Vigil Divine Liturgy, June 29*

THE HOLY PRE-EMINENT APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL
Simon, son of Jonah and brother of Andrew, was first among the disciples to confess that Jesus was the Christ, the son of the living God. It was by Jesus that he was called Peter. Paul, Apostle of the gentiles, preached Christ crucified to the Jews and the Greeks. Both announced the Gospel of Jesus Christ in faith and love in the city of Rome and died martyrs under the emperor Nero. The first, as the tradition goes, was nailed to a cross with his head downward and was buried in the Vatican next to the Triumphal Way. The other received his punishment from the sword and was interred at the Ostian Way. Their triumph, equal in honor and veneration, is celebrated by the whole world on this day.

Supplement for The Divine Liturgies of our holy fathers John Chrysostom and Basil the Great, 2006

The Vigil Divine Liturgy begins on page 104 in the Divine Liturgies book. The beginning verses of the Lamp-lighting Psalms ("O Lord, I have cried") are sung in Tone 2 (page 128). At the Psalm verse "on 3" toward the bottom of page 116, continue as follows:

Cantor

\[ \begin{align*} 
\textit{Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,} 
\end{align*} \]

\[ \begin{align*} 
\textit{Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.} 
\end{align*} \]

Stichera of the holy apostles Peter and Paul - Tone 2 samohlasen

\[ \begin{align*} 
\textit{What crowns of praises shall we weave Peter and Paul? They were} 
\end{align*} \]

\[ \begin{align*} 
\textit{separated in the body but united in spirit, and outstanding as the} 
\end{align*} \]

* to be sung on the evening of June 28
preachers of God. The one indeed led the apostles, while the other
labored more than all the rest. Christ our God, showing great mercy,
fittingly crowns them with immortal glory.

Cantor

Praise the Lord, all you nations; acclaim him all you peoples!

All

With what beautiful hymns shall we praise Peter and Paul? They are wings
of divine knowledge, spreading out to the far ends of the earth
and soaring aloft to heaven. They are two heads of the
Gospel of grace, two feet of the preaching of the truth, two
rivers of wisdom and two arms of the Cross, through which
the merciful Christ casts down the pride of demons.

Cantor

(on 1)

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

All

With what spiritual songs shall we praise Peter and Paul? They slew the godless tongues of idolaters. They are fearful swords of the Spirit and notable adornments of Rome, both nourishers of the whole world and the God-inspired tablets of the New Covenant. Christ, in his great mercy, has proclaimed their honor in Zion.

Cantor

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
Christ asked three times: Peter, do you love me? Thereby he satisfied the threefold denial; and Simon, understanding the mystery, cried to the Lord:

You know all things, you know that I love you. After this Christ said to him:

Feed my sheep, feed my lambs; feed those sheep which I have fashioned with my own blood. Therefore, O blessed apostle of God, beseech him to grant us great mercy.

As the doxastikon is sung, the clergy enter the Holy Place with the gospel book and censer.

The service continues on page 117 with the singing of the Hymn of the Evening, "O Joyful Light". The prokeimenon of the day of the week is sung (pages 120-121), and the following readings may be chanted:

Readings:  
I Peter 1:  3 - 9       (EOT 320-321)  
I Peter 1:  13 - 19  
I Peter 2:  11 - 24

After the Small Litany (page 122), the Divine Liturgy continues with the Thrice-Holy Hymn ("Holy God") on page 27 of the Divine Liturgies book.
Prokeimenon of the holy apostles Peter and Paul - Tone 8 (Psalm 18:5,2):

Through all the earth their voice resounds; their message reaches to the ends of the world.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Alleluia of the holy apostles Peter and Paul - Tone 1 (Psalm 88:6,8):

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Verse: The heavens declare your wonders, O Lord, and your truth in the assembly of the holy.
Verse: God is glorified in the council of the holy,
great and awesome above all who surround him.

Instead of “It is truly proper . . .”:

Magnification:

Ex - tol, ex - tol, O my soul, O my soul,

Peter, the solid rock, and Paul, the chosen vessel of

Christ's Church.
We exult you with hymns, O most glorious bride and all-holy Theotokos,
for you have given birth to the Creator of all things visible and invisible.

OR:

We exult you with hymns, O most glorious bride and all-holy Theotokos, for you have given birth to the Creator of all things visible and invisible.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 18:5):

Through all the earth their voice resounds; their message reaches to the ends of the world. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
The following hymn may be sung at the end of the Divine Liturgy if desired, either after the Ambon Prayer (if bread is blessed) or after the dismissal.

**Troparion of the holy apostles Peter and Paul - Tone 4**

Lead - ers of the apostles, teach - ers of the world, in - ter - cede with the

Lord of All to grant peace to the world and a - bun - dant mer - cy to our souls.