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READER'S TYPIKA ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

(13th Sunday after Pentecost)

***The Commemoration of the Miracle Wrought by the
Supreme Commander and Archangel Michael in Colossae***

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us, and save us.

Reader: Amen.

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*Thrice*)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

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

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.

Leader: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

All: Amen.

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

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

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

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

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

THE FIRST ANTIPHON: PSALM 102

Reader: 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 that He hath done for thee, Who is gracious unto all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy, and executeth judgement for all them that are wronged. He hath made His ways known unto Moses, unto the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy; not unto the end will He be angered, neither unto eternity will He be wroth. Not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from

us. Like as a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth. For when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him. And His righteousness is upon sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord in heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion.

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

And again: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy Name; blessed art Thou, O Lord.

THE SECOND ANTIPHON: PSALM 145

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord in my life, I will chant unto my God for as long as I have my be-ing. Trust ye not in princes, in the sons of men, in whom there is no salvation. His spirit shall go forth, and he shall return unto his earth. In that day all his thoughts shall perish. Blessed is he of whom the God of Jacob is his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God, Who hath made heaven and the earth, the sea and all that is therein, Who keepeth truth unto eternity, Who executeth judgement for the wronged, Who giveth food unto the hungry. The Lord looseth the fettered; the Lord maketh wise the blind; the Lord setteth aright the fallen; the Lord loveth the righteous; the Lord preserveth the proselytes. He shall adopt for His own the orphan and widow, and the way of sinners shall He destroy. The Lord shall be king unto eternity; thy God, O Sion, unto generation and generation.

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

THE HYMN OF JUSTINIAN

Choir: Only-begotten Son and Word of God, who art im-mortal, who for our salvation willed to be incarnate of the Holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, and without change became man; and wast crucified, O Christ our God, and trampled down death by death; who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified together with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us.

THE BEATITUDES IN TONE FOUR

In Thy kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

- Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

For the Resurrection in Tone Four

Verse 10: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Through a tree, Adam was deprived of his home in Paradise; while through the wood of the Cross, the thief went there to dwell. For the one by tasting set aside the commandment of the Maker, while the other, crucified with Him, confessed the hidden God crying aloud: Remember me, in Thy Kingdom.

Verse 9: Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Lifted upon the Cross, Thou O Lord as God, hast both destroyed the power of death and blotted out the handwriting against us. Do Thou Who alone lovest mankind, grant us the repentance of

the thief as we serve Thee with faith, O Christ our God, and cry to Thee: Remember us also in Thy Kingdom.

Verse 8: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Crucified and rising from the tomb in power on the third day, with Thyself hast Thou, only Immortal, raised Adam, the first-formed man. Make me also worthy, O Lord, to turn to repentance from my whole heart and with warm faith ever to cry to Thee: Remember me, O Saviour, in Thy Kingdom.

Verse 7: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Thou hast torn to pieces on the Cross, the handwriting against us and counted among the dead, Thou hast bound yonder tyrant, delivering all from the bonds of hell by Thy Resurrection. Through it we have been enlightened and cry aloud to Thee, Lord Who lovest mankind: Remember us also in Thy Kingdom.

Verse 6: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

For our sake He Who is without passion, became a suffering man and nailed upon the Cross of His own will, He raised us with Himself. Therefore with the Cross we glorify the Passion and the Resurrection through which we have both been made anew and through which we have been saved, crying: Remember us also in Thy Kingdom.

Verse 5: Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Let us entreat with faith Him rising from the dead despoiling the power of hell, Who was seen by the women bearing myrrh and said to them: Hail!, for our souls always to be delivered from corruption, crying at all times to Him with the gracious voice of the thief: Remember us also in Thy Kingdom.

For the Archangel Michael¹ in Tone Four

Verse 4: Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Thou goest about the whole earth with divine strength, O all-famed Commander of the Angels, delivering from woes us who call upon thy divine name.

Verse 3: Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in the heavens.

As a divine herald, as a defender of the faithful that cannot be put to shame, thou art called the guide and teacher of the erring, O most Godlike Chief Commander of God.

Verse 2: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As an exceedingly clear mirror of the divine light, thou brightly reflectest the manifestations of the worshipful Spirit, O wonderworthy Michael, foremost of Angels.

Verse 1: Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

He that of His own will established the immaterial Intelligences, willingly dwelleth in thy material womb, O all-blameless Virgin; and He that is invisible is seen in the flesh.

THE SUNDAY EISODIKON

Verse: O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.

Choir: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

¹ These troparia are from 3rd Ode of the 1st Matins canon for the Archangel.

Apolytikia:

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTKION OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL IN TONE FOUR

*(**Thou Who wast raised up**)*

Supreme Commander of the Hosts of the Heavens, * we, the unworthy, importune and beseech thee * that by thy supplications thou encircle us * in the shelter of the wings * of thine immaterial glory, * guarding us who now fall down * and cry to thee with fervor: * Deliver us from dangers of all kinds, * as the great Marshal of the heavenly hosts on high.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE IN TONE ONE

*(**The soldiers standing guard**)*

When Christ God had been born for our sakes from the Virgin, thou faith-fully didst follow Him, keeping His statutes and heeding His sacred laws, O august Mary Magdalene. Hence, as we today observe thy holy remembrance, we receive the loosing of our sins and transgressions through thy holy prayer(s) for us.

THE TRISAGION HYMN

Holy God, Holy mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us. (*thrice*)

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.

THE APOSTOLOS & THE GOSPEL

PROKEIMENON, TONE 4

How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all. (*Ps.103:26a*)
{*twice*}

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly.
(*Ps.103:1*)

How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

APOSTOLOS FOR 13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Reader: The reading is from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians §166 (16:13-24)

Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, and be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If anyone has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

ALLELUIA, TONE 4

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 1: Bend Thy bow, and proceed prosperously, and be king, because of truth and meekness and righteousness. (*Ps.44:3b*)

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 2: Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity. Wherefore God, Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness more than Thy fellows. (*Ps.44:6*)

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL FOR 13TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW:

Reader: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew §87 (21:33-42)

Choir: Glory the Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee.

Reader: The Lord spoke this parable: “There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’”

Choir: Glory the Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee.

Then we sing the following, in tone 6

Choir: Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

- Remember us, O Master, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.
- Remember us, O Holy One, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

The heavenly choir praiseth Thee and saith: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Verse: Come unto Him, and be enlightened and your faces shall not be ashamed.

The heavenly choir praiseth Thee and saith: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

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

The choir of Holy angels and archangels, with all the heavenly hosts praiseth Thee and saith: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

THE SYMBOL OF FAITH

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 worlds, Light of Light, Very God of Very 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 was made man; And was

crucified also 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 sitteth 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 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets;

And I believe 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 world to come. Amen.

Leader: 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 Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

All: Amen

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.

Leader: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

All: Amen.

Kontakia:

KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION IN TONE FOUR

*(**On this day Thou hast appeared**)*

Now hath my Deliverer * and mighty Savior * raised the earthborn from the grave * and from their bonds, since He is God; * and He hath crushed Hades' brazen gates * and is arisen the third day as Sovereign Lord.

KONTAKION OF ARCHANGEL MICHAEL IN TONE TWO

O Michael, who standest altogether radiant before the Trinity together with all the heavenly Hosts, and with them dost cry aloud the song inspired of God: As thou dost pass throughout the earth by God's command and art made wondrous with exceedingly great marvels, cease not to intercede for us all.

KONTAKION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.

Leader: Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

O All-Holy Trinity, the consubstantial dominion, the indivisible Kingdom, and cause of every Good: Show Thy good will even unto me a sinner; make steadfast my heart and grant it understanding, and take away mine every defilement; enlighten my mind that I may glorify, hymn, worship, and say:

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

PSALM 33

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

I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall continually be in my mouth. In the Lord shall my soul be praised; let the meek hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my tribulations. Come unto Him, and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be ashamed. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his tribulations. The angel of the Lord will encamp round about them that fear Him, and will deliver them. O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that hopeth in Him. O fear the Lord, all ye His saints; for there is no want to them that fear Him. Rich men have turned poor and gone hungry; but they that seek the Lord shall not be deprived of any good thing. Come ye children, hearken unto me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. What man is there that desireth life, who loveth to see good days? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Turn away from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are opened unto their supplication. The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, utterly to destroy the remembrance of them from the earth. The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them out of all their tribulations. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart, and He will save the humble of spirit. Many are the tribulations of the righteous, and the Lord shall deliver them out of them all. The Lord keepeth all their bones, not one of them shall be broken. The death of sinners is evil, and they that hate the righteous shall do wrong. The Lord will redeem the souls of His servants, and none of them will do wrong that hope in Him.

THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

It is truly meet and right to bless thee, O Theotokos, who art ever blessed and all-blameless, and the Mother of our God. More honourable than the cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim, thou who without corruption bearest God the Word and art truly Theotokos: We magnify thee.

READING(S)

THE MIRACLE WROUGHT BY THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AT COLOSSAE, THAT IS, CHONAE

In Phrygia, not far from the city of Hieropolis, in a place called Cheretopos, there was a church named for the Archangel Michael, built over a miraculous spring.

This church was built by a certain inhabitant of the city of Laodicia in gratitude to God for healing his mute daughter. The holy Chief Commander Michael appeared to this man in a dream and revealed to him that his daughter would receive the gift of speech after drinking from the water of the spring. The girl actually did receive healing and began to speak. After this miracle, the father and his daughter and all their family were baptized. In fervent gratitude, the father built the church in honor of the holy Chief Commander Michael. Not only did Christians begin to come to the spring for healing, but also pagans. In so doing, many of the pagans turned from their idols and were converted to the faith in Christ.

At this church of the holy Chief Commander Michael, a certain pious man by the name of Archippus served for sixty years as church custodian. By his preaching and by the example of his saintly life he brought many pagans to faith in Christ. With the general malice of that time towards Christians, and especially against Archippus, the pagans thought to destroy the church in order to prevent people from coming to that holy place of healing, and at the same time kill Archippus.

Toward this end they made a confluence of the Lykokaperos and Kufos Rivers and directed its combined flow against the church. Saint Archippus prayed fervently to the Chief Commander Michael to ward off the danger. Through his prayer the Archangel Michael appeared at the temple, and with a blow of his staff, opened a wide fissure in a rock and commanded the rushing torrents of water to flow into it. The temple remained unharmed. Seeing such an awesome miracle, the pagans fled in terror. Archippus and the Christians gathered in church glorified God and gave thanks to the holy Archangel Michael for the help. The place where the rivers plunged into the fissure received the name “Chonae”, which means “plunging.”

The Chudov (“of the Miracle”) monastery in Moscow is named for this Feast. [From oca.org]

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SAINT ARCHIPPUS OF HIERAPOLIS

Saint Archippus, son of devout Christians from the city of Hieropolis, at age ten went to pray in the church of the holy Chief Commander Michael and he remained at this temple to serve as church caretaker. He led a strict and ascetic manner of life, constantly at fasting and prayer.

He persuaded many pagans who came to the holy spring to accept holy Baptism, to forsake pagan impiety, and to turn to the One True God and Savior Jesus Christ. Tenacious pagans headed by idolous priests repeatedly tried to kill Saint Archippus, but each time the Lord delivered him out of their hands.

Finally, the pagans devised a plan to destroy the church and at the same time kill also Archippus by flooding the spot where both the church and the curative spring stood. Seeing the preparations for this wicked deed, Saint Archippus firmly resolved not to abandon the holy place, and he prayed to God and to the Archangel Michael to preserve the church and the spring. The Lord heard his prayer, and the saint witnessed the great Miracle of the Chief Commander Michael at Colossae. Miraculously delivered from death, Saint Archippus lived at the church into his old age, and he died peacefully at the age of 70. Christians buried the saint at Colossae, at the place of his deeds. [From oca.org]

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THE HOLY MARTYRS EUDOXIUS, ZENO, AND MACARIUS OF MELITENE IN ARMENIA AND THE 1,104 SOLDIERS WITH THEM

Saint Eudoxios held the office of count during the reign of Emperor Diocletian (284-305), although he previously held the higher office of senior palace servant, but his rank was lowered due to his love for Christ. For he was accused of being a Christian to Governor Malatias of Melitene, which is near the Euphrates River. When soldiers were sent to capture Eudoxios, he at first concealed his identity as that of a poor man. When they arrived the soldiers asked him if he knew where Eudoxios was, but he told them that he would take them to him after they first came to his home and rested a bit after their long journey.

After receiving the soldiers into his home and giving them hospitality, Eudoxios revealed his identity as the one whom they sought. When the soldiers heard this, they were very much saddened, and in return for the hospitality he gave them, they offered him a chance to escape. Eudoxios however was firmly resolved to die a martyrs death. He therefore called his wife Vasilissa, and left to her care everything they owned, and gave her this injunction and message: that she was not to weep for his death, but to honor the day of his death with every manner of brilliance and joy, and to make ready for him a humble grave in their village, without an inscription, and to bury his body there.

Eudoxios therefore turned his back on his nobility, glory, love for his wife and attachment to his children, and he went to the governor, where he boldly confessed Christ. In order to frighten Eudoxios and the soldiers, the governor looked upon them with ferocity and said: "Whichever of you will not sacrifice to the gods, remove your military belts and stand openly before me." Then Eudoxios removed his military belt, which was an emblem of his rank as count, and threw it in the face of the governor. Those soldiers who were Christians did the same, and they numbered one thousand one hundred and four. The governor reported this to Diocletian. When Diocletian received the news of this, he became enraged, and ordered the governor to punish them harshly.

When the governor saw that Eudoxios remained steadfast in his faith in Christ and would never deny Him, he ordered that he be tied up by his two hands and his two feet, and to be whipped with straps. Then he was thrown into prison. A few days later they brought him out of prison and the governor ordered that a lead ball crush down on the nerves of his throat and dislocate the joints of his body, which is truly a death more bitter than death. When this was done, the governor ordered that Eudoxios be beheaded.

As Eudoxios was being led toward the place of his martyrdom, he prayed. And turning his head he saw his wife, and reminded her again of his injunction. He also saw a friend of his, whose name was Zeno, mourning for his friend's death. Eudoxios then told him: "Do not weep, O friend Zeno, for I am certain that God, whom I worship, will not separate us from each other, having been united in fervent friendship, and a genuine eros for God." With these words of the Saint, Zeno immediately proclaimed Christ, and he was beheaded. Afterwards Eudoxios also was beheaded. The one thousand one hundred and four soldiers likewise were beheaded. Vasilissa then took her husband's body, and buried him as he ordered in his village.

When seven days had passed, Saint Eudoxios appeared in a dream to his wife, and ordered her to tell his friend Makarios to present himself at the home of the governor. Makarios therefore went and was taken captive, and after confessing Christ also with boldness, he was beheaded as well, and so he rejoices with his friend Eudoxios and the all the rest eternally in the heavens. [From Mystagogy]

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THE HOLY MARTYRS ROMULAS AND 11,000 SOLDIERS WITH HIM

Saint Romulas served as senior palace servant to Emperor Trajan (98-117), and accompanied his master on a campaign in Anatolia. When they were in Galatia, the Emperor decided to count and then make his Christian soldiers sacrifice to the idols, and ordered Romulas to see that they did so. The Christian soldiers numbered 11,000 men, who preferred to sacrifice their life in martyrdom than sacrifice to lifeless idols. Romulas rebuked the emperor for senselessly reducing the strength of his forces in time of war, but the tyrant was not to be reasoned with. The Christian soldiers were sent to Armenia, where they suffered torture and crucifixion near Melitene. Meanwhile Romulas, having confessed to being a Christian, was first cruelly beaten, then ordered to be beheaded. [From Mystagogy]

THE LITTLE DISMISSAL

The Leader bows toward the icon of Christ on the iconostasis, saying:

Leader: Glory to thee, O Christ our God and our Hope, glory to thee.

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. O Lord, bless.

Leader: O Thou Who rose again from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven—especially the archangel Michael, whose miracle at Colossae we commemorate today; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the *Holy Myrrh-Bearer and Equal to the Apostles Mary Magdalene*, protector of this community; of the holy Archippos of Hierapolis; and of the Martyrs Eudoxios, Zeno, Romulus and Makarios at Melitene in Armenia, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us, and save us, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

Then, facing the icon of Christ, on the iconostasis, the Leader says:

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us, and save us.

All: Amen.