**Order of Services for Sunday, September 7, 2025**

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Forefeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Cross

Martyr Sozón of Cilicia

*NOTE: The rubrics presented below are the commonly accepted order. However, practices may vary with local practices or dioceses. The ruling bishop should be consulted for any specific questions regarding the accepted order of services.*

*NOTE: Bracketed items are commonly omitted in parish practice.*

**Vigil**

**(*Great Vespers at a Vigil)***

*(If Great Vespers is served alone, not at a Vigil, begin with the Typical Beginning, which can be found at* [*https://www.oca.org/liturgics/rubrics/horologion*](https://www.oca.org/liturgics/rubrics/horologion)*.)*

*Priest:* “Glory to the holy consubstantial…”

“Amen. Come, let us worship…”

Psalm 103/104

Great Litany

[First Kathisma, or] “Blessed is the Man…”

Little Litany

Lord, I Call, Tone 4 (Ps. 140/141)

4 stichera of the Resurrection, Tone 4

3 stichera of the Forefeast, Tone 1

3 stichera of St. Sozon, Tone 4

Glory… Forefeast, Tone 4

Now and ever… Dogmatic Theotokion, Tone 4

Gladsome Light

Saturday Evening Prokeimenon, “The Lord is King…”

Augmented Litany

“Vouchsafe, O Lord…”

Evening Litany

[Litya]

[1 Sticheron of the Patron Saint of the Temple]

[Stichera of the Forefeast, from the Vespers Aposticha, Tone 8]

[Glory… now and ever… Forefeast, from the Matins Aposticha, Tone 2]

Aposticha

Resurrectional Stichera, Tone 4

Glory… now and ever… Forefeast, Tone 4

“Lord, Now Lettest…”

Trisagion Prayers

*Concluding Troparia and Dismissal:*

*If a Vigil is Served:*

“Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos…” (2x)

Troparion of the Forefeast, Tone 3

[Blessing of the Loaves]

“Blessed be the Name…” (3x)

[Psalm 33/34:1-10]

*Priest:* “The blessing of the Lord…”

“Amen.” *And begin Matins with the Six Psalms, as outlined below.*

*Or, if Great Vespers alone is served:*

Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 4

Glory… Troparion of St. Sozon, Tone 4

Now and ever… Troparion of the Forefeast, Tone 4

Vespers Dismissal

**(*Sunday Matins at a Vigil*)**

*(If Matins is served alone, begin with the Typical Beginning, which can be found at* [*https://www.oca.org/liturgics/rubrics/horologion*](https://www.oca.org/liturgics/rubrics/horologion)*.)*

Six Psalms

Great Litany

“God is the Lord…,” Tone 4

Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 4 (2x)

Glory… Troparion of St. Sozon, Tone 4

Now and ever… Troparion of the Forefeast, Tone 4

[Kathisma 2]

[Little Litany]

[Kathisma Hymns from the Octoechos, Tone 4]

[Kathisma 3]

[Little Litany]

[Kathisma Hymns from the Octoechos, Tone 4]

[Psalm 118][[1]](#footnote-1)

Evlogitaria: “Blessed art Thou, O Lord…”

Little Litany

[Ypakoe]

[Hymn of Degrees, Tone 4]

Prokeimenon, Tone 4: “Arise, O Lord, and help us!…”

“Let everything that breathes…”

2nd Matins Gospel: (70) Mark 16:1-8

“Having Beheld the Resurrection…”

Psalm 50

Post-Gospel Stichera

Prayer of Intercession, “O God, save Thy people…”

Canons *(NOTE: in common parish practice, after the Irmos, only two troparia from each Canon are used. Before the final troparion, “Glory… now and ever…” is used as the refrain.)*

**Irmos:** Resurrection, Tone 4

Refrain: “Glory to Thy holy Resurrection, O Lord!”

3 additional troparia from the Canon of the Resurrection, Tone 4

Refrain: “Glory to Thy holy Resurrection, O Lord!”

2 troparia from the Canon of the Theotokos, Tone 4

Refrain: “Most Holy Theotokos, save us!”

4 troparia from the Canon of the Forefeast, Tone 4

Refrain: “Most Holy Theotokos, save us!”

3 troparia from the 2nd Canon of St. Sozon, Tone 4

Refrain: “O holy Martyr Sozon, pray to God for us!”

**Katavasia:** From the Exaltation of the Cross, Tone 8

*[After the Third Ode:]*

[Little Litany]

[Kontakion of the Forefeast, Tone 3]

[Ikos of the Forefeast]

[Kontakion of St. Sozon, Tone 2]

[Ikos of St. Sozon]

[Kathisma Hymns]

[St. Sozon, Tone 4]

[Glory… now and ever… Forefeast, Tone 8]

*After the Sixth Ode:*

[Little Litany]

Kontakion of the Resurrection, Tone 4

Ikos of the Resurrection

*After the Eighth Ode:*

The Magnificat is sung

*After the Magnificat, continue with the Ninth Ode.*

Little Litany

“Holy is the Lord…”, Tone 4

Exapostilaria:

2nd Resurrectional Exapostilarion, Tone 2

Glory… Exapostilarion of St. Sozon, Tone 2

Now and ever… Exapostilarion of the Forefeast, Tone 2

Psalms 148-150: “Let everything that breathes…” Tone 4

4 stichera of the Resurrection, Tone 4

4 stichera of the Forefeast, including “Glory” and verses taken from the Vespers Aposticha, Tone 2

Glory… 2nd Gospel Sticheron, Tone 2

Now and ever… “Thou art most blessed…”, Tone 2

Great Doxology

“By rising from the tomb…”

Augmented Litany

Morning Litany

Matins Dismissal

*NOTE: The First Hour follows immediately. A small dismissal concludes the First Hour. See below for the Troparion and Kontakion.*

**The Hours**

Troparia: Resurrection; Glory… Forefeast (1st and 6th Hours) or St. Sozon (3rd and 9th Hours)

Kontakion: Forefeast (1st and 6th Hours) or Resurrection (3rd and 9th Hours)

**Divine Liturgy**

*NOTE: Listed below are only the variable portions of the Liturgy*

At the Beatitudes:

4 troparia of the Resurrection, Tone 4

4 troparia from Ode 3 of the Canon of the Forefeast, Tone 4

4 troparia from Ode 6 of the Canon of St. Sozon, Tone 4

Troparia and Kontakia:

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 4

Troparion of the Forefeast, Tone 4

Troparion of the Church (if of Patron Saint)

Troparion of St. Sozon, Tone 4

Kontakion of the Resurrection, Tone 4

Kontakion of the Church (if of Patron Saint)

Glory… Kontakion of St. Sozon, Tone 2

Now and ever… Kontakion of the Forefeast, Tone 3

Trisagion

Prokeimenon: Sunday Before, Tone 6: “O Lord, save Thy people…”

Epistle: (215) Galatians 6:11-18 and (166) 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Alleluia: Sunday Before, Tone 1

Gospel: (9) John 3:13-17 and (87) Matthew 21:33-42

Communion Hymn: “Praise the Lord from the heavens…”

*Prepared by the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America.*

1. Often, in parish practice, the Polyeleos is sung on Sundays year-round, even when not specifically called for. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)