

## Russian Orthodox Church of the Resurrection of Christ

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### Weekday Services

Mon - Fri

Vespers Daily 6 PM

Matins Daily 8 AM

## Schedule for the Week of September 28 – October 4, 2014

<b>Sunday</b> Sep 28	<b>Great_Martyr Nikitas</b>
<b>Saturday</b> Oct 4	<b>5:30 PM Vigil</b>
<b>Sunday</b> Oct 5	<b>Apostle Quadratus</b> <b>8:15 AM Nocturns, Confessions</b> <b>9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия</b>



### Воздвижение Креста Господня (27 сентября)

Этот праздник связан с нахождением Креста, на котором распяли Господа нашего Иисуса Христа.

Поиски Креста, которыми

занималась царица Елена, мать императора Константина Великого, были долгое время безуспешными. В 326 г. Крест был обнаружен под идольским храмом Венеры. Множество христиан пришло поклониться Кресту\* они просили патриарха Макария воздвигнуть Крест, чтобы все могли его видеть.

### Кресть Христов

Страшен Крест Христов. Но я люблю его – он родил для меня ни с чем не сравнимую радость Святой Пасхи. Но к этой радости я могу приблизиться только со своим крестом. Я должен добровольно взять свой крест, я должен полюбить его, признать себя вполне достойным его, как бы труден и тяжел он не был.

Присмотритесь, други наши, к жизни людей вне Христа. Как часто она кончается духовной смертью намного раньше смерти физической. Зло и грех пожирают в человеке все человеческое, зло ненасытно, и ненасытен человек во зле. И это тоже страдание, но страдание не спасительное\* оброком этого страдания всегда будет неминуемая смерть и

гибель души. Суетен и бесплоден жизненный крест без Христа, как бы тяжел он не был.

Крест свой может преобразиться в спасительный крест только тогда, когда с ним пойдут вослед Христу. (Архим. Иоанн Крестьянкин)

**On September 27<sup>th</sup> we commemorated the Exaltation of the Cross.** The Cross has been woven into the very fabric of our lives through its long history as the symbol of the faith.

We are familiar with its use as a sign of mercy and help for us. When we cross our fingers, we are really involving the power the cross, not a form of superstition.

The Feast of the Elevation of the Cross recalls the finding of the True Cross by St. Helena, Constantine's mother. Soon after, was the dedication of the Church of the Resurrection which was built on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and completed in the year 335. About 300 years later in Constantinople was a further exaltation when the Cross was recovered by Emperor Heraclius from the Persians, who seized it when they conquered Jerusalem.

... We read the words which St. Paul sent to the Galatians: "But God forbid that I should glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." He wrote this because he understood the Cross as more than pieces of wood joined together; he understood it not only as a means to final death, but as a way to glory and joy. Sadness and joy are two elements of this feast day. We fast and are sad, yet there is joy as well as sadness in the hymns of the day. The real cross is not only wood and the suffering and the dying; the Cross is also the pull between what is evil and ugly, and good. This is what we call glory and this is what God keeps trying to share with us. The tension is what we experience as Cross. Especially on that day it would be good for us to meditate on which way we are being pulled, between good and evil.

# The Holy Virgin Sweeps Up

Olga Anstey

*The following poem, in a delightful homespun manner, talks about various saints who are celebrated in August (new style): the Prophet Elias on the 2nd, Saint Mary Magdalene on the 4th, the holy Princes Boris and Gleb on the 6th, and the feast of the Holy Mother of God Her Dormition on the 28th.*

The Holy Virgin scolded Elias:  
- Why don't you clean up after yourself,  
grandpa!  
Look at the mess you have made!  
What have you done on your namesday?  
The whole sky is in heaps and piles,  
You've thrown cloud on cloud and left them  
there.  
Here's a broom, come sweep it up.

Elias frowns after his namesday feast,  
Doesn't say anything, just scowls.  
Then he shrugs his shoulders and goes off,  
Goes to put his thunders away in a box.

The Holy Virgin looked into the list of saints  
-  
Whom should She call, who is close?  
She calls upon two brothers, two knights:  
- Gleb and Borisko, come over here  
To clean up the sky, to sweep it up!  
Boris and Gleb shook their heads:  
- We are soldiers, Mother, we are warriors!  
We are comfortable with a sword or a lance,  
But we wouldn't know how to use a broom.

The Holy Virgin thumbed the pages,  
Looked further on in the list.  
- Magdalene! - She cried, - come and help!  
Take the broom and sweep up the sky.

- Mistress! Tomorrow is my namesday,  
And I am all decked out, Mistress:  
In my left hand I'm holding a pitcher of  
myrrh,  
This pitcher is called an alabaster!  
In my right hand I have a red-colored egg,  
The one which I gave to Caesar for Easter?  
So both my hands are taken up!

The Holy Virgin sighed lightly.  
She didn't ask anyone else, just took the  
broom.  
A quiet white trail filled the sky.  
The Most-Pure sweeps the sky cleanly.

The weather will be fair.