



ST BASIL THE GREAT  
ORTHODOX CHURCH



**THE OFFICE OF  
GREAT COMPLINE  
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 manful, 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:** Harken 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? 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.***

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

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 house-top. 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.

<b>PSALM 69</b>
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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.

*If it is the first week of Lent, we proceed immediately to "Holy God..." below.*

**Choir:** It is truly meet to bless Thee, O Theotokos, ever-blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God. 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!

### 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.

*Then we chant in a loud voice, and slowly, in the Sixth*

*Tone (except on Friday evenings we omit this entirely and say the Kontakion of the Saturday commemoration):*

### 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:

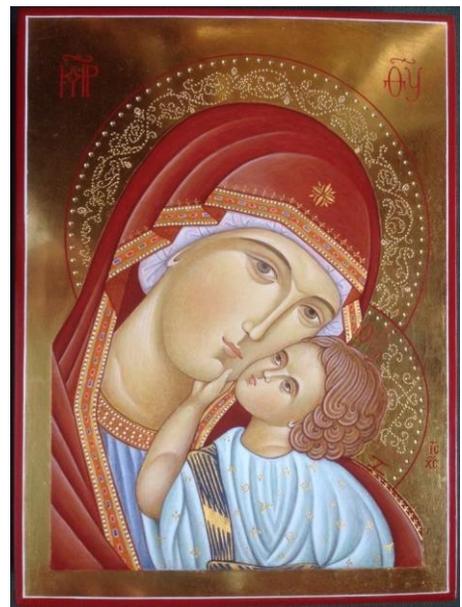
Do not turn from me, an unclean sinner, who have destroyed myself with unworthy thoughts, words and deeds, and have been enslaved by forgetfulness to the carnal passions of life. but have compassion on me, O Theotokos, and accept the prayer of a sinner and prodigal, offered from unclean lips.

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.

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.

**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