

Matins of Great and Holy Friday with the Passion Gospels

The priest, vested in epitrachelion, opens the curtain, takes the censer and begins:

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Reader: Glory to You, O God, glory to You!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who are everywhere and fill all things, Treasury of blessings, and Giver of Life, come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! (x3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, wash away our sins, O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name! Thy Kingdom come! Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

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Priest: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For His Beatitude, our Metropolitan_____, and for His Grace our Bishop_____, for the honourable Priesthood, the Diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy, monastics, and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For the government of our country, for all civil authorities and for those who serve in the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For this city, for every city and country, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For seasonable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For travellers by land, by sea, and by air; for the sick and the suffering, for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For unto You are due all glory, honour, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! My spirit seeks You early from the night, O God, for Your commandments are a light on the earth.

(While the Alleluia is being sung, the faithful light their candles and hold them lit during each Gospel reading)

People:

Priest: Learn righteousness, you who dwell upon the earth.

People: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Priest: Anger shall fall upon the people who have not corrected themselves.

People: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Priest: Bring more evils on them, O Lord, bring more evils on those who are glorious on the earth.

People: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...For unto You are due all glory, honour, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

The First Gospel Reading

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John the Theologian.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*John 13:31-18:1*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

(Antiphons 1-3)

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...For unto You are due all glory, honour and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

(Kathisma Hymn)

The Second Gospel Reading

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John the Theologian.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*John 18:1-28*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

(Antiphons 4-6)

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...For sanctified and glorified is Your all-honourable and majestic name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Kathisma Hymn

Tone 7

The Third Gospel Reading

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the Evangelist.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*Matthew 26:57-75*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

(Antiphons 7-9)

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...For You are our God, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

(Kathisma Hymn)

The Fourth Gospel Reading

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel!
Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John the Theologian.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*John 18:28-19:16*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...Blessed and glorified be the might of Your kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

(Kathisma Hymn)

The Fifth Gospel Reading

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the Evangelist.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*Matthew 27:3-32*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

(Antiphons 13-15)

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...For blessed is Your name, and glorified is Your kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

(Kathisma Hymn)

The Sixth Gospel Reading

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the Evangelist.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*Mark 15:16-32*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

The Beatitudes

Reader: Through a tree Adam lost his home in paradise, but through the tree of the cross the thief came there to dwell. By tasting of the fruit, the first broke the Creator's commandment, but he who was crucified with You confessed You, the hidden God. Remember us also, O Saviour, in Your kingdom!

People: (*continue in the same manner as above*)

Blessed are those that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Reader: Lawless men bought the Creator of the law from a disciple and brought Him before the judgement seat of Pilate as a transgressor. Though He had given them manna in the wilderness, they cried out: Crucify Him! But we, imitating the righteous thief, cry out in faith: Remember us also, O Saviour, in Your kingdom!

People: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Reader: The swarm of those who would kill God, the lawless nation of the Jews, cried out in fury to Pilate: Crucify Him! Christ, the innocent One. And they sought instead the release of Barabbas. But with the wise thief we lift up our voices: Remember us also, O Saviour, in Your kingdom!

People: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Reader: From Your life-bearing side, O Christ, a fountain flows forth as from Eden, giving drink to Your Church as to a living paradise. From there it divided to become the four

rivers of the Gospels, watering the world, gladdening creation, and teaching the nations to worship Your kingdom in faith.

People: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

Reader: You were crucified for my sake, in order to pour forth forgiveness for me. Your side was pierced so that streams of life might flow for me. Your hands were transfixed by nails so that, convinced of the height of Your power by the depth of Your sufferings, I might cry out to You, O Christ, giver of life: Glory to Your cross and to Your Passion, O Saviour!

People: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Reader: When it beheld You crucified, O Christ, all creation trembled. The foundations of the earth shook for fear of Your might. The lights of heaven hid themselves, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. The mountains quaked, and the rocks were split, and with us the believing thief cried out to You, O Saviour: Remember me in Your kingdom!

People: Blessed are you when men shall revile you and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.

Reader: On the cross You destroyed the legal bond against us, O Lord. You were reckoned with the dead and there did bind the tyrant, delivering all from the bonds of death by Your Resurrection. By it we have been illumined, O Lord Who

loves mankind, and we cry out to You: Remember us also, O Saviour, in Your kingdom!

People: Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

Reader: You were lifted up upon the cross, O Lord. You destroyed the power of death, and as God You cancelled the legal bond against us. Grant the repentance of the thief also unto us who worship You in faith, O only lover of mankind, and who cry out to You, O Christ our God: Remember us also, O Saviour in Your kingdom!

People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Reader: Let us, the faithful, all pray that with one voice we may worthily glorify the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: One God existing in three persons yet remaining unconfused, simple, undivided, and unapproachable; by Whom we escape the flames of punishment.

People: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Reader: We offer to You as an intercessor, O Christ, Your mother who bore You in the flesh without seed, the true virgin who after giving birth remained incorrupt. Through her intercessions, O most merciful Master, grant forgiveness of sins to us who cry unceasingly: Remember us also, O Saviour, in Your kingdom!

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...For all the powers praise You, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

The Prokeimenon

Priest: The Prokeimenon in the 4th tone: They divide My garments among them, and for My raiment they cast lots.

Priest: My God, my God, look upon Me! Why have You forsaken Me?

The Seventh Gospel Reading

(music on page 8)

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the Evangelist.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*Matthew 27:33-54*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

Psalm 51

Reader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight, so that You are justified in Your sentence and blameless in Your judgement. Behold, I was brought forth in

iniquity, and in sins did my mother conceive me. Behold, You desire truth in the inward being: therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean, wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness; let the bones which You have broken rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out my transgressions. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will return to You. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, You God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of Your deliverance. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise. For You have no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, You would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. Do good to Zion in Your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then will You delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on Your altar.

The Eighth Gospel Reading *(music on page 8)*

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel!
Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke
the Evangelist.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*Luke 23:32-49*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

The Canon

(Ode 5)

Reader: Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

With their feet washed, and themselves purified by their participation in the Divine Mystery, Your servants, O Christ, now ascend from Zion to the great Mount of Olives, praising You Who love mankind.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

You said, "See that you are not alarmed, O friends. For the hour is now at hand for me to be seized and slain at the hands of lawless men. All of you will be scattered, forsaking me. But I shall gather you to proclaim me, who love mankind."

The Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...For You are the King of Peace and the Saviour of our souls, and to You do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

(Kontakion)

Ikos

Reader: Beholding her own lamb led to the slaughter, Mary followed with the other women, in distress and crying out, "Where do You go, my child? Why do You run so swift a course? Surely there is not another wedding in Cana to which You now hasten to change water into wine? Shall I come with You, my child, or shall I wait for You? Give me a word, You who kept me pure, for

People: "You are my Son and God."

(Ode 8)

Reader: Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

“O my disciples, now shake off sleep from your eyelids,” said Christ. “Keep watch, I pray, that you may not fall into temptation; and I speak particularly to Simon, since the test is greatest for the strongest. O Peter, acknowledge me, Whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages.”

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

“O Master, a profane word shall never pass my lips,” cried Peter. “Even if all deny You, I shall die with You as a loyal friend. For not flesh and blood, but Your Father has revealed to me You Whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages.”

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: the Lord.

“You have not sought out the depth of divine wisdom and knowledge,” said the Lord. “You have not comprehended the abyss of My judgements, O man. Do not boast, for you are flesh, and three times will you deny Me, Whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages.”

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

“You will deny your convictions as soon as the question is put to you, O Simon Peter, and the sudden approach of a servant girl will terrify you,” said the Lord. “But after weeping bitterly you will have mercy from Me, Whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages.”

(We praise, bless...)

(Ode 9)

Reader: Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

A destructive band of God-forsaken, wicked murderers of God, the Synagogue, attacked You, O Christ, and dragged You away as an evildoer – the Creator of all, Whom we magnify.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

Impious men, ignorant of the law and hearing the voice of the prophets to no avail, dragged You away as a sheep to be unjustly slaughtered – the Master of all, Whom we magnify.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

The priests and scribes caused the life that had been betrayed to the Gentiles to be destroyed, striking in their jealous wickedness Him Who by nature is the Giver of life, Whom we magnify.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Like a pack of dogs they surrounded You, O King, smiting You on the cheek with their hands. They questioned You and bore false witness against You, yet by enduring all things You have saved all.

(The Wise Thief)

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: **O Lord, Who made...**

Reader: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

People: **O Lord, Who made...**

The Ninth Gospel Reading

(music on page 8)

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel!
Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John the Theologian.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*John 19:25-37*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

The Praises

Reader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!

Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars! Praise Him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the Lord! For He commanded and they were created. And He established them forever and ever; He fixed their bounds which cannot be passed. Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monster and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling His command! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and maidens together, old men and children. Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints, for the people of Israel who are near to Him.

Sing to the Lord a new song. His praise in the assembly of the faithful! Let Israel be glad in his Maker, let the sons of Zion rejoice in their King! Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with timbrel and lyre! For the Lord takes pleasure in His people, He adorns the humble with salvation. Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches. Let the high praises of God be in their throats, and two-edged swords in their hands, to wreak vengeance on the nations and

chastisement on the peoples, to bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron, to execute on them the judgement written! This is the glory of all His faithful ones. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament! Praise the Lord for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His exceeding greatness. Praise Him with trumpet sound, praise Him with lute and harp!

(sing the praises stikhera – see next page)

Tone 3

People: Israel, my first-born son,
Has committed two evil deeds.
He abandoned Me, the fountain of living water,
And dug for himself a broken well.
He crucified Me upon the wood.
And asked for Barabbas and released him.
Heaven was amazed at this,
And the sun hid his rays
But you, O Israel, were not ashamed
But delivered Me to death.
Forgive them, O holy Father,///
For they know not what they do.

Reader: Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!

People: Israel, my first-born son,
Has committed two evil deeds.
He abandoned Me, the fountain of living water,
And dug for himself a broken well.
He crucified Me upon the wood.
And asked for Barabbas and released him.
Heaven was amazed at this,
And the sun hid his rays
But you, O Israel, were not ashamed
But delivered Me to death.
Forgive them, O holy Father,///
For they know not what they do.

Reader: Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!

People:
Every member of Your holy flesh endured dishonour for us.

Your head – the thorns, Your face – the spitting,
Your cheeks – the buffeting, Your mouth the taste of
vinegar mingled with gall,
Your ears – the impious blasphemies, Your back – the
scourge,
Your hand – the reed, Your whole body – the extension upon
the cross,
Your joints – the nails, Your side – the spear.
By Your sufferings You have set us free from suffering.
In Your love for man You stooped down to raise us up.///
O Almighty Saviour, have mercy on us.

Reader: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!

People: Beholding You crucified, O Christ,
The whole creation trembled.
The foundations of the earth shook for fear of Your might,
For by Your lifting up today the Hebrew race perished.
The curtain of the temple was torn in two.
The tombs were opened and the dead arose from their
graves.
The centurion shuddered when he saw the wonder.
Your Mother stood by and cried out with motherly
lamentation:
“How shall I not weep and beat my breast,
Seeing You naked and hanging upon the cross as one
condemned? ”///
O Lord, crucified and buried and risen from the dead, glory
to You!

Reader: In the 6th tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to
the Holy Spirit.

Tone 6

People: They have stripped Me of My garments
And clothed Me in a scarlet robe.
They have set upon My head a crown of thorns
And have given Me a reed in My right hand///
That I might dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

Reader: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

People: I gave my back to scourgings.
I did not turn My face from spittings.
I stood before the judgement seat of Pilate
And endured the cross///
For the salvation of the world.

The Tenth Gospel Reading

(music on page 8)

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel!
Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the Evangelist.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*Mark 15:43-47*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

Reader: To You, O Lord our God belongs glory, and to You we send up glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Lesser Doxology

Priest: Glory to You, Who has shown us the light!

Reader: Glory to God in the highest. And on earth peace, good will to men. We praise You! We bless You! We worship You! We glorify You! We give thanks to You for Your great

glory! O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit!

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. You that take away the sins of the world receive our prayer. You that sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us. For You alone are holy, You alone are the Lord. You only, O Jesus Christ, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Every day will I give thanks to You and praise Your Name forever and ever!

Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, be merciful to me. Heal my soul for I have sinned against You. Lord, I flee to You, teach me to do Your will, for You are my God. For with You is the well of life, and in Your light shall we see Light. O continue Your loving-kindness to those who know You.

Vouchsafe, O Lord to keep us this day without sin. Blessed are You, O Lord, God of our Fathers and praised and glorified be Your Name forever. Amen. Let Your merciful kindness, O Lord, be upon us, as we put our trust in You. Blessed are You, O Lord teach me Your statutes. Blessed are You, O Lord make me to understand Your commandments. Blessed are You, O Lord, enlighten me with Your precepts.

Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever: despise not the works of Your hands. To You belongs worship, to You belongs praise, to You belongs glory, to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Litany of Fervent Supplication

Priest: Let us complete our morning prayer unto the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God,
by Your Grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and
sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant it, O Lord.

Priest: An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls
and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Priest: Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant it, O Lord.

Priest: All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant it, O Lord.

Priest: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant it, O Lord.

Priest: A Christian ending to our life: painless, blameless, and peaceful; and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant it, O Lord.

Priest: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: ...For You are our God and to You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: O holy Lord, Who dwell on high and look upon the humble, and Who with Your all-seeing eye look down upon all creation: unto You have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we pray You, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth Your invisible hand from Your holy dwelling place and bless us all. And if in any way we have sinned, either willingly or unwillingly, pardon us, inasmuch as You are good and love mankind, granting us Your good things in this world and beyond this world.

For Yours it is to have mercy on us and to save us, O our God, and unto You we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

The Eleventh Gospel Reading *(music on page 8)*

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel!
Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John
the Theologian.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*John 19:38-42*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

The Aposticha

Reader: The Aposticha in the 1st tone.

Tone 1

People: All creation was changed by fear

When it saw You hanging upon the cross, O Christ.
The sun was darkened,
And the foundations of the earth were shaken.
All things suffered with the Creator of all. ///
O Lord, Who willingly endured this for us, glory to You.

Reader: In the 2nd tone: They divide My garments among them,
and for My raiment, they cast lots.

Tone 2

People: An impious and transgressing people

Why do they imagine vain things?
Why do they condemn to death the Life of all?
O great wonder!
The Creator of the world is betrayed into the hands of
lawless men.
He Who loves mankind is lifted up upon the wood,
That He might free those bound in Hades, who cry: ///
O Long-suffering Lord, glory to You!

Reader: They gave Me gall for food, and for My thirst they gave
Me vinegar to drink.

People: Today the blameless Virgin
Saw You suspended upon the cross, O Word.
She mourned within herself and was sorely pierced in her
heart.
She groaned in agony from the depth of her soul.
Exhausted from tearing her hair and cheeks and beating
her breast,
She cried out lamenting:
“Woe is me, O my divine Child!
Woe is me, O Light of the world!
Why have You departed from my eyes, O Lamb of God?”
Then the bodiless hosts were seized with trembling and
cried: ///
“O incomprehensible Lord, glory to You!”

Reader: God is our King before the ages, He has wrought
salvation in the midst of the earth.

People: When she who bore You without seed,
Saw You suspended upon the tree,
O Christ, the Creator and God of all,
She cried bitterly: “Where is the beauty of Your form, O my
Son?”
I cannot bear to see You unjustly crucified.
Hasten and arise ///
That I too may see Your Resurrection from the dead on the
third day.

Reader: In the 8th tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to
the Holy Spirit.

Tone 8

People: When You ascended the cross, O Lord,

Fear and trembling fell upon creation,
Yet You forbade the earth to swallow up those who
crucified You.

And You commanded Hades to send up its captives
For the regeneration of mortals.
O Judge of the living and the dead
You have come to grant life, not death. ///
O Lover of mankind, glory to You!

Reader: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

People: Now the unjust judges dip the pen of judgement.
Jesus is tried and sentenced to the cross.
All creation suffers as it beholds the Lord on the cross.///
O Good Lord, Who in Your human nature suffered for me,
glory to You!

The Twelfth Gospel Reading
(music on page 8)

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel!
Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the Evangelist.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*Matthew 27:62-66*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

Reader: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, O Most-high; to declare Your steadfast love in the morning, and Your truth by night.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins, O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All: Our Father, Who art in heaven. Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Troparion (Tone 4)

People: By Your precious blood,
You have redeemed us from the curse of the law.
By being nailed to the cross and pierced by a spear,
You have poured forth immortality for man.//
O our Saviour, glory to You!

The Augmented Litany

Priest: Let us say with all our soul and with all our mind, let us say.

People: (*plain chant*) Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Your great goodness, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Again we pray for our Metropolitan _____, and for our Bishop _____, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy, monastics, and for all our brethren in Christ.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Again we pray for the government of our country, for all our civil authorities, and for those who serve in the armed forces.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy house; for all our fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters; the Orthodox departed this life before us, (especially ____) and all those who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God ____, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable house; for those who labour, for those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Your great and rich mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For You are a merciful God, and You love mankind, and to You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

The Dismissal

Priest: Wisdom!

People: Master, bless.

Priest: Christ our God, the “I am”, is blessed always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen. Preserve, O God, the Holy Orthodox Faith and Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages.

Priest: Most holy Theotokos, save us!

People: More honourable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you!

Priest: Glory to You, O Christ, our God, and our hope glory to You!

People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Master, bless.

Priest: May He Who endured spitting and scourging, the cross and death, for the salvation of the world, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most-pure Mother; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

People: Amen.