

ΚΑΝΟΝΑ ΠΙΣΤΕΩΣ - MODEL OF FAITH

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA PARISH OF SAINT NICHOLAS MARRICKVILLE

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Κυριακή 14 Σεπτεμβρίου 2025
Ἡ Παγκόσμιος Ὑψωσις τοῦ Τιμίου καὶ
Ζωοποιοῦ Σταυροῦ

Ἀπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Σταυροῦ

Σώσον Κύριε τόν λαόν σου καί
ευλόγησον τήν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας
τοῖς Βασιλεύσι κατά βαρβάρων
δωρούμενος καί τό σόν φυλάττων διά
τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

Κοντάκιον.

Ὁ ὑψωθεὶς ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ ἐκουσίως, τῇ
ἐπωνύμῳ σου καινῇ πολιτείᾳ τοὺς
οἰκτιρμούς σου δώρησαι, Χριστέ ὁ
Θεός· εὐφρανον ἐν τῇ δυνάμει σου τοὺς
πιστοὺς βασιλεῖς ἡμῶν, νίκας χορηγῶν
αὐτοῖς κατὰ τῶν πολεμίων· τήν
συμμαχίαν ἔχοιεν τήν σήν, ὄπλον
εἰρήνης, ἀήττητον τρόπαιον.

Ἀντὶ τοῦ Τρισαγίου ὕμνου ψάλλουμε:
Τὸν Σταυρόν σου προσκυνοῦμεν
Δέσποτα, καὶ τὴν ἀγίαν σου Ἀνάστασιν
δοξάζομεν. (γ')

Sunday 14 September 2025
The Universal Elevation of the Holy
and Life-giving Cross

Apolytikion of the Holy Cross

Save, O Lord, your people, and bless
your inheritance, granting victory to
our kings over enemies, and by your
Cross protecting your domain.

Kontakion

You who were lifted on the cross
voluntarily, O Christ our God, bestow
Your tender compassions upon Your
new community to which You gave
Your name. Cause our faithful
emperors to be glad in Your power,
granting them the victories against
their adversaries. And for an ally,
Lord, may they have You, peace as
their armor, the trophy invincible.

Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:
We venerate Your Cross, O Master,
and we glorify Your Holy
Resurrection. (3)

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ

Πρὸς Κορινθίους Α΄ Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου (α΄, 18-24)

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ λόγος ὁ τοῦ σταυροῦ τοῖς μὲν ἀπολλυμένοις μωρία ἐστὶ, τοῖς δὲ σωζομένοις ἡμῖν δύναμις Θεοῦ ἐστὶ. γέγραπται γάρ· ἀπολῶ τὴν σοφίαν τῶν σοφῶν, καὶ τὴν σύνεσιν τῶν συνετῶν ἀθετήσω. ποῦ σοφός; ποῦ γραμματεὺς; ποῦ συζητητὴς τοῦ αἰῶνος τούτου; οὐχὶ ἐμώραnen ὁ Θεὸς τὴν σοφίαν τοῦ κόσμου τούτου; ἐπειδὴ γὰρ ἐν τῇ σοφίᾳ τοῦ Θεοῦ οὐκ ἔγνω ὁ κόσμος διὰ τῆς σοφίας τὸν Θεόν, εὐδόκησεν ὁ Θεὸς διὰ τῆς μωρίας τοῦ κηρύγματος σῶσαι τοὺς πιστεύοντας. ἐπειδὴ καὶ Ἰουδαῖοι σημεῖον αἰτοῦσι καὶ Ἕλληνες σοφίαν ζητοῦσιν, ἡμεῖς δὲ κηρύσσομεν Χριστὸν ἐσταυρωμένον, Ἰουδαίοις μὲν σκάνδαλον, Ἕλλησι δὲ μωρίαν, αὐτοῖς δὲ τοῖς κλητοῖς, Ἰουδαίοις τε καὶ Ἕλλησι, Χριστὸν Θεοῦ δύναμις καὶ Θεοῦ σοφία.

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου (ιβ΄, 6 – 11, 13 – 20, 25 – 28, 30)

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, συμβούλιον ἐποίησαν οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ οἱ πρεσβύτεροι κατὰ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ὅπως αὐτὸν ἀπολέσωσι. Καὶ παρεγένοντο πρὸς Πιλάτον λέγοντες· σταύρωσον σταύρωσον αὐτόν. λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Πιλάτος· λάβετε αὐτόν ὑμεῖς καὶ σταυρώσατε· ἐγὼ γὰρ οὐχ εὐρίσκω ἐν αὐτῷ αἰτίαν. ἀπεκρίθησαν αὐτῷ οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι· ἡμεῖς νόμον ἔχομεν, καὶ κατὰ τὸν νόμον ἡμῶν ὀφείλει ἀποθανεῖν, ὅτι ἑαυτὸν Θεοῦ υἱὸν ἐποίησεν. Ὅτε οὖν ἤκουσεν ὁ Πιλάτος τοῦτον τὸν λόγον, μᾶλλον ἐφοβήθη, καὶ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὸ πραιτώριον πάλιν καὶ λέγει τῷ Ἰησοῦ· πόθεν εἶ σύ; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοὺς ἀπόκρισιν οὐκ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ. λέγει οὖν αὐτῷ ὁ Πιλάτος· ἐμοὶ οὐ λαλεῖς; οὐκ οἶδας ὅτι ἐξουσίαν ἔχω σταυρῶσαι σε καὶ ἐξουσίαν ἔχω ἀπολῦσαι σε; ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς·

EPISTLE

Paul's 1st Letter to the Corinthians (1:18-24)

Brethren, the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the cleverness of the clever I will thwart." Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Holy Gospel according to St John (19: 6 – 11, 13 – 20, 25 – 28, 30)

At that time, the chief priests and the elders held counsel against Jesus, how to destroy him. And they went to Pilate, saying, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you,

οὐκ εἶχες ἐξουσίαν οὐδεμίαν κατ' ἐμοῦ, εἰ μὴ ἦν σοι δεδομένον ἄνωθεν· διὰ τοῦτο ὁ παραδιδούς μέ σοι μείζονα ἁμαρτίαν ἔχει. ὁ οὖν Πιλάτος ἀκούσας τοῦτον τὸν λόγον ἤγαγεν ἔξω τὸν Ἰησοῦν, καὶ ἐκάθισεν ἐπὶ τοῦ βήματος εἰς τόπον λεγόμενον Λιθόστρωτον, ἐβραϊστί δὲ Γαββαθᾶ· ἦν δὲ παρασκευὴ τοῦ πάσχα, ὥρα δὲ ὥσει ἔκτη· καὶ λέγει τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις· ἴδε ὁ βασιλεὺς ὑμῶν. οἱ δὲ ἐκραύγασαν· ἄρον ἄρον, σταύρωσον αὐτόν. λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Πιλάτος· τὸν βασιλέα ὑμῶν σταυρώσω; ἀπεκρίθησαν οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς· οὐκ ἔχομεν βασιλέα εἰ μὴ Καίσαρα. Τότε οὖν παρέδωκεν αὐτὸν αὐτοῖς ἵνα σταυρωθῇ. Παρέλαβον δὲ τὸν Ἰησοῦν καὶ ἤγαγον· καὶ βαστάζων τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ ἐξήλθεν εἰς τὸν λεγόμενον κρανίου τόπον, ὃς λέγεται ἐβραϊστί Γολγοθᾶ, ὅπου αὐτὸν ἐσταύρωσαν, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄλλους δύο ἐντεῦθεν καὶ ἐντεῦθεν, μέσον δὲ τὸν Ἰησοῦν. ἔγραψε δὲ καὶ τίτλον ὁ Πιλάτος καὶ ἔθηκεν ἐπὶ τοῦ σταυροῦ· ἦν δὲ γεγραμμένον· Ἰησοῦς ὁ Ναζωραῖος ὁ βασιλεὺς τῶν Ἰουδαίων. τοῦτον οὖν τὸν τίτλον πολλοὶ ἀνέγνωσαν τῶν Ἰουδαίων, ὅτι ἐγγὺς ἦν τῆς πόλεως ὁ τόπος ὅπου ἐσταυρώθη ὁ Ἰησοῦς· καὶ ἦν γεγραμμένον Ἑβραϊστί, Ἑλληνιστί, Ῥωμαϊστί. Οἱ μὲν οὖν στρατιῶται ταῦτα ἐποίησαν. εἰστήκεισαν δὲ παρὰ τῷ σταυρῷ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἡ ἀδελφὴ τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ, Μαρία ἡ τοῦ Κλωπᾶ καὶ Μαρία ἡ Μαγδαληνὴ. Ἰησοῦς οὖν ἰδὼν τὴν μητέρα καὶ τὸν μαθητὴν παρεστῶτα ὃν ἠγάπα, λέγει τῇ μητρὶ αὐτοῦ· γύναι, ἴδε ὁ υἱός σου. εἵτα λέγει τῷ μαθητῇ· ἰδοὺ ἡ μήτηρ σου. καὶ ἀπ' ἐκείνης τῆς ὥρας ἔλαβεν ὁ μαθητὴς αὐτὴν εἰς τὰ ἴδια. Μετὰ τοῦτο εἰδὼς ὁ Ἰησοῦς ὅτι πάντα ἤδη τετέλεσται, ἵνα τελειωθῇ ἡ γραφή, λέγει· διψῶ. ὅτε οὖν ἔλαβε τὸ ὄξος ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε, τετέλεσται, καὶ κλίνας τὴν κεφαλὴν παρέδωκε τὸ πνεῦμα.

and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore he who delivered me to you has the greater sin." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King!" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. Then when Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Ευαγγελικό μήνυμα

Σήμερα, 14 Σεπτεμβρίου, η Εκκλησία μας εορτάζει την Υψωση του Τιμίου και Ζωοποιού Σταυρού. Ο Σταυρός δεν είναι απλώς ξύλο, αλλά το σημείο της σωτηρίας μας. Πάνω σε αυτόν ο Χριστός άπλωσε τα χέρια Του και αγκάλιασε ολόκληρη την ανθρωπότητα, νικώντας την αμαρτία και τον θάνατο.

Ο Σταυρός είναι το όπλο κατά του διαβόλου, η γέφυρα που μας οδηγεί από τη γη στον ουρανό. Ο άγιος Ιωάννης ο Χρυσόστομος λέει πως «ο Σταυρός είναι η ελπίδα των χριστιανών, το λιμάνι των ταλαιπωρημένων, η θεραπεία των ασθενών».

Καλούμαστε, λοιπόν, όχι μόνο να προσκυνούμε τον Σταυρό, αλλά και να σηκώνουμε τον προσωπικό μας σταυρό με υπομονή και αγάπη. Μέσα στις δυσκολίες, στις θλίψεις και στις δοκιμασίες, ο Σταυρός μας δείχνει ότι μέσα από τον πόνο γεννιέται η ζωή, και μέσα από τη θυσία έρχεται η Ανάσταση.

Ας κρατήσουμε τον Σταυρό ως φως και οδηγό, ώστε να πορευθούμε με πίστη και ταπείνωση προς τη Βασιλεία του Θεού.

Gospel message

Today's Gospel recalls Christ's trial, humiliation, suffering and crucifixion on the Cross at Golgotha. And today we celebrate the Exaltation of the Cross to commemorate the finding of the True Cross by St Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine in 326.

But, why is the Cross so important to us in our faith? It is because the Cross **is the symbol** of True Love and our bridge from this life to eternal life.

Because it is through the Cross, that Christ conquered death and opened the gates of paradise for all who believe Him. He took upon Himself, all our suffering, all our sins, even our death, by laying down His life for us on the Cross. And in a miraculous way, we were forgiven and saved by His precious blood, which ran down from His crucifixion at Golgotha, down to the present day and for all time to come.

So we can see why the Cross is important in our faith, because it is **the symbol of our salvation!** And for this reason we **do not** venerate the Cross without worshipping Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Who died as the Saviour of the world!

Hence, the Cross is more than a symbol of our belief, it is our hope, for the Cross is not only of sacrifice and suffering, but it is also the **unique symbol of victory and life** and it becomes our **bridge to the Kingdom of Heaven!**

We all need to come to the Cross with humility and repentance and begin on the road to our salvation, by venerating the Life-Giving Cross and give thanks to Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.