

Sunday, July 4
6th Sunday after Pentecost
Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Sunday Tropar, tone 5: Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, * co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, * and born of the Virgin for our salvation. * For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, * to suffer death and to raise the dead* by His glorious resurrection.

Tropar of the Feast, tone 7: O Virgin Mother of God, * your glory we celebrate, * your help we seek, * your miraculous icon we venerate. * You are our gracious Mother, * you are the Hope of the world. * Do not despise our prayers, * but always rescue us from our sorrows and troubles.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

Kondak of the Feast, tone 6: Our Mother of Perpetual Help, * grant us, we pray, help in difficulties, relief in sickness, * comfort in sorrow, strength in our labours. * Give us, we beseech you, the virtue of piety, unity to Christians, * forgiveness to sinners, perseverance to the righteous, * salvation to the dying, purification to the souls in purgatory * and obtain for them eternal glory.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Sunday Kondak, tone 5: You, my Savior, descended to Hades, * and as the Almighty, You shattered its gates. * With Yourself You, as the Creator, raised the dead and shattered the sting of death, * and delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Mankind. * And so we cry out: "Save us, O Lord."

Prokimen, tone 5: You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and forever.

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man.

Epistle: Romans 12: 6-14

Brothers and Sisters! We have gifts that differ according to the favor bestowed on each of us. One's gift may be prophecy; its use should be in proportion to his faith. It may be the gift of ministry; it should be used for service. One who is a teacher should use his gift for teaching; one with the power of exhortation, should exhort. He who gives alms should do so generously; he who rules should exercise his authority with care; he who performs works of mercy should do so cheerfully. Your love must be sincere. Detest what is evil, cling to what

is good. Love one another with the affection of brothers. Anticipate each other in showing respect. Do not grow slack but be fervent in spirit; he whom you serve is the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient under trial, persevere in prayer. Look on the needs of the saints as your own; be generous in offering hospitality. Bless your persecutors; bless and do not curse them.

Alleluia Verses: Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing forever; from generation to generation, I will announce Your truth with my mouth.

For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared.

Gospel: Matthew 9: 1-8

At that time Jesus reentered the boat, made the crossing, and came back to his own town. There the people at once brought to him a paralyzed man lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, "Have courage, son, your sins are forgiven." At that some of the scribes said to themselves, "The man blasphemes." Jesus was aware of what they were thinking and said: "Why do you harbor evil thoughts? Which is less trouble to say, 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Stand up and walk'? To help you realize that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" -- he then said to the paralyzed man -- "Stand up! Roll up your mat, and go home." The man stood up and went toward his home. At the sight, a feeling of awe came over the crowd, and they praised God for giving such authority to men.

Communion Hymn: I will take the chalice of salvation; and I will call upon the name of the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!