

MAY 7

Wednesday of the Third Week of Pascha

Repose of St. Alexis Toth, Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America

"Lord I Call..." Tone 2

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon You!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Your sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!//

Hear me, O Lord!

*v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name!*

*v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*

*v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

**Tone 2**      *(from the Pentecostarion) (Joseph of Arimathea)*

When the Myrrhbearers first reached the tomb

they lamented Christ, seeing the stone rolled away,

not understanding the empty tomb.

But when they heard the Angel's sayings,

confirming the Resurrection of the One Who died for us,//

the Disciples of Christ rejoiced!

*v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

The Myrrhbearing Disciples of Christ

fulfilled the command of the radiant Angel, who said:

"Hell has been emptied!

The King Who died for us has risen to save us all!"//

They heralded everlasting, divine joy to the Disciples.

*v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

The Women Disciples of Christ,  
forsaking their fountain of tears,  
hurried to the Apostles with tidings of joy:  
“We have seen Him Who is our joy!  
The Lord is risen from the tomb!  
Hear the voice of joy; cast sorrow away!//  
Receive our news and rejoice!”

*v. (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

**Tone 6\***      *(from the Menaion, for St. Alexis)*

Come, all who love the saints,  
let us honor the new Man of God,  
a fruitful branch of Christ, the True Vine,  
a defender of the Orthodox Church,  
the thrice-blessed Priest Alexis,//  
our father and teacher!

*v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

Zealous for the Law of God,  
King Josiah taught Israel to serve only the Lord.  
Our divinely-wise Father Alexis  
guided his people to the Orthodox Faith,  
teaching them to cry aloud://  
“O Lord, have mercy on us!”

*v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Our holy Father Alexis,  
guided by the Spirit of Truth,  
exposed the error of ignorance  
and led his people to the True Faith.  
In humility concealing his virtues from others,//  
he thereby received a heavenly crown.

*v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

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\* Music for the stichera for St. Alexis from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org).

Today the Church celebrates a feast of great joy,  
for the holy Priest Alexis guides his sheep back to the knowledge of the Truth,  
watering them with the ever-flowing fountain of his teachings,  
and instructing them to sing://  
“Glory to God for His great mercy!”

*v. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

The righteous Priest Alexis  
appears as a radiant star.  
He shines with the light of holiness  
as he nourishes his flock with the Word of God.  
And having embraced the Orthodox Faith,  
that flock in thanksgiving still cries aloud with joy://  
“Glory to God for His great mercy!”

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

**Tone 6**      *(from the Menaion, for St. Alexis)*

Come, Orthodox faithful,  
let us praise Alexis, the new Man of God,  
who shone forth as a radiant lamp,  
dispelling the gloom of ignorance,  
proclaiming the Truth to those deceived by error,  
and restoring to them their blessed inheritance -//  
the Orthodox faith of their fathers!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 6**      *(from the Pentecostarion)*

The myrrhbearing women reached Your tomb  
and saw the seals of the tomb broken.  
Not finding Your most pure Body, they lamented, saying:  
“Who has stolen our hope?  
Who has taken the dead One, naked and anointed,  
the sole consolation of His Mother?  
How can the Life of the dead have died?  
How can the Capturer of hell have been buried?//  
But arise in three days as You said, O Savior, and save our souls!”

Old Testament Readings (*St. Alexis*)  
Composite 2 (Proverbs)  
Composite 4 (Wisdom of Solomon)  
Composite 5 (Wisdom of Solomon)

Litya

*(If the rector desires the Litya, following the sticheron to the Patron Saint of the Temple,  
these stichera are sung)*

**Tone 6** (*from the Menaion, for St. Alexis*)

Come, all who love the feasts,  
let us sing together with all the Angels and saints!  
Today the laborer rests from his work,  
and the earthly voice of the teacher is stilled.  
Today our Father Alexis commends his soul to God//  
and becomes a citizen of heaven.

Today Wilkes-Barre rejoices with Minneapolis,  
celebrating the most radiant festival of Saint Alexis.  
Exalt him, O bishops! Praise him, O priests!  
Be illumined by his teachings, O people!  
He now stands before the throne of God//  
entreating Him to save our souls.

A new star has appeared in the heavens,  
illumining the spiritual darkness of our times,  
guiding us on the paths of righteousness, away from the abyss of error.  
Therefore let us offer hymns of praise to Saint Alexis//  
and venerate his holy icon!

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

**Tone 6** (*from the Menaion, for St. Alexis*)

O glorious wonder!  
A new saint is revealed in America.  
Those who fulfill the Gospel teaching of Christ  
are seen to receive great gifts from God//  
and attain the heavenly Kingdom.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 1**      *(from the Pentecostarion)*

The women came with fear to the tomb,  
hastening to anoint Your Body with sweet spices.  
Not finding it, they were perplexed and questioned one another,  
as they did not know of Your Resurrection.  
But an Angel appeared to them and said://  
“Christ is risen, granting us great mercy.”

**Aposticha**

**Tone 2**      *(from the Menaion, for St. Alexis)*

Come, all you lovers of piety,  
let us praise our Father Alexis in hymns!  
He is the adornment of priests and the boast of the faithful,  
a fearless defender of the Orthodox faith,//  
and our heavenly intercessor.

*V. Your priests shall be clothed in righteousness and Your saints shall rejoice.  
(Ps. 131:9)*

Rejoice, O people of America,  
let us make a joyful noise to God!  
Sing a new song to the Lord, O Minneapolis!  
Exalt him, O Wilkes-Barre:  
from you the sound of our Father Alexis went forth;  
his words have put the hard of heart to shame,//  
showing all where to seek the Truth.

*V. My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be  
understanding. (Ps. 48:3)*

With what wreaths of victory  
shall we crown our most wise teacher, Alexis?  
What words can suffice to tell of his love for Christ's Church?  
As a shepherd he protected his flock//  
from all foes, visible and invisible.

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

**Tone 6**      *(from the Menaion, for St. Alexis)*

Fleeing the harm that comes from vanity and pride,  
you strove to hide your virtues from the eyes of others  
and patiently endured trials and afflictions.  
Therefore the Lord, Who sees all things, //  
has glorified you, O our Father Alexis.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 6**      *(from the Pentecostarion)*

Joseph asked for the body of Jesus  
and placed it in his own new tomb.  
It is fitting for Him to come forth from it as from a bridal chamber.  
You destroyed the dominion of death and opened the gates of Paradise to  
man: //  
O Lord, glory to You!

*(at Great Vespers)*

**Tone 2**      **Troparion**      *(Pentecostarion)*

The noble Joseph,  
when he had taken down Your most pure Body from the Tree,  
wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices,  
and placed it in a new tomb.  
But You rose on the third day, O Lord, //  
granting the world great mercy.

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

**Tone 4**      **Troparion**      *(St. Alexis)*

O righteous Father Alexis,  
our heavenly intercessor and teacher,  
divine adornment of the Church of Christ,  
entreat the Master of All  
to strengthen the Orthodox Faith in America,  
to grant peace to the world //  
and to our souls great mercy!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 2      Troparion    (*Pentecostarion*)**

The Angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said:  
“Myrrh is fitting for the dead;  
but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption!  
So proclaim: ‘The Lord is risen,//  
granting the world great mercy.’”

*(at the Divine Liturgy)*

**Tone 2      Troparion    (*Pentecostarion*)**

The noble Joseph,  
when he had taken down Your most pure Body from the Tree,  
wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices,  
and placed it in a new tomb.  
But You rose on the third day, O Lord,//  
granting the world great mercy.

**Tone 2      Troparion    (*Resurrection*)**

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,  
You slew hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.  
And when from the depths You raised the dead,  
all the powers of heaven cried out://  
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

**Tone 2      Troparion    (*Pentecostarion*)**

The Angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said:  
“Myrrh is fitting for the dead;  
but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption!  
So proclaim: ‘The Lord is risen,//  
granting the world great mercy.’”

**Tone 4      Troparion    (*St. Alexis*)**

O righteous Father Alexis,  
our heavenly intercessor and teacher,  
divine adornment of the Church of Christ,  
entreat the Master of All  
to strengthen the Orthodox Faith in America,  
to grant peace to the world//  
and to our souls great mercy!

**Tone 5      Kontakion    *(St. Alexis)***

Let us, the faithful, praise the Priest Alexis,  
a bright beacon of Orthodoxy in America,  
a model of patience and humility,  
a worthy shepherd of the flock of Christ!  
He called back sheep who had been led astray  
and brought them by his preaching//  
to the Heavenly Kingdom.

**Tone 2      Kontakion    *(Pentecostarion)***

You commanded the Myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ God.  
By Your Resurrection, You stopped the lamentation of Eve, the first mother.  
You commanded them to preach to Your Apostles://  
“The Savior is risen from the tomb!”

**Tone 6      Prokeimenon    *(Pentecostarion)***

O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! *(Ps. 27:9a)*

*V. To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps. 27:1a)*

**Tone 7      Prokeimenon    *(St. Alexis)***

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord / and shall hope in Him. *(Ps. 63:11a)*

**Epistle**

(19) Acts 8:18-25

(200) Galatians 1:11-19 *(St. Alexis)*

**Tone 8**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. O Lord, You have been gracious to Your land; You have turned back the  
captivity of Jacob. (Ps. 84:1)*

*V. Mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each  
other. (Ps. 84:10)*

**Tone 6**

*V. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments. (Ps. 111:1)*

**Gospel**

(21) John 6:35-39

(35-ctr) John 10:1-9 (*St. Alexis*)

*(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing: The Angel Cried...)*

**Communion Hymn**

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!  
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil  
tidings! (*Ps. 111:6*)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

And unto us He has given eternal life.  
Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!

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*Prepared by the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, Orthodox Church in America.*