**Cross-processions during Bright Week**

*On each day of Bright Week, at the Divine Liturgy, after the Prayer before the Amvon, a Cross-procession is prescribed. The people may carry the various holy objects in the procession.* ***We go in this order: the lantern, the processional cross, banners, the choir, candle-bearers, icons, the Artos, the deacon with the censer before priests with the icon of the resurrection and the Holy Gospel [or, if necessary, laymen carrying these with cloths in their hands], the principal priest with the cross and paschal trikiri, persons carrying holy water and blessing brush, and then the people.*** *They go to the left out of the church doors and directly to the eastern side behind the holy altar and line up, the processional cross in the center, and on either side: the lantern, the banners, candle-bearers, icons, the Artos, then the icon of the resurrection on the left and the Holy Gospel on the right and the deacon on the priest’s right with the holy water and brush on the right of the priest and slightly behind him, the choir on the priest’s left and the people on his right, all facing east at each station.*

*As we process, the choir sings Ode 1 of the Paschal Canon. When everyone is in place, facing east, the priest takes the censer and censes the cross, all the holy items and the people, saying, Christ is risen! And the people respond, Truly He is risen! Then:*

***Deacon:*** And that He will vouchsafe unto us the hearing of the Holy Gospel, let us pray unto the Lord God.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Wisdom! Aright! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

***Priest:*** Peace be unto all.

***Choir:*** And to thy spirit.

***Priest:*** The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

***Choir:*** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

***Deacon:*** Let us attend.

*The priest reads the Gospel: Matthew §115 (28:1-20):*

***Priest:*** AT THE END OF THE SABBATH, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: and for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead; and, behold, He goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see Him: lo, I have told you. And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring His disciples word. And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held Him by the feet, and worshipped Him. Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see Me. Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and showed unto the chief priest all the things that were done. And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole Him away while we slept. And if this come to the governor’s ears, we will persuade him, and secure you. So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day. Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw Him, they worshipped Him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

***Choir:*** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

*Then the litany:*

***Deacon:*** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for our Great Lord and Father, His Holiness Patriarch *N*.; for our lord the very most reverend Metropolitan N., First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; for our lord the Most reverend [Archbishop or Bishop] *N.*, and all our brethren in Christ.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for our God-preserved land, its authorities and armed forces, and for every Christian land.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for all the brethren and for all Christians.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Priest:*** For a merciful God art Thou, and the Lover of mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then the priest dips the brush into the holy water, and he turns to the east, holding the cross and paschal trikiri in his left hand and the brush in his right, [if a priest holds the icon of the resurrection, he also blesses with it in the four directions at the same time] and blessing with the holy water, he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*And turning to the west and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, this holy temple, and visit it with Thy mercy.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then turning to the north and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, Thy people, and bless thine inheritance.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*And turning to the south and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, this city and all Thy people living in it, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then, processing in the same order as before, we go to the west wall, as the choir sings Ode 3 of the paschal canon, and stop facing east. The priest takes the censer and censes the cross, all the holy items and the people, saying, Christ is risen! And the people respond, Truly He is risen!*

***Deacon:*** And that He will vouchsafe unto us the hearing of the Holy Gospel, let us pray unto the Lord God.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Wisdom! Aright! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

***Priest:*** Peace be unto all.

***Choir:*** And to thy spirit.

***Priest:*** The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

***Choir:*** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

***Deacon:*** Let us attend.

*The priest reads the Gospel: Mark §70 (16:1-8):*

***Priest:*** AT THAT TIME when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint Him. And very early in the morning, the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: He is risen; He is not here: behold the place where they laid Him. But go your way, tell His disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see Him, as He said unto you. And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid.

***Choir:*** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

*Then the litany:*

***Deacon:*** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for our Great Lord and Father, His Holiness Patriarch *N*.; for our lord the very most reverend Metropolitan N., First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; for our lord the Most reverend [Archbishop or Bishop] *N.*, and all our brethren in Christ.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for our God-preserved land, its authorities and armed forces, and for every Christian land.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray that this city and every city and country be preserved from famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, the invasion of aliens, and civil war; that our good and man-loving God may be gracious and favorable, that He may turn away all the wrath stirred up against us, and deliver us from His righteous chastisement which hangeth over us, and have mercy on us.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Priest:*** Hearken unto us, O God our Savior, Thou hope of all the ends of the earth and of them that be far off at sea, and be merciful, be merciful, O Master, regarding our sins, and have mercy on us. For a merciful God art Thou, and the Lover of mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then the priest dips the brush into the holy water, and he turns to the east, holding the cross and paschal trikiri in his left hand and the brush in his right, [if a priest holds the icon of the resurrection, he also blesses with it in the four directions at the same time] and blessing with the holy water, he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*And turning to the west and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, this holy temple, and visit it with Thy mercy.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then turning to the north and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, Thy people, and bless thine inheritance.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*And turning to the south and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, this city and all Thy people living in it, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then, processing in the same order as before, we go to the north wall, as the choir sings Odes 4 and 5 of the paschal canon, and stop facing east. The priest takes the censer and censes the cross, all the holy items and the people, saying, Christ is risen! And the people respond, Truly He is risen!*

***Deacon:*** And that He will vouchsafe unto us the hearing of the Holy Gospel, let us pray unto the Lord God.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Wisdom! Aright! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

***Priest:*** Peace be unto all.

***Choir:*** And to thy spirit.

***Priest:*** The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

***Choir:*** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

***Deacon:*** Let us attend.

*The priest reads the Gospel: Luke §112 (24:1-12):*

***Priest:*** AT THAT TIME, UPON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK, VERY EARLY IN THE MORNING, THE WOMEN CAME unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the Body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: and as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how He spake unto you when He was yet in Galilee, saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. And they remembered His words, and returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with then, which told these things unto the apostles. And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not. Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.

***Choir:*** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

*Then the litany:*

***Deacon:*** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for our Great Lord and Father, His Holiness Patriarch *N*.; for our lord the very most reverend Metropolitan N., First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; for our lord the Most reverend [Archbishop or Bishop] *N.*, and all our brethren in Christ.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for our God-preserved land, its authorities and armed forces, and for every Christian land.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for this city, for mercy, life, peace health, salvation, and visitation for the builders and benefactors of this holy temple, and for all the inhabitants of this city.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for all the brethren and for all Christians.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Priest:*** For a merciful God art Thou, and the Lover of mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then the priest dips the brush into the holy water, and he turns to the east, holding the cross and paschal trikiri in his left hand and the brush in his right, [if a priest holds the icon of the resurrection, he also blesses with it in the four directions at the same time] and blessing with the holy water, he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*And turning to the west and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, this holy temple, and visit it with Thy mercy.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then turning to the north and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, Thy people, and bless thine inheritance.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*And turning to the south and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, this city and all Thy people living in it, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then, processing in the same order as before, we go to the south wall, as the choir sings Ode 6 of the paschal canon, and stop facing east. The priest takes the censer and censes the cross, all the holy items and the people, saying, Christ is risen! And the people respond, Truly He is risen!*

***Deacon:*** And that He will vouchsafe unto us the hearing of the Holy Gospel, let us pray unto the Lord God.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Wisdom! Aright! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

***Priest:*** Peace be unto all.

***Choir:*** And to thy spirit.

***Priest:*** The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

***Choir:*** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

***Deacon:*** Let us attend.

*The priest reads the Gospel: John §63 (20:1-10)*

***Priest:*** AT THAT TIME, the first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. Then she runneth and cometh to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid Him. Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, and the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. For as yet they knew not the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

***Choir:*** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

*Then the litany:*

***Deacon:*** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for our Great Lord and Father, His Holiness Patriarch *N*.; for our lord the very most reverend Metropolitan N., First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; for our lord the Most reverend [Archbishop or Bishop] *N.*, and all our brethren in Christ.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for our God-preserved land, its authorities and armed forces, and for every Christian land.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Deacon:*** Again we pray for all the brethren and for all Christians.

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

***Priest:*** For a merciful God art Thou, and the Lover of mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then the priest dips the brush into the holy water, and he turns to the east, holding the cross and paschal trikiri in his left hand and the brush in his right, [if a priest holds the icon of the resurrection, he also blesses with it in the four directions at the same time] and blessing with the holy water, he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*And turning to the west and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, this holy temple, and visit it with Thy mercy.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*Then turning to the north and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, Thy people, and bless thine inheritance.

***Choir:*** Amen.

*And turning to the south and blessing he says:*

***Priest:*** Save, O God, this city and all Thy people living in it, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

***Choir****:* Amen.

*Then, processing in the same order as before, we go all the way around the church one more time, as the choir sings Odes 7, 8, and 9 of the paschal canon. When we come to the doors of the church, we enter, and the clergy go directly into the holy altar take all the holy objects from the laity and put them in their place. Meanwhile, the choir completes the singing of the paschal canon, then sings Christ is risen from the dead … three times and we complete the Divine Liturgy as usual according to the paschal order:*

*After the choir sings:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life. *Thrice.*

*Psalm 33.*

***Priest:*** The blessing of the Lord be upon you through His grace and love for mankind, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

***Choir:*** Amen.

***Priest:*** Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death.

***Choir:*** And on those in the tombs bestowing life.

*Then the dismissal:*

***Priest:*** May Christ our true God, Who rose from the dead trampling down death by death and on those in the tombs bestowing life, through the intercession of His most pure Mother, of the holy glorious, and all-praised apostles, of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is the Lover of mankind.

*Then the priest, holding high the cross, says three times:* Christ is risen! (3) *And the people respond each time:* Truly He is risen! (3).

*The choir sings:* Christ is risen … three times, and in conclusion sings:

*And unto us hath He granted life eternal; we worship His resurrection of the third day.*

*The priest gives the blessing for the Paschal Hours and gives the cross for veneration and distributes the antidoron. On Bright Monday it is also customary to anoint the people with blessed oil.*

***Revised 5/2/2019***