

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Before we begin our discussion, I would like to remind everyone that on Saturday of this week, we celebrate one of the twelve major feast days of the Church, the Exaltation of the Cross. By chronology, it is the last of these twelve feast days. During the vigil on Friday, the cross will be carried out to the middle of the church by the bishop and raised and lowered five times in different directions in memory of how the original cross of Christ was raised in different directions for all the people to venerate it after it was found, having been hidden by Christ's enemies for several hundred years. I urge all of you who are able to come to the cathedral to witness and participate in this solemn ceremony. [\(continue\)](#)