

**AUGUST 1**

**Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Lifegiving Cross of the Lord  
Holy Seven Maccabean Martyrs**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 4**

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!  
Hear me, O Lord!  
Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!  
Receive the voice of my prayer,  
when I call upon Thee!//  
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise  
in Thy sight as incense,  
and let the lifting up of my hands  
be an evening sacrifice!//  
Hear me, O Lord!

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

**Tone 4**      *(for the Cross)*      *(Called from on high)*

Today the divine assembly of the faithful rejoices,  
for the Cross appears throughout the world.  
It illuminates the heavens with ineffable light.  
It brightens the air, adorning the face of the earth.  
The Church of Christ exults with divine singing,  
venerating and serving the holy and wondrous Cross, which preserves her from  
above.

As we are strengthened by its power, let us approach the Master saying://  
"Grant peace to the world, and enlighten our souls!"

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

Let all creation rejoice and dance,  
for today the Cross shines from heaven to the ends of the earth!  
It enlightens those born on earth, bringing them to unity.  
Today mankind exults with the choirs of Angels,  
for the Cross has destroyed the dividing walls and gathered all into one.  
Shining brighter than the sun, it enlightens all creation with grace, //  
showing salvation plainly to those who honor it in faith.

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

Shining brighter than the sun,  
revealing itself to the world as the scepter of Christ the King,  
the Cross shines to all the ends of the earth.  
It has brought the human race out of hell.  
And having despoiled hell and overthrown the Enemy,  
it vanquishes the arrogance of demons.  
Now it declares the Resurrection of the Savior, and saves all who cry: //  
“Grant peace to the world, and enlighten our souls!”

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

**Tone 1**      *(for the Maccabees)*      *(O all-praised martyrs)*

Persecution did not shake the roof of the Law,  
firmly upheld by seven pillars.  
For they bravely endured the senseless fury of their tormentor,  
giving their bodies to the executioners. //  
These noble young men and brothers were the faithful guardians of the oracles of  
Moses.

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

Raising their minds above visible things,  
their bodily limbs cut down,  
the brave and righteous youths, with their divinely-wise mother,  
were strengthened by the great hopes that have been fulfilled, //  
as they now rest in the bosom of their forefather Abraham.

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

Most holy Eleazar, the young men, and their divinely-wise mother,  
arming themselves firmly with youthful boldness of soul,  
gathering strength from zeal,  
steadfastly attacked the adversary for the sake of piety//  
to preserve the Law of their Fathers.

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

**Tone 8**      *(for the Maccabees, by John the Monk)*

The holy Maccabees said to the tyrant:  
“Antíochus, there is for us one King alone:  
God – in Whom we have our being and to Whom we turn.  
A world higher and more lasting than the one we see awaits us.  
Our homeland is the mighty and invincible Jerusalem.  
Our festival is life with the Angels.”//  
By their prayers, have mercy on us and save us!

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

**Tone 8**      *(for the Cross, by John the Monk)*

Thy precious Cross, O Christ God,  
which Moses of old prefigured in his own person  
when he overthrew Amalek and put him to flight;  
which David commanded to be worshipped,  
calling it Thy footstool:  
this same Cross we sinners worship today with unworthy lips.  
We praise Thee Who wast pleased to be nailed upon it,  
and we cry to Thee://  
“With the thief, make us worthy of Thy Kingdom, O Lord!”

## Litya

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

### **Tone 1**      *(for the Maccabees)*

The mother who labored greatly  
called her own children to the struggle, saying:  
“Follow the gray hairs of Abraham,  
that you may share in the slaying of Isaac!”  
They accepted her guidance and followed her.  
They beheld one another, paying the penalty of torture.//  
By their prayers, O God, have mercy on us.

### **Tone 4**

Seven chosen pillars were hewn from one living rock,  
and they showed the pillar of the Law to be unshaken.//  
Through them, O Savior, preserve our souls in peace!

### **Tone 5**

The sons of Solomonía, the guardians of the Law,  
cried out to Antíochus as they struggled in the arena:  
“We stand fast for the Law of our Fathers.  
Neither fire, nor sword nor wild beasts nor flogging shall part us.  
Together we shall die with our aged mother and our father and teacher,//  
living and rejoicing throughout all ages.”

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

### **Tone 4**      *(for the Maccabees)*

Come, O believers, and let us behold the warfare against the Maccabees  
and the courage of the holy children.  
The king and tyrant who ruled over all nations  
was conquered by an old man, seven children and a woman.//  
By their prayers, O God, have mercy on us!

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

### **Tone 4**      *(Theotokion, of the Cross)*

O Lord, Who enabled the meek David to conquer the foreigner,  
enable the Orthodox with the weapon of the Cross to cast down our enemies!  
Show us Thy mercy of old, O Compassionate One,  
and let them know that Thou art our God,  
and that we who put our trust in Thee will triumph!//  
Through the prayers of Thy Mother who ever intercedes, may we be granted  
great mercy!

## Aposticha

### Tone 4 (from the Octoechos)

Thou hast illumined the choir of the Apostles  
with the Holy Spirit, O Christ our God.  
Through their intercessions wash away the filth of our sins, //  
and in Thy compassion have mercy on us.

*V. To Thee I lift up mine eyes, O Thou Who art enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till He have mercy upon us. (Ps 122:1-2)*

The Apostles who had no learning  
were exalted and revealed as teachers of wisdom, O Christ our God.  
By Thine almighty power Thou didst end the confusion of speech, //  
uniting all men by the harmonious song of the Apostles' tongues.

*V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Too long our soul has been sated with the scorn of those who are at ease, the contempt of the proud. (Ps. 122:3-4)*

### Tone 4 (for the Martyrs)

O martyrs of the Lord,  
living sacrifices, spiritual oblations,  
perfect victims, sheep who know God and are known by Him,  
whose fold no wolf can enter; //  
pray that we too may graze with you beside still waters!

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

**Tone 8**      *(for the Maccabees, by Cosmas the Monk)*

The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God:  
Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the forefathers before the Law,  
and their inheritance, the Maccabees, whom now we praise.  
For these sons of Abraham followed him in the faith with strength of soul,  
wrestling even to death for the sake of godliness.  
Raised in reverence and striving worthily, they reproved the godless Antiochus.  
For the sake of eternal life they scorned the things of this world  
and offered everything to God: their souls and tender bodies.  
O holy mother, who brought forth for us these seven sons,  
O Maccabees, and the wise priest Eleazar,  
as you stand before Christ our God, for Whom you labored,  
and as you receive the fruits of your reward,  
ever pray to Him for mankind!//  
For, according to His will, He answers those who pray to Him in faith.

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

**Tone 8**      *(for the Cross)*

The voice of Thy prophet Moses cried out, O God:  
“Behold your Life as It hangs before your eyes!”  
So today the Cross is lifted up and the world is freed from error.  
Today the Resurrection of Christ is renewed.  
The ends of the earth rejoice with David in songs and cymbals.  
“O God, Thou hast wrought salvation in the midst of the earth:  
the Crucifixion and Resurrection by which we are saved.”//  
O all-powerful, good Lord and Lover of man, glory to Thee!

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*(at Vespers)*

**Tone 1      Troparion\* (*Maccabees*)**

We beseech Thee, O Lover of mankind,  
to accept in supplication  
the suffering which the Saints endured for Thee, O Lord, //  
and heal all our infirmities!

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

**Tone 1      Troparion (*Cross*)**

O Lord, save Thy people,  
and bless Thine inheritance!  
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians  
over their adversaries;  
and by virtue of Thy Cross, //  
preserve Thy habitation!

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*(Alternate Troparion for the Maccabees)*

**Tone 4      Troparion (*Maccabees*)**

Let us praise the seven Maccabees,  
with their mother Solomonía and their teacher Eleazar;  
they were splendid in lawful contest  
as guardians of the teachings of the Law. //  
Now as Christ's holy martyrs they ceaselessly intercede for the world.

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\* An alternate troparion for the Maccabees is presented below the line break.



*(at the Divine Liturgy)*

**Tone 1      Troparion    *(Cross)***

O Lord, save Thy people,  
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Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians  
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**Tone 1      Troparion    *(Maccabees)***

We beseech Thee, O Lover of mankind,  
to accept in supplication  
the suffering which the Saints endured for Thee, O Lord, //  
and heal all our infirmities!

**Tone 2      Kontakion    *(Maccabees)***

Seven pillars of the Wisdom of God  
and seven lampstands of the divine Light,  
all-wise Maccabees, greatest of the martyrs before the martyrs, //  
with them ask the God of all to save those who honor you!

**Tone 4      Kontakion    *(Cross)***

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake,  
grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God;  
make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power,  
granting them victories over their adversaries //  
by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

**Tone 6      Prokeimenon    *(Cross)***

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

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

**Tone 4      Prokeimenon      (*Maccabees*)**

The Lord has shown the wonders of His will / to the saints who are in His land.  
(*Ps. 15:3a*)

**Epistle**

(125) 1 Corinthians 1:18-24 (*Cross*)

(330) Hebrews 11:33-12:2 (*Maccabees*)

**Tone 4**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old! (Ps. 73:2)*

*V. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth. (Ps. 73:13)*

**Tone 4**

*V. The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them from all their afflictions. (Ps. 33:17)*

**Gospel**

(60) John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35 (*Cross*)

(38) Matthew 10:32-36; 11:1 (*Maccabees*)

**Communion Hymn**

The light of Thy countenance has shone on us, O Lord. (*Ps. 4:7a*)

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Ps. 32:1*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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