heretics who sought to distort the teachings of the Church.

Saint Alexander was born in AD 255 and was distinguished, from a very young age, for his faith and devotion to Christ and the teaching of the Holy Gospel. Saint Alexander was sent to the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea as the delegate of Saint Metrophanes, Bishop of Constantinople. The heretic Arius deceitfully agreed to enter into communion with the Orthodox, and the emperor Saint Constantine set a day for receiving Arius. All night long Saint Alexander prayed, imploring the Lord not to permit the heretic to be received into communion with the Church. In the morning, when Arius triumphantly went to the church, surrounded by imperial counselors

and soldiers, he was stricken with illness on the Constantine Square, – his belly exploded and the innards fell out. His Holiness Patriarch Alexander, was Bishop from 325 until 337 and having toiled much, died in the year 340 at the age of 98

Saint Alexander was succeeded by Saint Paul the Confessor, who died a martyr's death at the hands of the Arians. Saint Paul, by birth a Cypriot, became Patriarch of Constantinople (780-784) during the reign of the Iconoclast-emperor Leo IV the Khazar (775-780), and was a virtuous and pious but timid man. Viewing the martyrdom, which the Orthodox endured for holy icons, the saint concealed his Orthodoxy and associated with the iconoclasts. After the death of the emperor Leo, he wanted to restore icon-veneration but was not able to accomplish it since, since the iconoclasts were still quite powerful. The saint realized, that it was not in his powers to guide the flock, and so he left the patriarchal throne and went secretly to the monastery of Saint Florus, where he took the schema. He repented his silence and association with the iconoclasts and talked of the necessity for convening the Eighth Ecumenical Council to condemn the Iconoclast heresy. Upon his advice, there was chosen to the patriarchal throne Saint Tarasios (784-806), at that time a prominent imperial counselor. The saint died a schema-monk in the year 804.

The Saint John commemorated here appears to be the one who was Patriarch during the years 562-577, surnamed Scholasticus, who is also commemorated on February 21. He was from Antioch, where he had been a lawyer (scholasticus); he was made presbyter, then was sent to Constantinople as representative (apocrisiarius) of the Patriarch of Antioch, and was appointed Patriarch of Constantinople by the Emperor Justinian.

The three Patriarchs of Constantinople, Saints Alexander, Paul, and John, are eloquent proof of God's blessing in the lives of the people.

