

**Vesper Propers, February 14, 2016**  
**First Sunday of the Great Fast: Sunday of Orthodoxy**  
**Memory of the Holy Prophets**

**The passing of our venerable father Constantine, whose monastic name is Cyril, the Apostle of the Slavs.** This man from Thessalonica, along with his brother Methodius, was sent by Photius the bishop of Constantinople to Moravia, where he preached the Christian faith and devised an alphabet that they might translate the sacred books from the Greek to the Slavic language. When they came to Rome, Cyril, who was previously known as Constantine, was afflicted by illness. He was made a monk and the same day slept in the Lord. (869)

*Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006*

*Lamplighting Psalms in the tone of the week (Tone 5, page 69), stichera 10-8.*

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading.

**Stichera of the Sunday of Orthodoxy - Tone 6 samohlasen**

O Lord, whom the universe cannot contain, before the dawn of time  
you were born of the immaterial and incorporeal Father;  
through the Holy Spirit, the prophets have announced your coming as an infant  
who took flesh of the most pure Virgin so that you might converse with  
mortals and be seen by them. Count us worthy of your light, O compassionate

Lord, for we praise your ineffa-ble and ho - ly Res - ur - rec - tion.

**Cantor:** If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?  
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness; for this we revere you.

The ho - ly proph - ets have merited e - ter - nal life, for they an - nounced you by

their word and served you by their works. They did not wish to serve

cre - a - tion in - stead of you, the Cre - a - tor, O God; they de - spised the

world to an - nounce you. They were con - formed to your Pas - sion,

which they have seen in a pro - phet - ic vi - sion. By their prayers, grant that we

may complete the course of this Fast in all pu - ri - ty, O

Lord most mer - ci - ful.

**Cantor:** My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.  
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord, more than watchman for daybreak.

the cross in your hu - man na - ture to de - liv - er from the enemy's  
bondage those whom you cre - a - ted. There-fore, we grate-ful - ly cry  
out to you: By your com - ing to save the world, O Sav - ior,  
you have filled all with joy.

By your na - ture you are beyond meas - ure, O Lord; yet in these last times,  
you deigned to accept the lim - i - ta - tions of the flesh. By your In - carnation,  
you assumed all aspects of our hu-man na - ture. We now inscribe the image  
of your like - ness so that we may wor - thi - ly ven - er - ate it, and that  
we might be raised up to your love, from which we draw your great mer - cy,  
ac - cording to the tradition of your ho - - - ly A - pos - - - tles.

**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak  
*(on 4)* and Israel on the Lord.

It is an a - dorn-ment, a pearl of great price, that the  
Church of Christ has received in the ho - ly i - cons of the Sav - ior, the Theotokos

and all the saints. Rais - ing them on high, she shines with splen - dor and bright - ness  
and puts down all her - e - sies. In joy, she glorifies God, who by  
his love for us, has deigned to free - ly suf - fer his Pas - sion.

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

**Stichera of our Venerable Father Cyril - Tone 4**

O Father, you shone with the beauty of vir - tue, and you went a - bout  
the whole world, like a bee putting the purest honey of di - vine wis - dom  
in the good hearts of those believing in the one Christ, who came on earth and  
vis - it - ed our low - li - ness with his end - less mer - cy and hu - mil - i - ty.

**Troparia**

*Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the Week (Tone 5, p. 80).*

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Glory...

**Troparion of our venerable father Cyril - Tone 4**

From your child - hood you made wis - dom your sis - ter, and you took her to wife as  
a ra - diant vir - gin. You a - dorned your mind and soul with it like gold.  
You be - came a second great Cyr - il, O voice of God. You became a marvel  
by name and a bless - ed think - er.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Now and ever...

**Troparion of the Sunday of Orthodoxy - Tone 2**

We bow be - fore your sa - cred im - age, O gra - cious Lord, and beg for - giveness for  
our of - fens - es, O Christ our God; for you, of your own good will, ascended

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Now and ever...

**Aposticha doxastikon of the Sunday of Orthodoxy - Tone 2**

We who have turned away from the dark-ness of dis-be-lief and have been en-light-ened  
by the light of knowl-edge, now sing our psalms of ac-cla-ma-tion. May our  
praise and thankgiv-ing rise up to God! And let us bow with respect before the  
ho-ly i-cons of Christ, the Theotokos, and of all the saints. Let us  
re-ject the godlessness of those who do not fol-low the true faith. For  
Saint Ba-sil has said: The ve-ne-ra-tion of the icon passes over to the one who  
is re-pre-sent-ed. Through the prayers of your most pure Moth-er and all the saints,  
we im-plore you, O Christ, to grant us your great mer-cy.

**Cantor:** Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**  
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

With the wisdom of meek-ness and filled with love of God and knowl-edge  
of the true faith, you net-ted the cities and countryside for God, O bless-ed Cyr-il.  
By grace you came to those who had not re-ceived sav-ing wis-dom, and there-fore,  
we praise you with ho-ly hymns.

**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

You lived a life without fault and wor-thy of praise, and your death was precious to  
God in the eyes of all. Glo-rious with righteous-ness, O Fa-ther, you  
gave your soul in-to God's hands. There-fore we ask you to pray to him for mer-cy  
for those who faith-ful-ly praise you.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...

**Doxastikon of the Sunday of Orthodoxy - Tone 2 samohlasen**

The grace of truth has shown forth; that which was for - mer - ly pre - fig - ured  
ob - scure - ly is now o - pen - ly ful - filled. Be - hold the Church is clothed  
as with a heav'n - ly gar - ment by the i - con of the Bod - y of Christ,  
which was pre - fig - ured by the Ark of the Cov - e - nant. She pre - serves  
the true faith, so that we might keep with - out blem - ish the im - age  
of the One whom we wor - ship. May those who do not believe this be cov - ered  
with shame! For we glo - ry in the image of the in - car - nate Word, which we  
ven - e - rate but do not wor - ship as an i - dol. O faith - ful, let us hold it in  
rev' - rence and sing: Save your peo - ple, O God, and bless your in - he - ri - tance.

**Cantor:** (Tone 5) Now and ever...

*Dogmatikon in the Tone of the week (Tone 5, page 76).*

**Readings:** Wisdom 5:15 - 6:3  
Wisdom 3: 1-9  
Wisdom 4:7, 16-17, 19 to 5:7

**Aposticha**

*Aposticha in the tone of the week (Tone 5, p. 77), concluding with:*

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Glory...

**Aposticha Doxastikon of our Venerable Father Cyril - Tone 8**

The pure spir - it - ual mem - ry of the saints dwelt in your pure heart, O vener - a - ble  
Fa - ther, most bless - ed Cyr - il. It showed you to be an exorcist terrifying  
to the e - vil spir - its and a doc - tor of hid - den ill - ness - es.  
There - fore, since you have confidence before God, the Lov - er of us all,  
pray to him with - out ceas - ing to free us from stain of soul and bod - y.