

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SEPTEMBER 26 REPOSE OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST AND THEOLOGIAN

NOTE TO CLERGY: Remember to include this special petition in the Great Litany before the one for the head of state, as directed by the Antiochian Archdiocese.

Deacon: For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Save us, O Son of God, Who art wondrous in the Saints; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF ORDINARY WEEKDAYS

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who art wondrous in the Saints; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

- *Now sing these apolytikia in the following order.*

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST IN TONE TWO

O Apostle John, speaker of divinity, the beloved of Christ God, hasten and deliver thy people powerless in argument; for He on Whose bosom thou didst lean accepteth thee as an intercessor. Beseech Him, therefore, to disperse the cloud of the stubborn nations, asking for us safety and the Great Mercy.

- *Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple ONLY IF St. John is not the patron saint of your temple.*

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

THE EPISTLE

His voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. John. (4:12-19)

Brethren, no man has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His own Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son as the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we know and believe the love God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. In this love is perfected with us, that we may have confidence for the Day of Judgment, because as He is so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and he who fears is not perfected in love. We love, because He first loved us.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (19:25-27; 21:24-25)

At that time, standing by the Cross of Jesus were His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing near, He said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your Son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own. This is the disciple who is bearing witness to these things, and who has written these things; and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things, which Jesus did; were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

- *The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom continues as usual. The only remaining variable is the Koinonikon.*

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) IN TONE EIGHT

His proclamation hath gone out into all the earth; and his words to the ends of the universe.
Alleluia.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; (*of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community;*) of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian, whose repose and memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

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

Choir: Amen.