

THE UNIVERSAL ELEVATION OF THE PRECIOUS CROSS AT THE PATRIARCH OF ALEXANDRIA

Today, Tuesday, September 14, 2021, a day on which the Church honours the Universal Elevation of the Holy and Life-giving Cross of Christ, **His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa**, officiated at Orthros and served the Divine Liturgy, at the Holy Patriarchal Monastery of our Venerable and Godbearing Father Savvas the Sanctified in Alexandria, Egypt, concelebrating with the Patriarchal Vicar of Alexandria His Eminence Narcissus Metropolitan of Naucratis and His Grace Germanos Bishop of Tamiathus.

Participating in the Divine Liturgy were the Chief Secretary of the Holy Synod Archimandrite Nicodemus Totkas, the Principal of the Patriarchal Academy Archimandrite Isaac Tsapoglou and Clergy of the Patriarchate.

The Great Feast of the Master was honoured by the presence the Consul General of Greece in Alexandria, His Excellency Mr. Athanasios Kotsionis together with his wife and many faithful Christians.

According to the Alexandrian custom His Beatitude led the procession and the Elevation of the Precious Cross on the nave of the Catholicos of the Holy Monastery, from where, in tears, he prayed for the liberation of humanity from the pandemic of the coronavirus.

The Primate of Alexandria, addressing the pious congregation, stated that *"Our Lord is Elevated again today. We experienced Great and Holy Friday again today"* wanting to emphasize the importance of today's feast of the Master.

At another point, the Patriarch emphatically pointed out that the hope of the world will always remain the Divine Blood from the chalice of Life and the Precious Cross will always indicate "By this we conquer".

*"Let there be hope, patience in our daily life and let us know that behind the sufferings, and from the crowns of thorns of the world flows the blood of our heart and know too that hope will always remain the Divine Blood from the Chalice of Life and the Cross will always indicate **"By this we conquer"** and will always be our victory, not the human victory, but victory through the love and peace and the reconciliation of the nations"*.

After the end of the Divine Liturgy, in procession they went to the Throne Room of the Holy Monastery, where His Beatitude thanked the Consul General of Greece and all the pious people, who came to worship the Precious Cross.