September 21

B. Leave-taking of the Feast of the Elevation of the Life-creating Cross of the Lord

The feast of the Elevation of the Honorable Cross ends on this day. Refer to September 15.

After the dismissal of the Liturgy, the honorable cross is brought into the altar according to the same rite as on August 2. (See page 268). Refer to the Typicon: If the leave-taking falls on a Sunday.

Refer to the Typicon: On all Sundays in Matins from September 22 until December 20 and from January 14 to Cheese-fare Sunday the Polyeleon is sung. From December 20 up to January 14 and from Cheese-fare Sunday up to September 21 the Polyeleon is sung only on those Sundays on which a Feast of the Lord, or of the Theotokos, or of a major Saint falls.

Refer to the Typicon: From September 22 until November 21 sing the Katabasia: I shall open my mouth.

Holy Apostle Quadratus, who was in Magnesia

He was one of the 70 disciples of Jesus Christ and "witness of His God-chosen passions" on the cross. Being bishop in Athens and Magnesia, he zealously enlightened "those who were in the darkness of ignorance", "edifying" pagans "on the foundation of faith” and leading "unbelievers to the divine faith". Having destroyed the "dark madness" of polytheism and "by the word of teaching freeing souls from the rage of every kind of idol", the zealous preacher of the Christian faith underwent many trials and died in the city of Magnesia during the reign of Emperor Hadrian.

Kontakion, tone 6

As an honored hierarch and hardened sufferer,
The universe offers the Apostle Quadratus to Thee, O Lord.
And in hymns it extols his honorable memory,
Asking always that remission of transgressions be granted
To those who sing his praise.

The service for the Holy Apostle is sung on September 22.

+ Our Father among the Saints Demetrius, Metropolitan of Rostov.

St. Demetrius, in the world Daniel Tuptalo, was born in Makarov, Kiev Province, and son of a Cossack. Having received his formation in the Kiev Academy, St. Demetrius accepted monasticism and soon became glorified as a preacher of the word of God. He was Hegumen alternately in several monasteries and was elevated to Archimandrite. In 1701, St. Demetrius (during that time
Hegumen of the Savior-Transfiguration (Spaso-Preobrazhenskago) Monastery in Novgorod - Seversk) because of his devout life and labors for the good of the Church and country was installed as the Metropolitan of Tobolsk, but because of illness remained in Moscow and soon occupied the cathedra of the Metropolitan of Rostov. In this position he labored hard for the good order of the church and for the exposure of the schismatic (Raskolnik) Old Believers. The private life of Demetrius was filled with great ascetic fasts, prayer and charity. He received the simplest food and in small quantity, but in the Holy Forty Day Fast he ate only once during the first and passion weeks. He often prayed much and advised every one to remember the hour of their death and to pray to the Lord and the Theotokos at each stroke of the hour bell. The hierarch was accessible to all, and was kind and condescending to every one. His charity with food for the widows and orphans was endless: he never refused any one who asked, while he himself was satisfied with only what was necessary. The hierarch died peacefully on October 28, 1709 and was buried, according to his will, in the cathedral church of the Rostov St. James Monastery (see Iaroslavl Diocese). In 1752, when repairing the damaged floor of the church over the tomb of the hierarch, his relics were found incorrupt and now repose openly, flowing with wonderful healing, in the southwest corner of the cathedral temple of St. James Monastery. He was united to the choir of Saints in 1757. St. Demetrius wrote the Reader's Menaion (Chetji-Mineia), containing the lives of the saints pleasing to God for all the 12 months of the year. He devoted about 20 years of his life to this great work.

_Troparion, tone 8_

O Zealot of Orthodoxy and Devastator of Schism,  
O Healer of Russia and New Intercessor before God,  
By your writings you made the foolish understand.  
O Spiritual Flute, Blessed Demetrius,  
Ask Christ God to save our Emperor Nicholas Alexandrovich,  
All his successors and dominion.

_Kontakion, tone 8_

The Russian star shining from Kiev,  
And reaching from the new city Seversk to Rostov,  
Illuminating all this land by his teaching and wonders,  
Let us bless the Teacher of Golden Words Demetrius.  
For he wrote everything that is guidance for all,  
That all may acquire Christ like Paul and save our Orthodox souls.

The service for a hierarch is from the General Menaion.

_Holy Bishops of Cyprus Isaacius and Meletius_

They pontificated in Cyprus and for their saintly lives were gifted by the Lord to work wonders and died in peace.
Hieromartyrs Hypatius, Bishop of Ephesus, and his Presbyter Andrew

They suffered during the reign of Emperor Leo the Isaurian in Constantinople. During the persecution against holy icons both of them were zealous defenders of iconolatry and were imprisoned for this. There the holy confessors had their heads skinned and after torture were killed about the years 730-735.

Martyr Eusebius suffered for Christ in Phoenicia. After cruel torture he was beheaded.

Martyr Priscus

He lived in Phrygia where he converted many pagans to Christ through his preaching and after being tortured for Christ he was beheaded.

Martyrs Eusebius, Nestabus and Zeno were beaten with stones in the city of Gaza during the reign of Emperor Julian the Apostate.

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