

NOVEMBER 26, 2023
VENERABLE ALYPIUS THE STYLITE

The **Monk Alypius the Pillar-Dweller** was born in the city of Adrianopolis in Paphlagonia. His mother, a Christian, early on became a widow, and she gave over her son for education to bishop Theodore, while she herself, having distributed her substance to the poor, began to asceticise nearby the church and was deigned worthy of the vocation of deaconess.

Saint Alypius from the time of his early years wanted to devote his life to God and yearned for the solitary life, although bishop Theodore would not give him permission to do so. One time, when Saint Alypius was accompanying his Vladyka to Constantinople, the holy Martyress Euthymia appeared to him in a vision, summoning Saint Alypius to return to Adrianopolis and found a church in her name. On the means offered by believers in Adrianopolis, Saint Alypius did build a church in the name of the holy Martyress Euthymia, on the spot of a dilapidated pagan temple, infested by legions of devils. Alongside the church, and under the open sky, atop a pagan tomb the saint erected a pillar. For fifty-three years the Monk Alypius asceticised upon the pillar, praying to God and teaching the many that came to him. The demons, which infested the pagan cemetery, by night fell upon the ascetic and pelted him with stones. Saint Alypius, wanting nothing to stand in the way of the attacks of the spirits of darkness, then even destroyed the light lean-to which protected him from the rain and wind. In face of the conquering steadfastness of the saint, the demons quit this place forever, which had been sanctified by his deed of voluntary martyrdom. A mere 14 years before his death Saint Alypius was no longer able to stand and he was compelled through the weakness of his legs to lay upon his side, enduring grievous sufferings with humble thankfulness. Around the pillar of the monk gradually there arose two monasteries: on the one side -- a men's monastery, and on the other -- a women's monastery. The Monk Alypius introduced for both monasteries strict ustavs [monastic rules] and until his death he directed both monasteries. The monk died in the year 640, at age 118. The body of the venerable pillar-dweller was buried in the church founded by him in honor of the holy Martyress Euthymia. The relics of the saint of God healed many that came in faith.

GREAT VESPERS

**LORD I CALL Seven stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 8,
followed by three for Saint Alypius**

Saint Alypius, Tone 1:

O most blessed Alypius,
from your youth you offered your life to Christ our God,
and strengthened by Him, you submitted the passions of your body
to the will of the spirit.
Thus, you subjected that which is lower to that which is higher.//
Therefore, entreat the Lord that He grant our souls peace and great
mercy!

O Alypius, wise in God,
you were revealed to be a shining beacon,
illuminating the earth with the splendor of your wonders and godly
deeds./
Thus, at your repose, you were received into the presence of the
never setting Sun.//
Therefore, entreat the Lord that He grant our souls peace and great
mercy!

O wise Father Alypius,
you were truly the example of an immovable pillar to all monastics,
for, high upon your pillar, you stood in vigilant prayer,
enduring both the heat of the day and the cold of the night.
Therefore, you received the divine gifts of the Spirit
to heal infirmities and drive away evil passions. //
Therefore, entreat the Lord that He grant our souls peace and great
mercy!

GLORY...NOW AND EVER... the Dogmatikon in tone 8

APOSTIKHA: All stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 8

DIVINE LITURGY

TROPARIA

Resurrection, tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!
Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our
sufferings!
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: glory to Thee.

Saint John of Damascus

Teacher of Orthodoxy, piety, and purity!
Enlightener of the universe!
And divine inspiration to monastics
by your teachings we are all enlightened,
and by your spiritual music, O all-wise John of Damascus,
pray to Christ our God for the salvation of our souls!

Saint Alypius, tone 1

You were a pillar of patient endurance,
Having imitated the forefathers, O Venerable One:
Job in suffering, and Joseph in temptations.
You lived like the Bodiless Ones while yet in the flesh, Alypius,
our Father.
Beseech Christ God that our souls may be saved.

KONTAKIA

Resurrection, tone 8

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam.
Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,
and the world celebrates Thy Rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Saint Alypius, tone 8

The Church glorifies and praises you today, Alypius,
As a perfect example of virtue and the boast of ascetics.
Through your prayers, grant remission of sins to all who venerate
your life and your struggles.

Steadfast Protectress of Christians

Steadfast protectress of Christians,
constant advocate before the creator:
do not despise the cry of us sinners,
but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith.
Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos,
for you always protect those who honor you.

PROKEIMENON, tone 8: Pray and make your vows before the
Lord our God!

vs. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel

EPISTLE: (224) Ephesians 4:1-6

Alleluia in the eighth tone: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let
us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

vs. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a
joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

GOSPEL: (71) Luke 13:10-17

COMMUNION HYMN: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise
Him in the highest! Alleluia...