



ST BASIL THE GREAT  
ORTHODOX CHURCH



THE OFFICE OF  
GREAT COMPLINE  
**THURSDAY OF THE FIFTH WEEK  
OF GREAT LENT (TWO CANONS)**  
READER'S SERVICE

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Oh Lord Jesus Christ, Have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere and fillest all things; Treasury of Good Things, 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. *(Thrice)*

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

O 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 Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(Thrice)*

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

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 evil one.

Choir: Amen.

***Lord, have mercy. (Twelve Times)***

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

*A metanoia is made after each verse below.*

Choir: O Come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.

O Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

O Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

#### PSALM 4

When I called upon Thee, O God of my righteousness, Thou didst hearken unto me; in mine affliction Thou hast enlarged me. Have compassion on me and hear my prayer. O ye sons of men, how long will ye be slow of heart? Why do ye love vanity, and seek after falsehood? Know also that the Lord hath made wondrous His holy one; the Lord will hearken unto me when I cry unto Him. Be angry, and sin not; feel compunction upon your beds for what ye say in your hearts. Sacrifice a sacrifice of righteousness, and hope in the Lord. Many say: Who will show unto us good things? The light of Thy countenance, O Lord, hath been signed upon us; Thou hast given gladness to my heart. From the fruit of their wheat, wine, and oil are they multiplied. In peace in the same place I shall lay me down and sleep. For Thou, O Lord, alone hast made me to dwell in hope.

#### PSALM 6

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak. Heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled, and my soul is troubled greatly; but Thou, O Lord, how long? Turn to me again, O Lord, deliver my soul; save me for Thy mercy's sake. For in death there is none that is mindful of Thee, and in hades who will confess Thee? I toiled in my groaning; every night I will wash my bed, with tears will I water my couch. Through wrath is mine eye become troubled, I have grown old among all mine enemies. Depart from me all ye that work vanity, for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping. The Lord hath heard my supplication, the Lord hath received

my prayer. Let all mine enemies be greatly put to shame and be troubled, let them be turned back, and speedily be greatly put to shame.

**PSALM 12**

How long, O Lord, wilt Thou utterly forget me? How long wilt Thou turn Thy face away from me? How long shall I take counsel in my soul with grievings in my heart by day and by night? How long shall mine enemy be exalted over me? Look upon me, hear me, O Lord my God; enlighten mine eyes, lest at any time I sleep unto death. Lest at any time mine enemy say: I have prevailed against him. They that afflict me will rejoice if I am shaken; but as for me, I have hoped in Thy mercy. My heart will rejoice in Thy salvation. I will sing unto the Lord, Who is my benefactor, and I will chant unto the name of the Lord Most High.

Look upon me, hear me, O Lord my God; enlighten mine eyes, lest at any time I sleep unto death. Lest at any time mine enemy say: I have prevailed against him.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*).

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

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

**PSALM 24**

Unto Thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul. O my God, in Thee have I trusted; let me never be put to shame, nor let mine enemies laugh me to scorn. Yea, let none that wait on Thee be put to shame; let them be ashamed which are lawless without a cause. Make Thy ways, O Lord, known unto me and teach me Thy paths. Lead me in Thy truth and teach me, for Thou art God my Saviour; for on Thee have I waited all the day long. Remember Thy compassions; O Lord, and Thy mercies, for they are from everlasting. The sins of my youth and mine ignorances remember not; according to Thy mercy remember Thou me, for the sake of Thy goodness, O Lord. Good and upright is the Lord; therefore will He set a law for them that sin in the way. He will guide the meek in judgement, He will teach the meek His ways. All the ways of the Lord are mercy and truth, unto them that seek after His covenant and His testimonies. For the sake of Thy name, O Lord, be gracious unto my sin; for it is great. Who is the man that feareth the Lord? He will set him a law in the way which He hath chosen. His soul shall dwell among good things, and his seed shall inherit the earth. The Lord is the strength of them that fear Him, and His covenant shall be manifested unto them. Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He it is that will draw my feet out of the snare. Look upon me, and have mercy on me; for I am one only-begotten and poor. The afflictions of my heart are multiplied; bring me out from my necessities. Behold my lowliness and my toil, and forgive all my sins. Look upon my enemies, for they are multiplied, and with an unjust hatred they have hated me. Keep my soul and rescue me; let me not be put to shame, for I have hoped in Thee. The innocent and the upright have cleaved unto me, for I waited on Thee, O Lord. Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his afflictions.

### PSALM 30

In Thee, O Lord, have I hoped, let me not be put to shame in the age to come; in Thy righteousness deliver me, and rescue me. Bow down Thine ear unto me, make haste to rescue me, be Thou unto me a God to defend me and a house of refuge to save me. For my strength and my refuge art Thou, and for Thy name's sake wilt Thou guide me and nourish me. Thou wilt bring me out of this snare which they have hid for me, for Thou art my defender, O Lord. Into Thy hands I will commit my spirit; Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. Thou hast hated them that cling to empty vanities; but I have hoped in the Lord. I will rejoice and be glad in Thy mercy, for Thou hast regarded my lowliness; Thou hast saved my soul out of necessities, And hast not shut me up in the hands of enemies; Thou hast set my feet in a spacious place. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am afflicted; mine eye is troubled with anger, as also my soul and my belly. For my life is spent with grief, and my years with groanings; my strength hath grown weak in poverty, and my bones are troubled. I am become a reproach among all mine enemies, and greatly for my neighbors also, and a fear to mine acquaintances. They that saw me without fled from me. I am forgotten by the heart like a dead man. I am become like a broken vessel. For I have heard the reproach of many that dwell round about; when they assembled together against me, they devised to take away my life. But as for me, I have hoped in Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my God; in Thy hands are my lots. Deliver me from the hands of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me. Make Thy face to shine upon Thy servant, save me in Thy mercy. O Lord, let me not be put to shame, for I have called upon Thee; let the ungodly be put to shame and let them be brought

down into hades. Speechless be the deceitful lips which speak iniquity against the righteous man with arrogance and contempt. How great is the multitude of Thy goodness, O Lord, which Thou hast hid for them that fear Thee, which Thou hast wrought for them that hope in Thee before the sons of men. Thou shalt hide them in the secrecy of Thy presence from the disturbance of men; Thou shalt shelter them in the tabernacle from contradiction of tongues. Blessed is the Lord, for He hath made His mercy wondrous in a fortified city. But as for me, I said in mine ecstasy: I am cast away from the presence of Thine eyes. Therefore hast Thou heard the voice of my supplication when I cried unto Thee. O love ye the Lord, all ye His saints, for the Lord requireth truth; and unto them that act with exceeding pride, He rendereth them their due. Be ye manifold, and let your heart be strengthened, all ye that hope in the Lord.

### PSALM 90

He that dwelleth in the help of the Most High shall abide in the shelter of the God of heaven. He shall say unto the Lord: Thou art my helper and my refuge. He is my God, and I will hope in Him. For He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunters and from every troubling word. With His shoulders will He overshadow thee, and under His wings shalt thou have hope. With a shield will His truth encompass thee; thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day, Nor for the thing that walketh in darkness, nor for the mishap and demon of noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but unto thee shall it not come nigh. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold, and thou shalt see the reward of sinners. For Thou, O Lord, art my hope. Thou madest the Most High thy refuge; No evils shall come nigh thee, and no scourge shall

draw nigh unto thy dwelling. For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. On their hands shall they bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Upon the asp and basilisk shalt thou tread, and thou shalt trample upon the lion and dragon. For he hath set his hope on Me, and I will deliver him; I will shelter him because he hath known My name. He shall cry unto Me, and I will hearken unto him. I am with him in affliction, and I will rescue him and glorify him. With length of days will I satisfy him, and I will show him My salvation.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*).

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

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

*Then we chant these verse with sweet melody, not rapidly, but slowly, and with loud voice (On Friday evening this is read, and everything from here to "I BELIEVE..." is read, not chanted):*

<b>GOD IS WITH US</b>
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***Choir:*** God is with us, understand, O ye nations, and submit yourselves: for God is with us. (*Twice*), *if there are two choirs*)

***Choir:*** Hearken ye unto the ends of the earth.  
***Refrain:*** For God is with us.

O ye powerful, submit yourselves. ***Refrain.***

For if ye again strengthen yourselves, ye shall again be vanquished. ***Refrain.***

And whatsoever counsel ye shall take, the Lord shall bring it to nought. ***Refrain.***

And the word, whatsoever ye speak, shall not remain with you. ***Refrain.***

And of your fear we shall be neither afraid nor in dread. ***Refrain.***

But the Lord our God, Him will we hallow, and he shall be fear unto us. ***Refrain.***

And if I be trusting in Him, He shall be unto me sanctification. ***Refrain.***

And I will be hoping in Him, and shall be saved by Him. ***Refrain.***

Behold I and the children which God hath given me. ***Refrain.***

The people that walk in darkness have seen a great light. ***Refrain.***

Ye that dwell in the region and shadow of death, a light shall shine upon you. ***R.***

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given. ***Refrain.***

Whose government is upon His shoulder. ***Refrain.***

And of His peace there is no end. ***Refrain.***

And His name shall be called Angel of Great Counsel. ***Refrain.***

Wonderful Counselor. ***Refrain.***

Mighty God, Ruler, Prince of Peace. ***Refrain.***

Father of the age to come. ***Refrain.***

***Choir:*** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

***Choir:*** For God is with us.

***Choir:*** Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

***Choir:*** For God is with us!

***Choir:*** God is with us, understand, O ye nations, and submit yourselves: for God is with us.

## TROPARIA

The day being past, I give Thee thanks, O Lord; the evening, I pray, together with the night without sin grant me, O Savior, and save me.

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.***

The day being past, I glorify Thee, O Master; the evening, I pray, together with the night without temptation grant me, O Savior, and save me.

***Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.***

The day being past, I hymn Thee, O Holy One; the evening, I pray, together with the night without peril grant me, O Savior, and save me.

The bodiless nature of the Cherubim with unceasing hymns glorify Thee. The six-winged beings, the Seraphim, with never-ceasing voices supremely exalt Thee. And all the ranks of the Angels praise Thee with (Thrice)-holy hymns. For before all art Thou the existing Father, and Thou hast Thy co- unoriginate Son; and bearing the co-honorable Spirit of life, Thou dost manifest the Indivisible Trinity. O Most holy Virgin Mother of God, and ye eyewitnesses of the Word and servants, all the choirs both of Prophets and Martyrs, as those that have attained unto life immortal, supplicate earnestly for us all, for we all are in distress; that, being delivered from the delusion of the evil one, we may cry out the angelic hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy, (Thrice)- holy Lord, have mercy and save us. Amen.

## The Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, Begotten of the Father before all worlds, Light of Light, True God of True God, Begotten, not made. of one essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried. And on the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures. And ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, Whose Kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in One Holy catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Troparia to the Theotokos

O most holy Lady Theotokos, intercede for us sinners. (***Thrice***).

O all ye Heavenly Host of the holy Angels and Archangels, intercede for us sinners. (***Twice***).

O holy John, Prophet and Forerunner and Baptist of our Lord Jesus Christ, intercede for us sinners. (***Twice***).

O holy glorious Apostles, Prophets, and Martyrs, and all the Saints, intercede for us sinners. (***Twice***).

O our holy and God-bearing fathers, pastors, and ecumenical teachers, intercede for us sinners. *(Twice)*.

O holy hierarch father Basil, intercede for us sinners. *(Twice)*.

O Invincible and incomprehensible and divine power of the precious and life-giving Cross, forsake not us sinners. *(Twice)*.

O God, cleanse us sinners. *(Twice)*.

O God, cleanse us sinners, and have mercy on us.

### Trisagion Prayers

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *(Thrice)*.

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

O 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 Thy names sake.

Lord have mercy. *(Thrice)*.

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

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 evil one.

***Choir:*** Amen.

***On Monday and Wednesday evenings:***

### TROPARIA (Tone II)

Enlighten mine eyes, O Christ God, lest at any

time I sleep unto death, lest at any time mine enemy say: I have prevailed against him.

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.***

Be my soul's helper, O God, for I pass through the midst of many snares; deliver me out of them, and save me, O Good One, for Thou art the Lover of Mankind.

***Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.***

Seeing that we have no boldness on account of our many sins, do thou beseech Him that was born of thee, O Virgin Theotokos for the supplication of a mother availeth much to win the Master's favor. Disdain not the prayers of sinners, O all-pure one, for merciful and mighty to save is He Who deigned also to suffer for our sake.

***On Tuesday and Thursday evenings:***

### TROPARIA (Tone VIII)

O Lord, Thou knowest the unsleeping vigilance of mine invisible enemies, and the weakness of my miserable flesh knowest Thou Who hast fashioned me: Into Thy hands, therefore, I will commit my spirit; shelter me with the wings of Thy goodness, lest at any time I sleep unto death, and enlighten the eyes of my mind to the enjoyment of Thy divine words, and raise me up in a seasonable time unto Thy glorification, for Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind.

***Stichos: Look upon me and hear me, O Lord my God.***

How terrible is Thy judgment, O Lord, with the angels standing round about, the men being led in, the books opened, the deeds examined, the thoughts weighed. What judgment shall be awarded unto me who was conceived in sins?

**A Prayer of St. Basil the Great**

Who shall quench the flame for me, who shall enlighten the darkness for me, if not Thou, O Lord Who hast mercy on me, as the Lover of mankind.

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.***

Grant me tears, O God, as Thou didst once give to the sinning woman, and vouchsafe me to moisten Thy feet which have freed me from the path of delusion, and to offer to Thee as fragrant myrrh a pure life, fashioned in me by repentance, that I may hear Thy desired voice: Thy faith hath saved thee, go in peace.

***Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.***

Having in thee, O Theotokos, a hope that cannot be put to shame, I shall be saved; having obtained thy mediation, O most pure one, I shall not fear. I shall pursue enemies and triumph over them, having covered myself, as in a breastplate, only with thy protection; and imploring thine all-powerful aid, I cry unto thee: O Sovereign Lady, save me through thine intercessions, and raise me up from somber sleep to thy glorification, by the might of the Son of God who was incarnate of thee.

***On Friday evenings, the troparion of the Saturday commemoration.***

***Choir: Lord, have mercy. (40 times)***

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, Thou who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, and art Truly Theotokos we magnify Thee!

***Choir: Amen.***

O Lord, O Lord, Who hast delivered us from every arrow that flieth by day, deliver us from everything that walketh in darkness. Receive as an evening sacrifice the lifting up of our hands. Vouchsafe us also to pass through the course of the night without blemish, untempted by evil. And deliver us from every anxiety and fear that come to us from the devil. Grant unto our souls compunction, and unto our thoughts solicitude concerning the trial at Thy dread and righteous judgment. Nail down our flesh with the fear of Thee, and mortify our earthly members, that in quietness of sleep we may be enlightened by the vision of Thy judgments. Take from us every unseemly dream and pernicious carnal desire. Raise us up at the hour of prayer, fortified in faith and advancing in Thy commandments; through the benevolence and goodness of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thy most-holy and good and life creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*A metanoia is made after each verse below.*

Choir: O Come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.

O Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

O Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

**PSALM 50**

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy great mercy;

According to the multitude of Thy tender mercies, blot out mine iniquity.

Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and

cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me.

Against Thee only have I sinned and done evil in Thy sight.

That Thou mightest be justified in Thy words and prevail when Thou art judged.

For behold, I was shaped in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the unclear and hidden things of Thy wisdom Thou hast made clear to me.

Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones which Thou hast broken shall rejoice.

Turn away Thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and steady me with a guiding spirit.

Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways, and the impious shall be converted unto thee.

Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; and my tongue shall sing aloud of Thy righteousness.

O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise.

For hadst Thou desired sacrifice, I would have given it Thee; Thou delightest not in burnt offerings.

Sacrifices to God are a contrite spirit; a contrite

and humble heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.

Do good, O Lord, in Thy good will unto Zion, that the walls of Jerusalem may be built up.

Then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offerings.

Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

#### PSALM 101

O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come unto Thee. Turn not Thy face away from me; in the day when I am afflicted, incline Thine ear unto me. In the day when I call upon Thee, quickly hearken unto me. For my days are vanished like smoke, and my bones consumed like wood for the burning. I am smitten like grass, and withered is my heart, for I forgot to eat my bread. By reason of the voice of my groaning, my bone hath cleaved unto my flesh. I am become like a pelican of the wilderness, I am like an owl in a ruined house. I have watched, and am like a sparrow that sitteth alone upon the housetop. The whole day long mine enemies reproached me, and they that praised me made an oath against me. For before the face of Thy wrath and Thine anger I ate ashes like bread, and my drink I mingled with weeping; for after uplifting me, Thou hast dashed me down. My days like a shadow have declined, and I like grass am withered. But Thou, O Lord, for ever abidest, and Thy remembrance is unto generation and generation. Thou shalt rise up and have pity upon Sion, for it is time to have compassion on her, yea, the time is come. For Thy servants have taken pleasure in her stones, and they shall feel pity for her dust. And the nations shall fear Thy name, O Lord, and all the kings of the earth Thy glory. For the Lord shall build up Sion, and He shall be seen in His glory. He hath regarded the prayer of the humble, and hath not despised

their supplication. Let this be written for another generation, and the people that is being created shall praise the Lord. For He hath looked out from His holy height, the Lord from heaven hath looked upon the earth, To hear the groaning of them that be in fetters, to loose the sons of the slain, To declare in Sion the name of the Lord, and His praise in Jerusalem, When the peoples are gathered together, and the kings to serve the Lord. He answered Him in the way of his strength: The fewness of my days declare unto me. Take me not away at the half of my days; in generations and generations are Thy years. In the beginning, O Lord, Thou didst lay the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Thy hands. They shall perish, but Thou abidest; and all like a garment shall grow old, And as a vesture shalt Thou fold them, and they shall be changed; but Thou art the same, and Thy years shall not fail. The sons of Thy servants shall have their dwelling, and their seed for ever shall be guided aright.

#### **The Prayer of Manasses, King of Judea:**

O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, of Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and of their righteous seed; Who hast made heaven and the earth with all their majesty; Who hast bound the sea by the word of Thy commandment; Who hast closed the abyss, and sealed it by Thy terrible and glorious name; of Whom all things are afraid, and tremble from the presence of Thy might; for no one can endure the majesty of Thy glory, and unbearable is the wrath of Thy threatening toward sinners, but immeasurable and unsearchable is the mercifulness of Thy promise; for Thou art the Lord most High, compassionate, long-suffering, and plenteous in mercy, and repentest of the evils of men: Thou, O Lord, according to the multitude of Thy goodness, hast promised penitence and forgiveness to them that

have sinned against Thee, and in the multitude of Thy compassions hast decreed repentance for the salvation of sinners. Thou, therefore, O Lord God of hosts, hast not appointed repentance for the righteous, for Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, who have not sinned against Thee, but hast laid repentance upon me a sinner, for I have sinned more than the number of the sands of the sea. Mine iniquities are multiplied, and I am not worthy to look upon and to see the height of heaven for the multitude of mine iniquities. For I am bowed down with many iron bands so that I cannot lift up my head, and there is no release for me, because I have provoked Thine anger, and done evil before Thee, neither having done Thy will, nor having kept Thy commandments; and now I bow the knees of my heart, beseeching of Thee clemency. I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I know mine iniquities; but imploring I pray Thee: Loose me, O Lord, loose me, and destroy me not with mine iniquities. Neither in enmity forever keep mine evils, neither condemn me to the nethermost parts of the earth. For Thou, O God, art the God of them that repent, and upon me Thou wilt show all Thy goodness; for Thou shalt save me who am unworthy, according to the plenitude of Thy mercy, and I will praise Thee continually throughout the days of my life: for all the heavenly hosts hymn Thee, and Thine is the glory unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (*Thrice*).

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

O 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 Thy names sake.

Lord have mercy. (*Thrice*).

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

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 evil.

***And these troparia in the Sixth Tone, except on Nativity, Theophany, and Annunciation, when we sing the kontakion of the feast.***

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us; for at loss for any defense, this prayer do we sinners offer unto thee as Master: have mercy on us.

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.***

Lord, have mercy on us; for we have hoped in Thee, be not angry with us greatly, neither remember our iniquities; but look upon us now as Thou art compassionate, and deliver us from our enemies, for Thou art our God, and we, Thy people; all are the works of Thy hands, and we call upon Thy name.

***Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.***

The door of compassion open unto us, O blessed Theotokos, for hoping in thee, let us not perish; through thee may we be delivered from adversities, for thou art the salvation of the Christian race.

***Choir: Lord, have mercy. (40 times)***

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, Thou who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, and art Truly Theotokos we

magnify Thee!

***Choir: Amen.***

O Sovereign God, the Father Almighty, O Lord, the Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and O Holy Spirit, one Godhead, one Power: Have mercy on me a sinner, and by the judgments which Thou knowest, save me, Thine unworthy servant; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*A metanoia is made after each verse below.*

Choir: O Come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.

O Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

O Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

#### PSALM 69

O God, be attentive unto helping me; O Lord, make haste to help me. Let them be shamed and confounded that seek after my soul. Let them be turned back and brought to shame that desire evils against me. Let them be turned back straightway in shame that say unto me: Well done! Well done! Let them be glad and rejoice in Thee all that seek after Thee, O God, and let them that love Thy salvation say continually: The Lord be magnified. But as for me, I am poor and needy; O God, come unto mine aid. My helper and my deliverer art Thou, O Lord; make no long tarrying.

#### PSALM 142

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man

living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy Name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

#### THE SMALL DOXOLOGY

- ✘ Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men.
- ✘ We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee. we give thanks unto Thee for Thy great glory.
- ✘ O Lord, 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 takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Thou Who takest away the sins of the world.

- ✘ Receive our prayer, Thou Who sittest at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.
- ✘ For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.
- ✘ Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy Name forever. yea, forever and ever.
- ✘ Lord, Thou hast been our refuge in all generations. I said: Be merciful unto me. heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee.
- ✘ Lord, I have fled unto Thee: teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God.
- ✘ For with Thee is the fountain of life: in Thy light shall we see light.
- ✘ O continue Thy loving-kindness unto them that know Thee.
- ✘ Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.
- ✘ Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified be Thy Name forever. Amen.
- ✘ Let Thy mercy, O Lord: be upon us, as we do put our hope in Thee.
- ✘ Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.
- ✘ Blessed art Thou, O Master. make me to understand Thy statutes.
- ✘ Blessed art Thou, O Holy One. enlighten me with Thy statutes.
- ✘ Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of Thy hands.
- ✘ To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

#### TRISAGION PRAYERS

**Choir:** Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (*Thrice*).

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

O 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 Thy names sake.

Lord have mercy. (*Thrice*).

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

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

**Choir:** Amen.

## **The Great Canon of St. Andrew**

### **Thursday of Fifth Week**

#### **ODE I, In Tone VI:**

**Irmos:** **A helper and a protector hath become unto me salvation. My God, whom I will glorify, the God of my fathers, and I will exalt Him for gloriously hath He been glorified.**

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**H**ow shall I begin to mourn the deeds of my wretched life? What can I offer as first- fruits of lamentation? In thy compassion, O Christ, grant me remission of sins.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**C**ome, O my wretched soul, and with thy flesh confess thy sins to the creator of all. From this moment forsake thy former brutishness and offer to God tears of repentance.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**M**y transgressions rival those of Adam the first formed man, and because of my sins I find myself stripped naked of God and of his everlasting kingdom of joy.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**W**oe to thee, my miserable soul, how thou art like the first Eve. Thou hast looked upon wickedness and wast grievously wounded by it; thou hast touched the tree and heedlessly tasted of its deceiving fruit.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I**nstead of the visible Eve, I have within my mind an “Eve” of passionate thought in my flesh, revealing to me that which seems sweet, but when I taste thereof I find it bitter.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**F**or failing to observe just one of Thy commandments, O Savior, Adam was justly banished from Eden. What then shall I suffer? For I continually reject thy words of life?

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**B**y mine own free choice have I incurred the guilt of Cain’s murder. I have killed my conscience, bringing the flesh to life and making war upon the soul by my wicked actions.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** Jesus, I have not been like Abel in His righteousness. I have never offered Thee acceptable gifts or godly actions, a pure sacrifice, or an unblemished life.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** wretched soul, Like Cain, we have also offered to the Creator of all, defiled actions, a polluted sacrifice and a worthless life: wherefore we also are condemned.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast fashioned me, O my Maker and

Redeemer and Judge, as one who moulds clay, giving me flesh and bones, breath and life. But do Thou accept me in repentance.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** Savior, I confess to Thee, the sins I have committed, the wounds of my soul and body, which murderous thoughts, like thieves, have inflicted upon me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hough I have sinned, O Savior, yet I know that Thou art the Lover of mankind. Thou dost chastise with mercy and art fervently compassionate. Thou dost see me weeping and dost hasten to meet me, like the Father calling back the Prodigal Son.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**A**s an outcast I lie before Thy gate, O Savior. In my old age cast me not down empty into Hades; but, before the end cometh, as the Lover of mankind, grant me remission of sins.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** am like the man who fell among thieves - my own thoughts - and they, having covered my entire body with wounds, have left me beaten and bruised. But do Thou come to me, O Christ my Savior, and heal me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he Priest saw me first, but passed by on the other side; the Levite looked on me in my distress but despised my nakedness. O Jesus, sprung from Mary, do Thou come to me and take pity on me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of all, take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and since Thou art compassionate, grant me tears of compunction

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I**t is the time for repentance, wherefore I come to Thee, my Creator. Take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and since Thou art compassionate, grant me tears of compunction.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**R**eject me not, O Savior, cast me not away from Thy presence, take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and since Thou art compassionate, grant me remission of sins.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**A**ll mine offences, voluntary and involuntary, manifest and hidden, known and unknown, forgive them all, O Savior, and since Thou art God, cleanse and save me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** Savior, from my youth I have rejected Thy commandments, and ruled by the passions, I have passed my whole life in slothfulness. Wherefore I cry to Thee, O Savior, even now at the end: do Thou Save me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have wasted the substance of my soul in prodigal living, O Savior, and am left bereft of the fruit of virtues, and in hunger I cry out: O merciful Father, come out quickly to meet me and have compassion upon me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** fall down before Thee O Jesus: I have sinned against Thee, be merciful to me. Take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and since Thou art compassionate, grant me tears of compunction.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**E**nter not into judgment with me, setting before me things I have done, examining my words, and correcting my disordered impulses. But according to Thine abundant compassion, overlook my wickedness, and save me O Almighty One.

*Another Canon to St. Mary of Egypt, same Tone and Irmos:*

***Venerable Mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

**G**rant me the radiant light of grace, from God's noetic providence, that I may flee from the darkness of the passions and sing fervently the spiritually beautiful tale of thy life, O Mary.

***Venerable Mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

**B**owing before the divine laws of Christ, thou didst draw near to Him, and having forsaken the unbridled lust of sensual pleasure; in the fear of God thou didst attain unto all the God-pleasing virtues as if one.

***Venerable father Andrew, pray to God for us***

**B**y thine intercessions, O Andrew, deliver us from shameful passions and, show us to be partakers of the Kingdom of Christ; for with faith and love we sing thy praises O glorious one.

**G**lory ..., O Trinity beyond all essence and worshiped in unity, take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and since Thou art compassionate, grant me tears of compunction.

**N**ow & ever ..., O Theotokos, thou hope and protection of those who sing unto Thee, take from me the heavy yoke of sin and O lady, as one pure, accept me in penitence.

## **ODE II**

**Irmos: Attend O heaven and I shall speak, and sing in praise of Christ, who from the virgin took flesh and came to dwell among us.**

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**A**ttend, O heaven, and I shall speak. Give ear O earth, to the voice of one who repenteth before God, singing his praises.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**A**ttend unto me O God my Savior, with Thine all-

merciful eye, and accept my fervent tears of confession.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**M**ore than all mankind have I sinned; I alone have sinned against Thee. But do Thou have compassion, since Thou art God, O Savior, on me Thy creature.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he storm of sin surgeth about me, O compassionate Lord, as Thou didst once stretch out Thy hand to save Peter, so now reach out to me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** offer unto Thee O Compassionate One, the tears of the harlot, do Thou cleanse me O Savior according to Thy loving-kindness.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have darkened the beauty of my soul with the lust of passions, and wholly corrupted every aspect of my mind.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**H**aving rent asunder the garment which my creator hath fashioned for me in the beginning, I now lie naked.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**H**aving clothed myself in the garment which the serpent hath woven for me, I am ashamed.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he beauty of the tree, which I looked upon in the midst of the garden, hath deceived me, and I lie naked and ashamed.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he ruling passions have ploughed deep upon my back; making long furrows of their wickedness.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have lost the beauty and innate glory with which I was first created, and I lay naked and ashamed.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**S**in hath stripped me of the robe that God once wove for me, and it hath sewn for me garments of skin.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** am clothed with the raiment of shame as with the leaves of the fig tree, in condemnation of my self-willed passions.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** am clad in a defiled garment, shamefully bloodstained by the flow of a passionate and self-indulgent life.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have fallen under the burden of passions and the corruption of material things; and the enemy vexeth me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have lived a life of love for material things, lacking in abstinence, instead of one free from possessions, O Savior, and now I wear a heavy yoke.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have adorned the image of my flesh with a many-colored coat of shameful thoughts, wherefore I am condemned.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**H**aving cared only for outward adornment, I have neglected that which is within; the tabernacle fashioned in God's image.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have formed within myself the disfigurement of the passions, and through my strivings for lustful pleasure, I have destroyed the beauty of the

mind.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have buried with the passions the first beauty of the image, O Savior. But seek me, as once Thou didst seek the lost coin, and find me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**L**ike the Harlot I cry to Thee: I have sinned, I alone have sinned against Thee. Do Thou accept my tears as sweet myrrh, O Savior.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**L**ike David I have fallen in lust, and defiled myself: but wash me clean O Savior, with my tears.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**L**ike the Publican I cry to Thee: Be merciful, O Savior, be merciful to me.

For no child of Adam hath ever sinned against Thee as I have sinned.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have no tears, I have no repentance, nor compunction: But do Thou Thyself grant me these, as Thou art God.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** Lord, O lord, shut not Thy door against me at that time, but open it unto me, for I repent before Thee.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** Lover of mankind Thou desirest to save all mankind, do Thou call me, and accept me as one who repents, since Thou art good.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**G**ive ear to the sighing of my soul, and accept the tears that fall from mine eyes O Savior, and save me.

***Most Holy Theotokos, save us.***

**O** Theotokos undefiled, all-praised Virgin, intercede fervently that we may be saved.

### Another Canon

**Irmos:** Behold now, and see that I am God, Who by My right hand and by My power alone rained down manna in the days of old, and made springs of water flow from the barren rock, for My people in the wilderness.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

“Behold now, and see that I am God”: hearken, my soul, to the Lord as he crieth to thee; forsake thy former sin, and do thou, as one unclean, fear Him as thy Judge and God.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**T**o whom shall I liken thee, O greatly sinful soul? Only to the firstborn Cain and Lamech. For thou hast stoned thy body with thy wicked deeds, and killed thy mind with thine unspeakable desires.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**C**all to remembrance all those who lived before the Law, O my soul, for thou hast not emulated Seth, nor followed Enos, nor Enoch, who was translated to heaven, nor Noah; rather, thou art destitute of the life of the righteous.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**T**hou alone, O my soul, hast opened the floodgates of the wrath of thy God, and flooded, as once was the earth, all thy flesh and deeds and life; and thus remained outside the Ark of salvation.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

“I have slain a man to my grief and wounding, and a young man to my detriment” cried Lamech lamenting; dost thou not tremble O my soul, for thou hast defiled thy flesh and polluted thy mind?

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**O** how I have emulated Lamech, the murderer, slaying my soul as it were a man, and my mind as it were a young man, and as Cain the murderer killed his brother, so have I killed my body with sensual desires.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**S**killfully didst thou plan to build a tower, O my soul, and establish a stronghold for thy wanton lusts; had the Creator not confounded thy designs and dashed thy crafty plans to the ground.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**I** have been assaulted and wounded; behold, the arrows of the enemy which have pierced my soul and body; behold the lesions, the sores and injuries, which cry to God on behalf of the wounds of my freely-chosen passions.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**T**he Lord once rained down fire from heaven and burnt up those who dwelt in Sodom, roused to anger by their transgressions. And thou, O my soul, hast been kindled within the fire of Gehenna, and there shalt thou burn.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**K**now and behold, that I am God, who searcheth out the heart of all mankind, punishing their thoughts, reproofing their deeds, and burning up their sins, and protecting the orphan, the humble and the pauper.

*Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.*

**T**hou didst lift up thine hands to the compassionate God O Mary, having sunk into the abyss of sin, and, as once He did to Peter, so also in His love for mankind, He stretched forth His hand to help thee, in every way seeking thy conversion.

*Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.*

**W**ith all eagerness and love didst thou run to

Christ, turning from thy former path of sin, finding thy food in the trackless desert, and fulfilling in purity the divine commandments.

**Venerable father Andrew, pray to God for us**

**L**et us see, let us see, O soul, the love for mankind of our God and Master, and before our end, let us fall down before Him, and cry with tears; By the prayers of the Holy Hierach Andrew, O Savior, have mercy on us.

**Glory ...**, Trinity uncreated and without beginning, O undivided Unity: accept me in repentance and save me, a sinner. I am Thy creation, reject me not; but spare me and deliver me from the fire of condemnation.

**Now & ever ...**, O most pure Lady, Birthgiver of God, the hope of those who flee to thee and the haven of the storm-tossed: pray to the merciful God, thy Creator and thy Son, that He may grant His mercy even to me.

### ODE III

**Irmos:** Establish my thoughts, O Christ, on the unshakeable rock of thy commandments.

**Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me**

The Lord once caused fire to rain down from God, O my soul, and burned up the land of Sodom.

**Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me**

Upon the mountain shalt thou find salvation, O my soul!, as did Lot who took refuge in Zoar before it was too late.

**Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me**

Flee from the flames, O my soul! Flee from the burning heat of Sodom!

Flee the destruction of the divine flame!

**Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me**

I confess to Thee, O Savior, that I have sinned, I

have sinned against Thee without measure, but since Thou art compassionate and good, do Thou absolve and forgive me.

**Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me**

I alone have sinned against Thee More than all mankind; O Christ Savior forsake me not!

**Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me**

As Thou art the good shepherd, seek me Thy lamb which hath gone astray, and forget me not.

**Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me**

Thou art my sweet Jesus, Thou art my creator, in Thee shall I be justified O my Savior.

**O Holy Trinity, our God, glory be to Thee.**

O God, Trinity in unity, save us from delusion, temptations and misfortune!

**Most Holy Theotokos save us.**

**Theotokion:** Rejoice, O womb which received God! Rejoice, O throne of the Lord! Rejoice, O mother of our life!

### Another Canon

**Irmos:** O Lord, upon the rock of Thy commandments make firm my heart, for Thou alone art Holy and Lord.

**Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me**

Unto me art Thou the Fountain of life, and the Destroyer of death; and before the end I cry unto Thee from my heart: I have sinned, do Thou cleanse and save me.

**Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me**

I have followed the example, O Savior, of those who, in the days of Noah, lived in debaucheries; and like them I am condemned to drown in the Flood.

**Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me**

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned against Thee, do Thou cleanse me. For there is none

among mankind who have sinned, whom I have not surpassed in transgressions.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou, O my soul, hast followed after Ham, who mocked his father. Thou hast not covered thy neighbor's shame, by walking away with turned face.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast not inherited the blessing of Shem, O wretched soul, nor hast thou received, like Japhet, a place in the land of forgiveness.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**D**epart from the land of Haran, O my soul, depart from sin, and come to the land that Abraham inherited, which floweth with incorruption and eternal life.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast heard, O my soul, how in days of old, Abraham left his fatherland and became a wanderer: emulate him in his choice.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**A**t the oak of Mamre the Patriarch was hospitable to the angels, and he inherited the reward of the promise in his old age.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** my wretched soul, thou knowest how Isaac was mystically offered as a new whole burnt offering to the Lord: emulate him in his choice.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast heard O my soul, how Ishmael was driven out as the child of a bondwoman. Take heed and be watchful, lest the same thing happen to thee because of thy lustful heart.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** my soul, thou hast become like Hagar the Egyptian: thy free choice hath become enslaved,

and thou hast borne a new Ishmael, stubbornness.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou knowest, O my soul, how the ladder that was shown to Jacob, reached from earth to heaven. Why hast thou not provided a firm foundation for such a passage through piety?

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he priest of God, the king set apart, whose life was an image of Christ among men in the world, do thou emulate him.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**B**e not turned into a pillar of salt my soul, looking back: Fear the example of the people of Sodom, and find salvation in the mount of Zoar.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**F**lee, O my soul, like Lot from the burning of sin; flee from Sodom and Gomorrah; flee from the flame of every unspeakable desire.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**H**ave mercy, O Lord, have mercy on me, I cry unto Thee, who comest with Thine angels to give to every man what is due for his deeds.

***Venerable Mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

**I** am held captive by the tempest and billows of sin: but do thou O Mother, ever keep me safe and lead me to the haven of divine repentance

***Venerable Mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

**T**he supplication of a servant of God, O venerable mother, do thou offer to the compassionate Theotokos, and by thine intercessions open unto me the divine entranceway.

***Venerable father Andrew, pray to God for us***

**B**y thy prayers grant even unto me the forgiveness of trespasses, O Andrew, Hierarch of Crete, for thou art a seer of the mystery of

repentance.

**Glory ..., O** simple Unity praised in a Trinity of Hypostases, uncreated beginningless Essence, save us who in faith worship Thy power.

**Now & ever ..., O** Birthgiver of God, who without knowing a man hast given birth within time to a Son, who was begotten outside time from the Father; and, strange wonder! thou givest suck while remaining a Virgin.

**Sessional Hymn, by Joseph; in Tone VIII:**

**D**ivinely-effulgent lights, eyewitnesses of the Savior, illumine us in the darkness of this life, that we may walk honestly as in the day; that with the light of abstinence we may drive far from us the passions of the night, and behold with joy the radiance of Christ's Passion.

**Glory ..., by Theodore; in Tone VIII:**

**O** divinely chosen twelve apostles, offer now unto Christ your supplications, that we may all complete the course of the Fast, completing our prayers with compunction and eagerly practicing the virtues; that we may behold the glorious Resurrection of Christ God, bringing unto Him praise and glory.

**Now & ever ..., Theotokion, in Tone VIII:**

**T**he Son and Word of God whom nothing can contain, in a manner beyond all telling and understanding was born from thee, O Theotokos. With the apostles do thou pray unto Him, that He bestow true peace upon the Ecumene and grant unto us before the end forgiveness of sins, and in His extreme goodness deem thy servants worthy of the heavenly Kingdom.

**Note: The second part of the Life of St. Mary of Egypt is read, and then the fourth Biblical ODE (From the Oktoechos). Next follow the two Three-canticle Canons of the Apostles, which are read Without bows or prostrations. In Tone VIII:**

**ODE IV**

**Irmos: O** Lord, I have heard the mystery of Thy dispensation; I have considered Thy works, and I have glorified Thy Divinity.

*Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.*

**H**aving lived in abstinence and been enlightened by Christ, the apostles, by their divine mediations, comfort us in this season of abstinence.

*Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.*

**L**ikened to a twelve stringed instrument, the divine choir of the disciples sang a hymn of salvation, confounding the orchestration of evil.

*Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.*

**W**ith the rain of the Spirit ye have watered all that is under the heavens, driving away the drought of polytheism, O all-blessed ones.

*Most Holy Theotokos save us.*

**Theotokion: D**o thou humble and save me, for I have passed my life in high-minded arrogance, O all-pure Virgin, for thou didst bear the Lord who hath exalted our humbled nature.

**Another Canon, by Theodore; in Tone VIII:**

**Irmos: O** Lord, I have heard the mystery of Thy dispensation; I have considered Thy works, and I have glorified Thy Divinity.

*Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.*

**O** all-honored choir of apostles, pray ye to the Maker of all, beseeching Him that He have mercy upon us who sing your praises.

*Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.*

**Y**e are Christ's husbandmen, O apostles, and ye have tilled the whole world with the Word of God, bringing Him fruit at all times.

*Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.*

**Y**e became a vineyard, for Christ O most-beloved ones, for by you the world hath partaken of the wine of the Spirit.

**Glory ...**, Trinity one in essence, beginningless and supreme in power, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit: O God, Light and Life, protect Thy flock.

**Now & ever ...**, **Theotokion**: Rejoice!, fiery Throne! Rejoice!, Candlestick that beareth the Light! Rejoice!, Mountain of sanctification, Ark of life, Tabernacle and Holy of Holies

*Then we continue with ODE IV of the Great Canon:*

### **ODE IV; in Tone VI:**

**Irmos**: **The prophet heard of Thy coming, O Lord, and he was afraid. How wast Thou to be born of a virgin and appear unto mankind? and he said “I have heard report of Thee and I am afraid”; glory to Thy power, O Lord.**

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**O** righteous judge despise not Thy works, nor turn away from Thy creation, but in Thy compassion do Thou forgive me, even though as a man I have sinned more than all, for as the Lord of all, it is within Thy power to remit sins.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**T**he end draweth near, O my soul! The end draweth near, yet thou dost not care or make ready. Arise! The time is short! The judge already standeth at the door, like a dream the days of our life pass as quickly as a flower. Why dost thou trouble thyself in vanity?

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**A**wake, O my soul, consider the evil things thou hast done. Set them before thine eyes and allow thy tears to flow. Then with boldness confess thy deeds and thoughts to Christ, and so be justified.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**T**here hath never been in life a sin, or deed, or

wickedness that I have not committed, O Savior. I have sinned in my disposition, my thoughts, my words, and my deeds. There is none that hath sinned more than I.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**F**or this I the wretched one, am condemned in the tribunal of my conscience where the judgment is more compelling than that of any on earth. O my judge, Who didst redeem me, Thou knowest my heart, spare, deliver and save me, Thy servant.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**T**he ladder which long ago the great patriarch Jacob saw, is an example O my soul, of approach through action and ascent through knowledge. If thou dost will to live aright in action, in knowledge, and in contemplation, renew thy life.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**T**he patriarch endured the burning heat of day, and the frost of night, enduring privation making daily gains of sheep and cattle, to gain his two wives.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**B**y the two wives, we understand action, and knowledge in contemplation Leah is action, for she bore many children, Rachel is knowledge for she endured great toil, for without toil O my soul, neither action, nor contemplation, will accomplish anything.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**O** my soul, be watchful, be full of courage, like the great Patriarch, that thou mayest acquire action with knowledge, and be named Israel, “the mind that sees God” ; and thus by contemplation reach the innermost darkness and gain great merchandise.”

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**T**he great Patriarch begat the twelve Patriarchs

as children, mystically establishing for thee, my soul, a ladder of ascent through action, for in his wisdom he set his children as steps, by which thou canst ascend upwards.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast emulated Esau the despised, O my soul, and given the birthright of thy first beauty to the deceiver; thereby losing thy father's blessing, and in thy wretchedness thou hast been twice deceived, both in action and in knowledge. Wherefore repent now.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**E**sau was called Edom because of his raging love for women; burning always with unrestrained desire and stained with the smear of sensual pleasure, he was named "Edom", which means the red-hot heat of a soul that loveth sin.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast heard, O my soul, of Job who was justified, but thou hast not imitated his fortitude. In all thine experiences, and trials, and temptations, thou hast not kept firmly to thy purpose but hast shown thyself to be inconstant.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**H**e formerly sat upon a throne, but now he sitteth upon a dung-hill, naked and covered with lesions. Once he was blessed with many children and admired by all, but suddenly he became childless, and homeless. Even so, he counted the dung-hill as a palace and his sores as pearls

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**A** man of great wealth and righteousness, abounding in riches and livestock, clothed in royal dignity, in a crown and purple robe, Job was suddenly stripped of wealth, glory and kingship, and became a beggar.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I**f he who was righteous and blameless above all

mankind did not escape the snares and pits of the deceiver, what wilt thou do, wretched and sin-loving soul, when some sudden misfortune befall thee ?

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have defiled my body, my spirit is stained, and I am covered all over with wounds: but do Thou O Christ, as the physician, heal both through repentance. Wash, purify and cleanse me, O my Savior, and show me to be whiter than snow.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hy Body, and Blood, O Word, didst Thou lay down at Thy Crucifixion on behalf of all: Thy Body to restore me, Thy Blood to cleanse me; and Thou hast offered up Thy spirit, O Christ, to bring me back to Thy Father.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast wrought salvation in the midst of the earth O compassionate One, that we might be saved. Thou wast willingly crucified upon the Tree; and Eden, closed till then, hath been opened. Things above and those below, creation and all peoples, have thereby been saved and worship Thee.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**M**ay the Blood from Thy side be to me a cleansing fount, and may the water that floweth with it be a drink of forgiveness. May I be purified by both, anointed and refreshed, O Word, having as chrisem and drink Thy words flowing with life.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have been deprived of the bridal chamber, I have been deprived of the wedding and the supper; for want of oil my lamp hath gone out and while I slept the door to the bridal chamber hath been shut; the supper hath been eaten; and I have been bound hand and foot, and cast out.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

The Church hath been granted Thy life-giving side as a chalice from whence floweth unto us a twofold stream of forgiveness and knowledge, representing the two Covenants, the Old and the New, O our Savior.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

The time of my life is short, and filled with illness and wickedness. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge, that I not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do Thou, O Savior, have compassion upon me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

Now I speak boastfully, with boldness of heart; but to no avail and in vain, may I not be condemned with the Pharisee, but rather grant me the humility of the Publican, O righteous Judge, who alone art compassionate, and number me with him.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

I know, O compassionate One, that I have sinned and violated the vessel of my body. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do Thou, O Savior, have compassion upon me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

I have become mine own idol, utterly defiling my soul with the passions, O compassionate One. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do Thou, O Savior, have compassion upon me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

I have not hearkened to Thy voice, I have not heeded Thy Scripture, O Giver of the Law. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do Thou, O Savior,

have compassion upon me.

***Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

Thou didst live the life of a bodiless one while in the flesh, O venerable one, and wast bestowed great Grace from God. Do thou ever protect us who honor thee with faith, and we entreat thee; deliver us by thy prayers from every danger that besets us.

***Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

Having descended into an abyss of great iniquity, thou was not held captive therein: but with better thinking didst gloriously ascend the heights of virtue through action, and the angelic orders, O Mary, were amazed.

***Venerable father Andrew, pray to God for us***

O Andrew, glory of the fathers and of Crete, since thou standest before the most Holy Trinity, by thy prayers cease not to beseech Him, that we who call upon thee with love as our all-blessed divine intercessor, be delivered from torment.

**Glory ...**, Undivided in Essence, uncommingled in Hypostasis, I confess Thee to be God: Triune Deity, co-enthroned and co-ruling; and to Thee I raise the great thrice-holy hymn that is sung on high.

**Now & ever ...**, Thou didst give birth and art yet a virgin, and in both thou didst remain by nature inviolate. He who is born maketh new the laws of nature, and the womb bringeth forth without travail. When God so willeth, the natural order is overcome: for He doeth whatsoever He willeth.

## ODE V

**Irmos: Out of the night I seek Thee early, enlighten me I pray Thee, O Lover of mankind, and guide me in Thy commandments, and teach me, O Savior, to do Thy will.**

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**M**y whole life hath passed in the darkness of night, and hath shrouded me in a shadowy mist, but do Thou O Savior, make me now a son of the day.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**W**retched as I am, I have followed the example of Reuben, and like him, devised a wicked and illegitimate plan against the most high God, defiling my bed as did he his father's.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** confess to Thee O Christ king, I have sinned, for like Joseph's brothers I have sold into slavery that which was chaste and pure.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he righteous soul was cast out by his brothers and sold into slavery, as an image of the Lord, whilst thou, O my soul, hast sold thyself to thine own wicked deeds.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** wretched one, imitate the righteous and chaste mind and blameless soul of Joseph, and defile not thyself in wantonness, led astray by thy disordered desires.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O**nce Joseph was cast into a pit, O Lord and Master, forming therein an image of Thy burial and resurrection. What offerings such as these shall I ever bring unto Thee?

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast heard, O my soul, of the basket of Moses: how he was carried on the surging waves of the river as if in a tabernacle; and thus avoided the bitter execution of Pharaoh's decree.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I**f thou hast heard of the midwives who once killed in its infancy the manly action of chastity O wretched soul; then be like the great Moses,

and be suckled on wisdom.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast not struck and killed the wretched mind, like Moses the great did to the Egyptian, O my soul. Tell me then, how canst thou go and dwell in the desert emptied of passions through repentance?

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**M**oses the great went to dwell in the desert, come and seek to emulate his way of life, O my soul, that thou mayest attain to the vision of God in the bush.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**P**icture before thyself, O my soul, the rod of Moses striking the sea and making firm the deep by the sign of the Divine Cross, by which thou canst also do great things.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**A**aron offered to God a blameless and undefiled fire, but Hophni and Phinehas brought to Him, as hast thou O my soul, a strange fire and a defiled life.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**M**y will is heavy, O Master, and my mind hath been engulfed, I have become like the cruel magicians of Pharaoh, Jannes and Jambres, in soul and body, but do Thou help me.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** the wretched one, have defiled my mind with filth, but I beseech Thee, O Master; wash me clean in the waters of my tears, and make the garment of my flesh white as snow.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I**f I examine mine actions, O Savior, I see that I exceed all mankind in sin; for I fully understand what I have done, and was not sinning in ignorance.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**S**pare, O spare, Thy creature, O Lord, I have sinned, forgive me, for Thou alone art pure by nature, and none save Thee is without defilement.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**F**or my sake, Thou who art God was fashioned as I am, and in that form, hast manifest miracles, healed lepers, given strength to the paralyzed, and stopped the issue of blood when the woman, O Savior, touched the hem of Thy garment.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** wretched soul, emulate the woman with an issue of blood, hasten to grasp the garment of Christ; that thou mayest be healed of thine afflictions and hear Him say. "Thy faith hath saved thee, go in peace".

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I**mitate the woman who was bowed down to the ground, O my soul; come and fall down at the feet of Jesus, that He may make thee straight again; and thou shalt walk upright upon the paths of the Lord.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**A**s Thou art a deep well, O Master; flow forth unto me water from Thy pure veins, that like the woman of Samaria I may drink thereof and thirst no more; for from Thee floweth the streams of life.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**M**ay my tears be to me like the pool of Siloam, O Master and Lord, that I also may cleanse the eyes of my heart, and with my mind behold Thee, the pre-eternal Light.

***Venerable Mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

**W**ith an incomparable and exceedingly rich love, thou didst desire to venerate the Wood of the

Cross, and wast deemed worthy to fulfill thy desire. Make me also worthy to attain the glory on high.

***Venerable Mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

**C**rossing the stream of the Jordan, thou didst find tranquil peace, having escaped the pleasures of the flesh; by thine intercessions do thou also deliver us from them, O venerable one.

***Venerable father Andrew, pray to God for us***

**S**upremely chosen among Pastors, O most wise Andrew, I beseech thee with great love and fear, that by thy prayers I may be granted salvation and eternal life.

**Glory ..., We glorify Thee, O Trinity, one God, simple essence and unity, and we worship Thee ever singing, "Holy! Holy! Holy!" Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Now & ever ..., O most pure Virgin Mother who knew not a man, God the creator of all things became incarnate through thee, uniting Himself to our human nature.**

## **ODE VI**

**Irmos: With my whole heart, I cried unto the tenderly compassionate God, and he heard me from the lowest depths of Hades; and raised up my life from corruption.**

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he tears and deepest sighings of my soul I sincerely offer unto Thee, O Savior, crying from the heart, "O God, I have sinned against Thee, do Thou cleanse me".

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast become a stranger to thy Lord, O my soul, like Dathan and Abiram, but cry "spare me" from the lowest depths of Hades, that the Earth not open and swallow thee as once it did them.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**R**ampaging like a heifer, O my soul, thou hast become like Ephraim, as an agile Hart flee the hunter's nets and save thy life, gaining wings with action, and contemplation.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**B**e assured O my soul, as God was able to cleanse the hands of Moses, he can also cleanse and whiten a leprous life. Therefore, despair not of thyself even though thou art indeed leprous.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he waves of my sins, O Savior, have returned and of a sudden engulfed me, as of old the waters of the Red Sea did the Egyptians and their charioteers.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast made a foolish choice, O my soul, like Israel before thee; instead of manna from heaven, thou hast unreasonably shown a preference for the pleasure-loving gluttony of the passions.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he wells of Canaanitish thoughts, O my soul, hast thou prized more than the veined Rock from which floweth the river of Wisdom, like a chalice pouring forth streams of theology.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he meat of swine, the flesh-pots and foods of Egypt hast thou preferred, O my soul, to the manna from heaven, as did the ungrateful people of old in the desert wilderness.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**W**hen Thy servant Moses struck the rock with his rod, he prefigured Thy life-giving side, O Savior, from whence we all draw the water of life.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**S**earch O my soul, like Joshua the son of Nun, and spy out the land of thine inheritance, and take up thy dwelling within it through the

goodness of the law.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**R**ise up and make war, as did Joshua against Amalek, against the passions of the flesh, ever gaining the victory over the Gibeonites, thy deceitful thoughts.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**raverse the flowing waters of time, as did the Ark of old, and take possession of the promised land: for God thus commandeth thee, O my soul.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**A**s Thou didst save Peter who cried out, "save me", do Thou come quickly, O Savior, before it is too late, and save me from the beast. Stretch out Thine hand and lead me up from the abyss of sin.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** Lord, I know Thee as a tranquil haven; come quickly, O Lord Christ, and deliver me from the lowest depths of sin and despair.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** am like the coin, O Savior, marked with the likeness of the King, which of old Thou didst lose. But light Thy lamp, O Word, Thy Forerunner, and seek and find Thine image again.

***Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

**T**hou didst ceaselessly shed streams of tears, and with thy soul afire, quench the burning of the passions O Mary, grant also unto me thy servant, the grace of these thy tears.

***Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

**T**hou didst attain to heavenly passionlessness, through the perfection of thy life on earth, O Mother, wherefore we hymn thee, and beseech thee to intercede on our behalf, that we may be delivered from the passions.

***Venerable father Andrew, pray to God for us***

Knowing thee to be the shepherd and prelate of Crete and intercessor on behalf of the whole inhabited world, O Andrew, I hasten to thee and cry: "Deliver me, O father, from the depth of sin".

**Glory ...**, I am the Trinity, simple and undivided in Essence yet divided in Hypostasis. I am the Unity one in essence," sayeth the Father, the Son, and the divine Spirit.

**Now & ever ...**, Thy womb, O Birthgiver of God, bore God who for our sakes was clothed in our likeness. Implore Him, the creator of all, that by thy prayers we may be found justified.

### **Kontakion, in Tone VI:**

**O** My soul, O my soul, arise! why dost thou sleep? The end draweth near, and thou shalt be confounded, awake then and be watchful that Christ thy God may spare thee, for He is everywhere present, and fillest all things.

**Ikos:** Seeing that Christ's spiritual infirmity hath been opened, and that healing floweth from it upon Adam, the devil became filled with anguish and as one stricken, lamented to his comrades crying: "What shall I do to the son of Miriam? The man from Bethlehem hath slain me, He who is everywhere present and fillest all things.

*Then the Beatitudes with the following Troparions, in Tone VI:*

***In Thy Kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.***

Thou didst make the Robber a citizen of Paradise on the Cross when he cried unto Thee, O Christ, "Remember me!" Deem me, unworthy as I am, also worthy of his repentance.

***Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.***

Thou hast heard, O my soul, of Manoah of old who saw God in a vision and received from his barren wife the fruit of God's promise? Let us imitate his piety.

***Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.***

Thou, O my soul, hast emulated Samson's laziness; and shorn the head of thy good deeds, and by the love of pleasure, surrendered to the Philistines a chaste and blessed life.

***Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.***

He who previously conquered the Philistines with the jawbone of an ass, is now found to be a dissolute slave of passionate impulse. But flee, O my soul, his example, his deeds, and his weakness.

***Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.***

Barak and Jephthah, the military leaders, with manly-minded Deborah, were raised to be Judges of Israel. Learn courage from their deeds, my soul, and strengthen thyself.

***Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.***

Thou knowest, O my soul, of Jael's bravery, who impaled Sisera of old and wrought salvation with a sharp lance, by which the Cross is typified to thee.

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

Offer a sacrifice of praise, O my soul, offer action as a daughter purer than Jephthah's, and slay thy carnal passions as a sacrifice to thy Lord.

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

Consider, O my soul, Gideon's fleece, receive the dew from Heaven; stoop down like a hart and drink of the water that floweth from the Law by the practice of study.

***Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the***

*Kingdom of Heaven.*

**T**hou, O my soul, from lack of understanding hast drawn upon thyself the condemnation of the priest Eli, by allowing the passions to act sinfully within thee, as he allowed his children to commit transgressions.

*Blessed are ye when men revile you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely for My sake.*

**T**he Levite in the book of Judges, carelessly divided his wife among the twelve tribes, my soul, in order to make known the lawlessness of Benjamin.

*Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in the Heavens.*

**C**haste Hannah when praying moved her lips in praise, while her voice was not heard; but yet, though barren, she hath born a son worthy of her prayer.

*Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.*

**H**e who was reckoned among the Judges, Hannah's child, the great Samuel, was brought up in Armathaea in the House of the Lord. Imitate him, O my soul, and before judging others, judge thine own actions.

*Remember us, O Master, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.*

**D**avid was chosen to be king, and royally anointed with a horn of divine oil. Wherefore if thou, O my soul, desirest the Kingdom on high, anoint thyself with the oil of tears.

*Remember us, O Holy One, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.*

**H**ave mercy on Thy creation, O merciful One; have compassion on the work of Thy hands, and spare all who have sinned, even me who above all have despised Thy commands.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*

**To The Trinity:** Beginningless both in begottenness and procession, the Father Who begetteth do I worship, the Son who is begotten do I glorify, and the Holy Spirit, who is co-effulgent with the Father and the Son, do I hymn.

*Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages, Amen.*

**Theotokion:** We worship thy childbirth surpassing nature, yet we do not divide the glory of the two natures of thy Child, O Mother of God. For He is confessed as one in Person, twofold in Nature.

**ODE VII**

**Irmos:** We have sinned, and we have transgressed, and we have done evil before Thee. We have not kept nor followed Thy commandments, but reject us not utterly, O God of our fathers.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**I** have sinned, I have offended, I have rejected Thy commandments. I have increased in my sins and added wounds to my sores. But as Thou art compassionate, be merciful to me, O God of our fathers.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**T**he secrets of my heart have I confessed to Thee, my judge. See my humility, see my distress, and attend unto my judgment now, and since Thou art compassionate, be merciful to me, O God of our fathers.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**S**aul lost his father's donkeys and found himself suddenly proclaimed king. Watch, O my soul, lest unbeknownst to thyself thou desirest thine animal appetites rather than the kingdom of Christ.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**D**avid the forefather of God, once doubly sinned, O my soul, pierced with the arrow of adultery, and with the lance, imprisoned by the anguish of murder. But thou art more anguished than he, through the desires of thy disordered self-will.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**D**avid, though once compounding his sins by adding murder to adultery, showed a twofold repentance of both. But thou, O my soul, hath done worse things than he, yet hath never repented of them before God.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**D**avid once showed us an image of repentance, writing in a psalm as if an Icon all that he had done and condemned it, crying “Be merciful to me for against Thee only have I sinned. O God of all, do Thou cleanse me”.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he Ark was being carried in a carriage, and when the ox stumbled, it was no more than touched, and invoked the wrath of God. O my soul, flee from such presumption and with reverence have respect for sacred things.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast heard of Absalom; how he rebelled against what is natural; thou knowest the unholy deeds by which he defiled his father David’s bed, nonetheless thou hast imitated him in his passionate and sensual-loving desires.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast made thy free dignity subject to the flesh; for having found in thine enemy another Ahitophel, O my soul, thou hast acquiesced to his counsels. But Christ Himself hath nullified them, and redeemed thee from all of them.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**S**olomon the wonderful, who was full of the grace of wisdom, once committed wickedness in the sight of God and turned away from Him. By thine accursed life O my soul, thou hast become like him.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**C**onsumed by sensual passions, he defiled himself. The zealot of wisdom hath become a zealot of prodigal women and a stranger to God. Woe is me! O my soul, thou hast noetically imitated him, defiling thyself with polluted desires.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast imitated Rehoboam, who paid no attention to his father’s counselors, and Jeroboam, that evil servant and betrayer of old. O my soul, flee from their example and cry unto God: “I have sinned, have compassion upon me”.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**W**oe is me, O my soul! Thou hast imitated Ahab in defilement. Thou hast become a dwelling-place of the pollutions of the flesh and a disgraceful vessel of the passions. But sighing from the depths of thy soul, tell thy sins to God.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O**f old Elijah twice destroyed with fire fifty of Jezebel’s servants, and slew the prophets of shame, as a rebuke to Ahab. But flee from the example of both of them, O my soul, and strengthen thyself.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**H**eaven is closed to thee, O my soul, and a famine from God hath seized thee, as when Ahab was not attentive to the words of Elijah the Tishbite. But be like the widow of Zarephat and feed the soul of the Prophet.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**C**onsciously hast thou incurred the guilt of

Manasseh, setting up the passions as an abomination and multiplying, O my soul, indignations. But do thou fervently emulate his repentance and acquire compunction

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** fall down before Thee, and bring to Thee my words as tears. I have sinned as never did the Harlot, and I have transgressed as no other man on earth. But have compassion upon Thy creature, O Master, and call me back.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**I** have buried Thine image and broken Thy commandment. All my comeliness hath been destroyed O Savior, and my lamp hath been quenched by the passions, but have compassion upon me, as David once sang, and “restore to me Thy joy”.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**urn back, repent, uncover thine hidden things, and tell God, before whom all things are known; “Thou alone knowest my secrets, O only Savior; “have mercy on me”, as David once sang, “according to Thy mercy”.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**L**ike a dream of one awakening my days have vanished; wherefore, like

Hezekiah, I weep upon my bed, that years may be added to my life. But what

Isaiah will come to help, O my soul, except the God of all?

***Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

**R**aising thy lament to the most pure Mother of God, thou didst first drive away the fury of the passions which, of necessity, assailed thee, then didst thou put the enemy to shame. Do thou ever grant help to me thy suffering servant.

***Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.***

**T**o Him Whom thou hast loved, and Whom thou didst desire, and for whose sake thou didst wear out thy flesh, O venerable one, to Christ pray now on behalf of us thy servants, that He may be merciful to us all, and grant a peaceful life to those who with honor worship Him.

***Venerable father Andrew, pray to God for us***

**B**y thy prayers O father, establish me on the rock of faith, encompassing me with the divine fear of God, and granting me repentance. O Andrew, I beseech thee, do thou deliver me from the snares of mine enemies who ever seek me.

**Glory ..., O** simple and undivided Trinity, one in essence and nature, Light and Lights, one Holy and three Holies, God; is praised as the Trinity. Therefore sing praises to Him, O my soul, and glorify the Life and Lives, the God of all.

**Now & ever ..., We** praise thee, we bless thee and we venerate thee, O Birthgiver of God, for from the undivided Trinity hast thou brought forth the only Son of God, opening unto us the heavenly realms on earth.

**The Three-canticle Canons; in Tone VIII:**

**ODE VIII**

**Irmos: The Beginningless King of glory, before Whom tremble all the hosts of heaven, ye priests hymn and ye peoples supremely exalt throughout all ages.**

***Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.***

**L**ike coals of immaterial fire burn up my material passions and ever kindle within me a desire for divine love, O apostles.

***Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.***

**L**et us honor the well-tuned trumpets of the Word, which have caused the poorly-founded walls of the enemy to fall, and which have firmly established the bulwarks of divine knowledge.

***Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.***

**Smash** to pieces the passionate idols of my soul, as ye didst smash to pieces the temples and pillars of the enemy, O apostles, ye sanctified temples of the Lord.

**Most holy Theotokos save us.**

**Theotokion:** Thou didst contain Him Who by nature cannot be contained, O pure one, and didst hold Him Who upholdeth all things; thou didst suckle Him who sustaineth all creation, Christ the Giver of Life.

**Second Canon, Same Irmos:**

**Irmos:** **The Beginningless King of glory ...,**

**Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.**

With the Spirit as the leading architect, O apostles of Christ, ye have fashioned the whole Church, and within it ye bless Christ throughout the ages.

**Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.**

Sounding the trumpets of dogmatic teachings, the apostles have overthrown all the deceit of idolatry, supremely exalting Christ throughout all ages.

**Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.**

O good and noble company of apostles, ye who watch over the world and dwell in the heavens, deliver from danger those who ever sing your praises.

**Glory ...,** O threefold Sun, most radiant divine Sovereignty, O Nature one in glory, one in enthronement: the Father all-creating, the Son and the Spirit of God, I praise Thee throughout the ages.

**Now & ever ...,** **Theotokion:** As a throne honored and most high, O ye peoples let us ceaselessly praise in song the Mother of God, for she alone is both a Mother and a Virgin after childbirth.

**Then we continue with the Troparia of the Great**

**Canon:**

**ODE VIII**

**Irmos:** Him whom the hosts of heaven glorify, and before whom tremble the Cherubim and Seraphim, let every breath and all creation praise, bless, and supremely exalt, throughout all ages.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

O Savior, I have sinned! Have mercy, awaken my mind to turn back to Thee, have compassion and accept me in repentance as I cry, "Against Thee only have I sinned and done evil - have mercy on me!"

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

The charioteer Elijah, once charioted the chariot of virtues into the heavens, high above all earthly things. Reflect, O my soul, on his ascent.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

Elisha first struck the river Jordan with Elijah's mantle, and its flow was staunched on both sides. But thou, O my soul, hast no hope to share in such grace because of thy lack of abstinence?

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

Elisha, inherited the mantle of Elijah, and was given a double portion of Grace from the Lord. But thou, O my soul, hast no hope to share in such grace because of thy lack of abstinence?

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

The Shunammite woman gladly entertained the righteous Prophet, but in thy house O my soul, thou hast not received stranger nor traveler, wherefore thou shalt find thyself cast from the bridal chamber, weeping.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

The unclean thoughts of Gehazai dost thou ever imitate, O wretched soul, and in thine old age, cast from thee his love of money. Flee the fire of

Hades, and retreat from thy wickedness.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast emulated Uzziah, O my soul, and hast twofold the leprosy he had: for thy thoughts are futile, and thy deeds unlawful. Leave what thou hast, and hasten to repentance.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** my soul, thou hast heard how those of Nineveh repented before God in sackcloth and ashes. Thou hast not imitated them, but rather art more wicked than all who have sinned before the Law, and after the Law.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**hou hast heard, O my soul, how Jeremiah cried lamenting for the city of Zion while in the muddy pit, seeking tears. Follow then, his life of lamentation and be saved.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**J**onah fled to Tarshish, foreseeing the conversion of the men of Nineveh; for as a prophet he knew the loving-kindness of God, and was jealous that his prophecy should not be proved wrong.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** my soul, thou hast heard how Daniel stopped the mouths of the wild beasts in the pit; and thou knowest how the Children with Azarias, by their faith quenched the flames of the fiery furnace.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**A**ll the names of the Old Testament have I set before thee, O my soul, as examples. Emulate the God-loving deeds of the righteous and flee from the sins of the wicked.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** righteous Judge and Savior, have mercy on me and deliver me from the fire, and from the punishment that I rightly deserve at the judgment. Before the end, grant me remission of

sins through virtue and repentance.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**L**ike the Thief I cry to Thee. “Remember me”; like Peter I weep bitterly; like the Publican I cry aloud, “Forgive me, O Savior”; I weep as did the Harlot, do Thou accept my lamentation, as once Thou didst the entreaties of the woman of Canaan.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**H**eal, O Savior, the corruption of my humbled soul, for Thou alone art the Physician of souls, apply plaster and pour in oil and wine: the works of repentance, and compunction with tears.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**T**he woman of Canaan do I imitate and cry to Thee, “Have mercy on me, O Son of David”, and like the woman with an issue of blood, I touch the hem of Thy garment, and I weep as did Martha and Mary for Lazarus.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** Savior, I pour out upon Thine head as precious oil, the alabaster box of my tears, and like the Harlot, I cry out to Thee, seeking Thy mercy: I bring my prayer to Thee and ask of Thee forgiveness.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**N**one hath sinned against Thee as I; yet accept even me, O compassionate and good Savior, for I repent in fear and cry with love: Against Thee only have I sinned; I have transgressed, have mercy on me O merciful one.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**S**pare, O Savior thy creature, and as a shepherd seeketh the lost sheep that hath gone astray, do Thou snatch me from the wolf and make me a nursling in the pasture of Thine own flock.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

When Thou the Judge sittest upon Thy throne, since Thou art compassionate, Thou wilt reveal Thy fearful glory, O Savior, what fear there shall be then! When the furnace burneth with fire, and all shrink back in fear before Thy Judgment-seat.

**Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.**

The Mother of the never-setting Light illumined thee and delivered thee from the darkness of the passions. Since thou hast recourse to the grace of the Spirit, O Mary, enlighten those who praise thee in faith.

**Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.**

Upon beholding in thee a wonder truly strange and new, Zosimas was struck with amazement, O Mother. For he saw an angel in the body and filled with astonishment, he praiseth Christ throughout the ages.

**Venerable father Andrew, pray to God for us**

As thou hast boldness before the Lord, O Andrew venerable praise of Crete, intercede, I implore thee, that by thy prayers I may find release from the chains of my sins, O teacher of repentance, and glory of the venerable saints.

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

O beginningless Father, co-eternal Son, and gracious Comforter, the Spirit of righteousness, Begetter of the Word of God, Word of the eternal Father, Spirit living and creative, O Trinity in unity, have mercy on me.

**Now & ever ..., As** from purple silk, O undefiled virgin, the spiritual robe of Emmanuel was woven within thy womb. Wherefore we proclaim thee to be the Theotokos in truth.

**We continue with the Three-canticle Canons, in Tone VIII:**

**ODE IX**

**Irmos: Saved by thee, O pure Virgin, we**

**confess thee to be truly the Theotokos, and together with the choirs of the bodiless hosts thee do we magnify.**

**Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.**

Ye were revealed, O apostles, as fountains of salvific waters: bring refreshment to my soul which fainteth from the thirst of sin.

**Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.**

I swim in the abyss of destruction and have been engulfed by the waters:

with Thy right hand, O Lord, save me as Thou didst save Peter.

**Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.**

Ye are the salt that giveth savor to the teachings of salvation: dry up the foulness of my mind and dispel the darkness of mine ignorance.

**Most holy Theotokos save us.**

**Theotokion: Having** brought forth our Joy O Lady, grant me tears that in the coming day of judgment I may know divine consolation.

**Second Canon in Tone VIII:**

**Irmos: With all generations we magnify thee, the Mediatrix between heaven and the earth. For in thee, O Virgin, the fullness of the Divinity came to dwell in the flesh.**

**Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.**

We magnify you in our hymns, O glorious company of apostles: for ye have been manifest as shining lights throughout the universe, driving far away deception.

**Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.**

With the net of the holy Gospel, O blessed apostles, ye have caught the rational fish, ever bringing them as an offering to Christ.

**Apostles of Christ, pray to God for us.**

In your prayerful offerings to God remember us,

we entreat you, O apostles. That we may be delivered from all temptation, for with love we sing your praises.

**Glory ...**, I sing Thy praises, Unity in three Hypostases, the Father, the Son and the Spirit, one God and consubstantial Trinity, equal in power and without beginning.

**Now & ever ...**, **Theotokion:** With all generations we call thee blessed, O Child-bearer and Virgin, for thou hast borne our Joy the Lord and through thee we have been delivered from the curse.

**We continue with the remaining Troparia of the Great Canon:**

#### ODE IX

**Irmos:** Ineffable is the birthgiving of a seedless conception, from a mother who knew not a man; an undefiled childbearing. For the birth of God hath renewed nature, wherefore all generations rightly worship and magnify thee as the Bride and Mother of God.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**My** mind is wounded, my body hath grown weak; and my spirit aileth within me. My speech hath lost its power. Life giveth way to death and the end draweth near. What then shalt thou do, O miserable soul, when the judge approacheth to examine thy deeds?

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**I** have put before thee, O my soul, Moses' account of the creation, and after that, examples from the Old Testament of both the righteous and the unrighteous. But of these thou hast imitated the latter rather than the former and thereby sinned against thy God.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**To** thee, the law is enfeebled, the gospel is of no effect, the scriptures neglected, and words of the

prophets fade away. Thy wounds O my soul have multiplied and there is no physician to heal thee.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**T**herefore, O my soul, to lead thee to contrition I will bring thee examples from the New Testament. Imitate the righteous and shun the ways of sinners, that through prayer, fasting, chastity, and reverence thou mayest win back the mercy of Christ.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**Christ** became a man calling to repentance both thieves and harlots. Repent, therefore, O my soul, for the doors of the kingdom now standeth open and the Pharisees, Publicans and adulterers having changed their lives, enter in ahead of thee!

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**Christ** became man, shared in my flesh and of his own free will endured everything that pertaineth to human nature, only without sin. Thereby setting before thee an example and image of his condescension.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**Christ** granted salvation to the Magi and summoned the shepherds; he revealed the multitude of infants to be martyrs, glorified the elder and the aged widow, but thou, O my soul, hast not imitated their lives and works, therefore, woe to thee when thou art judged!

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**The** Lord fasted forty days in the wilderness, and hungered at the end thus revealing His human nature. Therefore, O my soul, be not dismayed if the enemy attacks thee, for it is only through prayer and fasting that he shall be driven away.

*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me*

**Christ** was being tempted, tempted by the devil O my soul, who showed Him the stones that they

might be made bread, and led Him up into a mountain, to see all the kingdoms of the world in an instant. O my soul, look with fear on what happened; watch and pray every hour to God

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

The gentle Dove who loved the desert wilderness, the voice of one crying aloud, the Lamp of Christ, preached repentance; but Herod sinned with Herodias. O my soul, watch that thou be not trapped in the snares of the lawless ones, rather, embrace repentance

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

The Forerunner of Grace went to dwell in the desert wilderness, and Judaea and all Samaria hastened to hear him; they confessed their sins and were eagerly baptized. But thou, my soul, hast not imitated them.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

Marriage is honorable, and the marriage-bed undefiled, for on both Christ hath given His blessing, eating in the flesh at the wedding in Cana, turning the water into wine, and revealing His first miracle, that thou, O my soul, may change thy life.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

Christ healed the paralyzed man, and he took up his bed; He raised from the dead the young man, the son of the widow, and the centurion's child-servant; He appeared to the woman of Samaria and spoke to thee, O my soul, of worship in spirit.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

The Lord healed the woman with an issue of blood, through the touching of the hem of His garment; He cleansed lepers, and restored the blind and the lame to health; He cured the deaf and the dumb and the woman bowed to the ground by His word, that thou, O wretched soul, may be brought to salvation.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

Healing infirmities, preaching good tidings to the poor, Christ the Word cured cripples, ate with publicans, and conversed with sinners. He brought back the departed soul of Jairus' daughter with the touch of His hand.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

The Publican was saved, and the Harlot converted to a chaste life, but the Pharisee was condemned with his boasting. For the first cried out "be merciful", and the second, "Have mercy on me" ; but the third said boasting, "I thank Thee, O God", and other words of madness.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

Zacchaeus was a publican, yet he was saved; but Simon the Pharisee went astray, whilst the Harlot received remission and release from Him who hath the power to forgive sins. Make haste, O my soul, to follow her example.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

The Harlot, O my wretched soul, hast thou not emulated; she who took the alabaster box of ointment, and anointed with tears the feet of the Lord wiping them with her hair, whereupon He shred the record of her previous sins.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

The cities in which Christ preached the Gospel, O my soul, were cursed, as thou dost well know. Fear their example, lest it be the same with thee. For the Master likened them to Sodom and condemned them to Hades.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

Be not overwhelmed by despair, O my soul; for thou hast heard of the faith of the woman of Canaan, by it her daughter was healed by the Word of God. Do thou cry out from the depth of thy soul "save me also, O Son of David", as she cried to Christ.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**H**ave mercy on me and save me O Son of David, Thou who with Thy word didst heal the possessed. Let me hear Thy compassionate voice speak unto me as to the thief: “Verily, I say unto thee thou shalt be with Me in Paradise, when I come in My glory.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O**ne thief accused Thee, the other thief confessed Thy Divinity: for both were hanging beside Thee on the Cross. Open to me also, O compassionate One, the door of Thy glorious Kingdom, as once it was opened to the thief who with faith confessed Thee to be God.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**C**reation shuddered, upon seeing Thee crucified. Mountains and rocks were split from fear, the earth quaked, and Hades was despoiled; the light of day grew dark, at beholding Thee, O Jesus, nailed to the Cross.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**D**emand not from me fruits worthy of repentance, for my strength hath failed within me. Grant me an ever-contrite heart and poverty of spirit, that I may offer these unto Thee as an acceptable sacrifice, O only Savior.

***Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me***

**O** my Judge, who well knowest me, when Thou comest again with the angels to judge the whole world, look upon me then with Thy merciful eye and spare me, and have compassion upon me, O Jesus, for I have sinned beyond that of any other.

**Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.**

**T**hou hast struck all with wonder, by thy strange and wonderful way of life, both the ranks of angels and the race of mankind; for having surpassed nature thou didst live as though immaterial, traversing the Jordan with thy feet

like that of a bodiless angel, O Mary.

**Venerable mother Mary, pray to God for us.**

**C**all down the gracious mercy of the Creator upon us who sing thy praises, O venerable Mother, that we may be delivered from the sufferings and afflictions that beset us; that without ceasing, we may magnify the Lord who hath glorified thee.

***Venerable father Andrew, pray to God for us***

**O** venerable Andrew, thrice-blessed father and pastor of Crete, ceaselessly offer prayer on behalf of those who sing thy praises, that all who faithfully honor thy memory may be delivered from danger, distress, and from corruption and sin.

**Glory ...,** Let us glorify the Father, let us exalt the Son, and with faith let us worship the Holy Spirit of God, the indivisible Trinity and Unity in essence, Let us worship Light and Lights, the Life and Lives Who granteth light and life unto the ends of the Earth.

**Now & ever ...,** Watch over thy City O most pure Birthgiver of God, for through Thee she reigneth in faith, and by thee she is strengthened, and by thee she is victorious, overcoming every temptation, despoiling the enemy, and ruling her faithful subjects.

**Katavasia: Ineffable is the birthgiving of a seedless conception, from a mother who knew not a man; an undefiled childbearing. For the birth of God hath renewed nature, wherefore all generations rightly worship and magnify thee as the Bride and Mother of God.**

***We return to the Great Compline.***

**O Lord OF HOSTS**

**Choir:** O Lord of hosts, be with us, for beside

Thee, we have no other helper in adversity; O Lord of hosts, have mercy on us. (*If there be two choirs, the second choir repeateth*)

**Stichos 1:** Praise ye God in His saints, praise Him in the firmament of His power.

**Refrain:** O Lord of hosts ...

**Stichos 2:** Praise Him for His mighty acts, praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness.

**Refrain.**

**Stichos 3:** Praise Him with the sound of Trumpet, praise Him with the psaltery and harp.

**Refrain.**

**Stichos 4:** Praise Him with timbrel and dance, praise Him with strings and flute. **Refrain.**

**Stichos 5:** Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation. Let every breath praise the Lord. **Refrain.**

**Stichos 6:** Praise ye God in His saints, praise Him in the firmament of His power. **Refrain.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

O Lord, if we had not had Thy saints as intercessors, and Thy goodness being merciful to us, how should we have dared, O Savior, to hymn Thee, Whom angels do unceasingly glorify? O Thou that knowest the hearts, spare our souls.

**Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.**

Greatly multiplied, O Theotokos, are my sins, and unto thee have I fled, O pure one, imploring salvation. Do thou visit mine enfeebled soul, and pray to thy Son and our God that He grant me forgiveness for the evil I have done, O thou only blessed one.

O all-holy Theotokos, throughout my lifetime forsake me not, to human protection entrust me not, but do thou thyself defend me and have mercy on me.

All my hope I place in thee, O Mother of God, keep me under thy protection.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. (*40 times*)

#### THE PRAYER OF THE HOURS:

O Christ our God, Who art worshipped and glorified at all times at every hour both in heaven and on earth; Who art long-suffering and plenteous in mercy and compassion; Who lovest the just man and showest mercy upon the sinner; and Who callest all men to repentance through the promise of blessings to come; receive, O Lord, at this very hour our supplications, and direct our lives in the way of Thy commandments: sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, set our minds aright, cleanse our thoughts; deliver us from all affliction, trouble, and distress; compass us about with Thy holy angels, that, guided and guarded by them, we may attain unto the unity of the Faith, and to the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory; for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord have mercy. (*Thrice*).

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, Thou who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, and art Truly Theotokos we magnify Thee!

**Choir:** Amen.

**And then the Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian (on Friday evenings, the prayer of St. Ephraim is not said):**

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. **Prostration**

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility,

patience, and love to Thy servant. **Prostration**

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. Amen.

**Prostration**

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. Amen.

**Prostration**

Lord, have mercy. (**12 times**)

*Twelve reverences. With each one we say:* O God, cleanse me a sinner.

*Then, the entire prayer without a break:*

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant. Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. Amen..

### TRISAGION PRAYERS

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (**Thrice**)

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

O 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 Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (**Thrice**)

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

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 evil.

Choir: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (**12 times**).

### Supplicatory Prayer to the Most Holy Theotokos, of Paul the monk of the Monastery of Evergetides (Of the Benefactress)

O all-pure and incorruptible Virgin Bride of God, and our Sovereign Lady, who made the Word of God one with mankind by gloriously giving birth to Thy Son and joining our fallen nature to His divine nature. who are the hope of the despairing and the support of those in distress, the swift defender of those who turn to Thee and the refuge of all Christians:

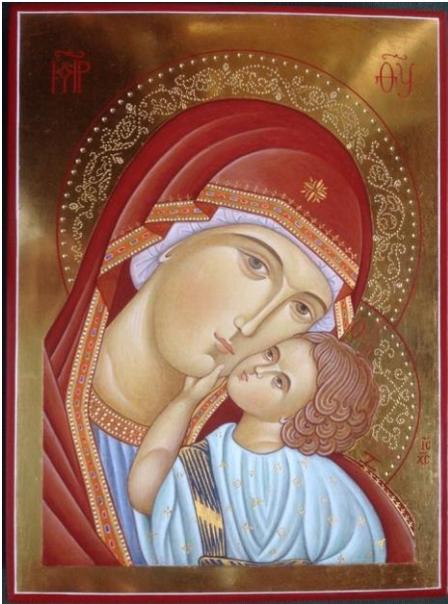
Do not turn from me, an unclean sinner, who have destroyed myself with unworthy thoughts, words and deeds, and have been enslaved by forgetfulness to the carnal passions of life. but have compassion on me, O Theotokos, and accept the prayer of a sinner and prodigal, offered from unclean lips.

Exercise Thy boldness as a mother, and pray to Thy Son, our Lord and Master, that He will make known to me also His compassionate goodness, and overlooking my countless sins, will turn me to repentance and make me fervent in doing His commandments.

Be with me always in thy grace and loving mercy, for Thou art the fervent helper who turn away the assaults of enemies and guide men toward salvation, caring for my unworthy soul at the hour of death and driving from it the darkness of evil spirits. In the Day of judgment, free me from eternal torment and show me to be an heir of the

divine glory of Thy Son, and our God.

Grant this, O Lady Theotokos, by Thy prayers and intercessions, through the mercy and lovingkindness of Thy only-begotten Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to Whom are due all glory, honor and worship, with the Father Who is eternal, and His all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.



**Another Prayer, to our Lord Jesus Christ,  
by Antiochus the monk**

And grant rest, O Master, to our souls and bodies as we sleep. preserve us from the gloomy slumber of sin and from the dark passions of the night. Calm the impulses of carnal desires, quench the fiery darts of the evil one which are craftily directed against us. Still the rebellions of the flesh, and put far from us all anxiety and worldly cares. Grant us, O God, a watchful mind, pure thoughts, a sober heart and a quiet rest free from every vision of the devil. Raise us up again at the hour of prayer, strengthened in Thy precepts and holding within us steadfastly the thought of Thy commandments. Grant that we may sing praises to Thee through the night and that we may

hymn, bless and glorify Thine all-honorable and majestic Name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

***The first person then says:***

O exceedingly glorious and ever-virgin Theotokos, bring our petitions before Thy Son, and our God, and implore Him that through Thee He will save our souls. Amen.

***The second person then says:***

O Father, my hope! O Son, my refuge! O Holy Spirit, my protection! O Most Holy Trinity: Glory to Thee!

***The first person then says:***

In Thee, O Mother of God, I place all my hope. keep me under thy protection.

**Prayer To Our Guardian Angel**

O holy Angel who accompanieth my wretched soul and lowly life, forsake me not, and depart not from me because of my extravagance and wickedness. Give not access to the evil demon to rule with his might this mortal body of mine, but hold me by my wretched, feeble hand. lead me in the path of salvation. Yea, O holy Angel of God, guardian and protector of my wretched soul and body, forgive me all wherewith I have heretofore saddened thee all the days of my life. And though this day I have sinned, be thou my shelter this night. Keep me from all the wiles of the enemy, that I may not anger God with any sin. Intercede with the Lord for me, that He may confirm me in His fear and show me forth as a worthy servant of His goodness. Amen

**The Dismissal**

Leader: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our

hope, glory to Thee.

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

*Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)*

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers,  
Oh Lord Jesus Christ, Have mercy upon us and  
save us.

Choir: Amen.