6th Sunday after Pentecost; Holy Martyrs Borys and Hlib; Holy Great Martyr Christine

Troparion (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.

Troparion (Tone 2): O genuine passion-bearers and true followers of the Gospel of Christ, chaste Borys and innocent Hlib, you did not oppose your brother-turned-enemy, who killed your bodies but could not touch your souls. Therefore let the wicked lover of power shed tears of lament while you rejoice in the presence of the Holy Trinity with angelic choirs. Pray that the land of your kinsmen may be pleasing to God and that all children of Rus' may be saved.

Kontakion (Tone 5): You, my Saviour, 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."

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

Kontakion (Tone 3): Today your all-glorious memory has shone forth, O noble passionbearers of Christ, Borys and Hlib, summoning us to gather for the praise of Christ our God. Wherefore, we who hasten to your relics, receive the gift of healing by your prayers, O saints, for your are godly physicians.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Theotokion (Tone 5): Rejoice, O impassable door of the Lord! Rejoice, O rampart and protection of those who have recourse to you! Rejoice, O tranquil haven and Virgin, who gave birth in the flesh of your Maker and God! Fail not to intercede for those who sing and worship the Child you bore.

Prokimenon (Tone 5): You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and for ever (Ps 11:8).

verse: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man (Ps 11:2).

Prokimenon (Tone 4): To the saints who are in His land, the Lord has made wonderful all His desires in them (Ps 15:3).

Epistle: (Rm 12:6-14) (Sunday)

Brethren, having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Epistle: (Rm 8:28-39) (Saints)

Brethren, we know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the first-born among many brethren. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Alleluia (Tone 5): Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing for ever; from generation to generation I will announce Your truth with my mouth (Ps 88:2).

verse: For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared (Ps 88:3).

Alleluia (Tone 4): The just cried out and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of all their afflictions (Ps 33:18).

Gospel: (Mt 9:1-8) (Sunday)

And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"--he then said to the paralytic--"Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

Gospel: (John 15:17-16:2) (Saints)

This I command you, to love one another. "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. But all this they will do to you on my account, because they do not know him who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. He who hates me hates my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. It is to fulfill the word that is written in their law, 'They hated me without a cause.' But when the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me; and you also are witnesses, because you have been with me from the beginning. "I have said all this to you to keep you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues; indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God.

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest (Ps 148:1).

Second: Rejoice in the Lord, O you just; praise befits the righteous (Ps 32:1). Alleluia! (x3)