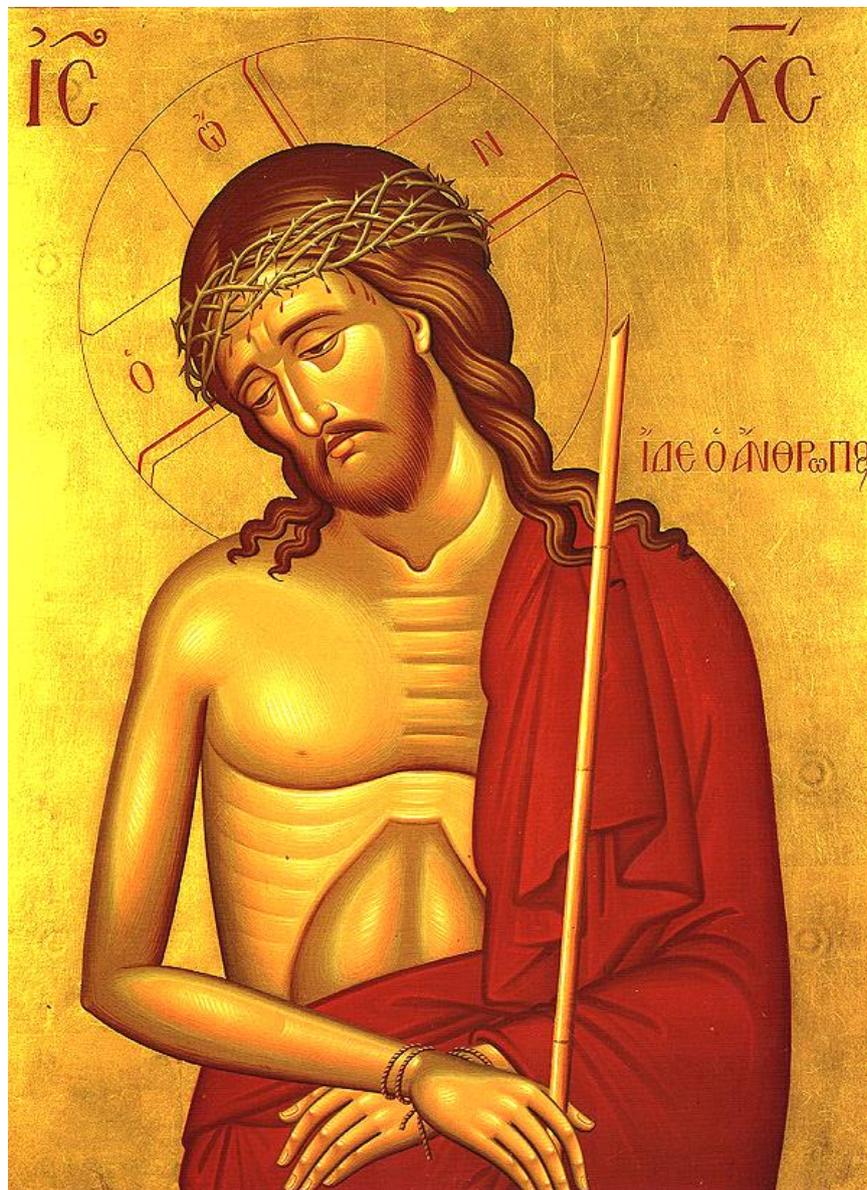


The Second Service of Bridegroom

Great and Holy Monday Evening



The Second Service of Bridegroom – Great and Holy Monday Evening

The Second Service of Bridegroom

Priest: Blessed is our God always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Glory be to You, our God, glory be to You.

O Heavenly King, Comforter and Spirit of Truth, You that are in all places and fill all things, the Treasury of Blessings and the Giver of Life: come to dwell in us, cleanse us from every stain and save our souls, O Gracious One.

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
(x3)

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to 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 the evil one.

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

People: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (x12)

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

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, our Lord, and our God.

Psalm 19

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble; May the Name of the God of Jacob defend you; May He send you help from the sanctuary, and strengthen you out of Zion; May He remember all your offerings, and accept your burnt sacrifice. May He grant you according to your heart's desire and fulfil all your purpose. We will rejoice in your salvation, and in the Name of our God we will set up our banners! May the Lord fulfil all your petitions.

Now I know that the Lord saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy Heaven With the saving strength of His right hand. Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the Name of the Lord our God. They have bowed down and fallen; But we have risen and stand upright.

O Lord save the king: and answer us in the day that we shall call on You.

Psalm 20

The king shall have joy in Your strength, O Lord; And in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice! You have given him his heart's desire and have not withheld the request of his lips. For You meet him with the blessings of goodness; You set a crown of pure gold upon his head. He asked life from You, and You gave it to him - Length of days forever and ever. His glory is great in Your salvation; Honour and majesty You have placed upon him. For You have made him most blessed forever; You have made him exceedingly glad with Your presence. For the king trusts in the Lord, and through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved.

Your hand will find all Your enemies; Your right hand will find those who hate You. You shall make them as a fiery oven in the time of Your anger; The LORD shall swallow them up in His wrath, and the fire shall devour them. Their offspring You shall destroy from the Earth, and their descendants from among the sons of men. For they intended evil against You; They devised a plot which they are not able to perform. Therefore, You will make them turn their back; You will make ready Your arrows on Your string toward their faces.

Be exalted, O LORD, in Your own strength! We will sing and praise Your power.

The Trisagion Prayers

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
(x3)

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to 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 the evil one.

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

People: Amen.

Troparion of the Holy Cross

O Lord save Your people, and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to Your people over their adversaries, and by virtue of Your Cross preserve Your habitation.

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

Kontakion of the Holy Cross

O Christ our God, Who of Your own good will was lifted up on the Cross, bestow Your bounties upon the new nation which is called by Your Name. Make glad in Your might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Your aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion to the Theotokos

O fearsome champion, who cannot be put to confusion despise not our petitions, O good and all-praised Theotokos, Mother of God. Establish the way of the Orthodox, save those who have been called upon to govern us, leading us all to that victory, which is from Heaven, for you are she who gave birth to God and alone are blessed.

The Litany

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

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

Priest: Again, we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

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

Priest: Again, we pray for our Father and Metropolitan (Name), and all our brethren in Christ.

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

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

People: Amen. Bless, Father, in the Name of the Lord.

Priest: Glory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-giving and Undivided Trinity, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill towards all people. (x3)

O Lord open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim Your praise. (x2)

Six Psalms

Psalm 3

Lord, how they have increased who trouble me! Many are they who rise up against me. Many are they who say of me, “There is no help for him in God.” But You, O Lord, are a shield for me, My glory and the One Who lifts up my head. I cried to the Lord with my voice, and He heard me from His holy hill.

I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustained me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people Who have set themselves against me all around. Arise, O Lord; Save me, O my God! For You have struck all my enemies on the cheekbone; You have broken the teeth of the ungodly. Salvation belongs to the Lord. Your blessing is upon Your people.

I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustained me.

Psalm 37

O Lord do not rebuke me in Your wrath, Nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure! For Your arrows pierce me deeply, and Your hand presses me down. There is no soundness in my flesh Because of Your anger, nor any health in my bones Because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; Like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me. My wounds are foul and festering Because of my foolishness. I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. For my loins are full of inflammation, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and severely broken; I groan because of the turmoil of my heart.

Lord, all my desire is before You; And my sighing is not hidden from You. My heart pants, my strength fails me; As for the light of my eyes, it also has gone from me. My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague, and my relatives stand afar off. Those also who seek my life lay snares for me; Those who seek my hurt speak of destruction, and plan deception all the day long. But I, like a deaf man, do not hear; And I am like a mute who does not open his mouth. Thus, I am like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth is no response.

For in You, O Lord, I hope; You will hear, O Lord my God. For I said, “Hear me, lest they rejoice over me, lest, when my foot slips, they exalt themselves against me.” For I am ready to fall, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare my iniquity; I will be in anguish over my sin. But my enemies are vigorous, and they are strong; And those who hate me wrongfully have multiplied. Those also who render evil for good, they are my adversaries, because I follow what is good.

Do not forsake me, O Lord; O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation! Do not forsake me, O Lord; O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

Psalm 62

O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water. So, I have looked for You in the sanctuary, to see Your power and Your glory. Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise You. Thus, I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your Name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips. When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches. Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me. But those who seek my life, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the Earth. They shall fall by the sword; They shall be a portion for jackals.

But the king shall rejoice in God; Everyone who swears by Him shall glory; But the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped. I meditate on You in the night watches. Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadows of Your wings I will rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory be to You, O God! (x3)

Lord have mercy. (x3)

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

Psalm 87

O Lord, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; Incline Your ear to my cry. For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to the grave. I am counted with those who go down to the pit; I am like a man who has

no strength, adrift among the dead, Like the slain who lie in the grave, whom You remember no more, and who are cut off from Your hand. You have laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the depths. Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and You have afflicted me with all Your waves. You have put away my acquaintances far from me; You have made me an abomination to them; I am shut up, and I cannot get out; My eye wastes away because of affliction. Lord, I have called daily upon You; I have stretched out my hands to You. Will You work wonders for the dead? Shall the dead arise and praise You? Shall Your lovingkindness be declared in the grave? Or Your faithfulness in the place of destruction? Shall Your wonders be known in the dark? And Your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

But to You I have cried out, O Lord, and in the morning my prayer comes before You. Lord, why do You cast off my soul? Why do You hide Your face from me? I have been afflicted and ready to die from my youth; I suffer Your terrors; I am distraught. Your fierce wrath has gone over me; Your terrors have cut me off. They came around me all day long like water; They engulfed me altogether. Loved one and friend You have put far from me, and my acquaintances into darkness.

O Lord, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; Incline Your ear to my cry.

Psalm 102

Bless the Lord, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His Holy Name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord executes righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities.

For as the Heavens are high above the Earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes. For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, to such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them.

The Lord has established His throne in Heaven, and His kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word. Bless the Lord, all you His hosts, You ministers of His, who do His pleasure. Bless the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion.

Bless the Lord, O my soul! In all places of His dominion.

Psalm 142

Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplications! In Your faithfulness answer me, and in Your righteousness. Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for in Your sight no one living is righteous. For the enemy has persecuted my soul; He has crushed my life to the ground; He has made me dwell in darkness, like those who have long been dead. Therefore, my spirit is overwhelmed within me; My heart within me is distressed.

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all Your works; I muse on the work of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; My soul longs

for You like a thirsty land. Answer me speedily, O Lord; My spirit fails! Do not hide Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, for in You do I trust; Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You.

Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies; In You I take shelter. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness. Revive me, O Lord, for Your Name's sake! For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble. In Your mercy cut off my enemies and destroy all those who afflict my soul; For I am Your servant.

O Lord Give ear to my supplications: Do not enter into judgment with Your servant. (x2)
Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory be to You, O God! (x3)

O our God and our hope, glory to You.

The Great Litany

Priest: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For the peace, from on high, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For our Father Metropolitan (*Name*), for the venerable Priesthood, for the Diaconate in Christ, for all the Clergy, monks, nuns, and all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For those who govern this country, for all civil authorities and for our armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For this blessed city, for every monastery, city, land, and for the faithful, who dwell in them; let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For those who travel by sea, by land, by air, for the sick and suffering; for those in captivity; and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, (*Most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For to You belong all glory, honour, and adoration to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Alleluia Verses (Tone 8)

From the early night watch my spirit keeps vigil for You, O God, for Your commandments are a light on the Earth.

People: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Learn righteousness, you that dwell upon the Earth.

People: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Envy shall seize upon an untaught people, and now, fire shall consume the adversaries.

People: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Bring more evils upon them, O Lord, bring more evils upon those who are vainglorious on Earth.

People: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Troparion of the Bridegroom (Tone 8)

Behold, the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night, and blessed is that servant whom He shall find watching; and again, unworthy is he whom He shall find heedless. Beware, therefore, O my soul, lest you be borne down with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and be shut out from the Kingdom. But rather rouse yourself and cry: Holy, Holy, Holy are You, O our God; by the prayers of the Forerunner, have mercy on us.

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

Behold, the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night, and blessed is that servant whom He shall find watching; and again, unworthy is he whom He shall find heedless. Beware, therefore, O my soul, lest you be borne down with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and be shut out from the Kingdom. But rather rouse yourself and cry: Holy, Holy, Holy are You, O our God; through all Your Saints, have mercy on us.

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Behold, the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night, and blessed is that servant whom He shall find watching; and again, unworthy is he whom He shall find heedless. Beware, therefore, O my soul, lest you be borne down with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and be shut out from the Kingdom. But rather rouse yourself and cry: Holy, Holy, Holy are You, O our God; through the Theotokos, have mercy on us.

The Little Litany

Priest: Again, and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, (*Most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

People: To You O Lord.

Priest: For Yours is the might, and Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Kathismata (Tone 4)

Brethren, let us love the Bridegroom, and prepare our lamps with care, shining in virtues and true faith; that, like the prudent virgins of the Lord, we may be ready to enter with Him into the wedding feast; for the Bridegroom, as God, bestows a gift to all, the incorruptible crown.

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

The priests and scribes, O Saviour, calling together a lawless council against You, with great envy, moved Judas to betrayal. Wherefore, he went forth shamelessly, and spoke against You to the lawless people; "What will you give me," he said, "that I may deliver Him into your hands?" O Lord save our souls from this condemnation.

Tone 8

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The impious Judas, with avarice in mind, plots against the Teacher, deliberating and meditating the betrayal; he falls from the light and receives the darkness; he agrees to the terms, and sells the priceless One. Wherefore he, most wretched of men, finds a noose and a horrible death, the reward for his deed. O Christ our God, deliver us from his lot, granting remission of sins to those, who compassionately observe Your Holy Passion.

Matins Gospel

Priest: And that we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel let us pray to the Lord our God.

People: Lord have mercy. (x3)

Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend and hear the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to you all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew. (Chapter 22:15-46/23:1-39)

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Priest: Let us attend.

At that time the Pharisees went and took counsel how to entangle him in his talk, and they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are true, and teach the way of God truthfully, and care for no man; for you do not regard the position of men. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?’ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the money for the tax.” And they brought him a coin. And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard it, they marvelled; and they left him and went away.

The same day Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection; and they asked him a question, saying, ‘Teacher, Moses said, ‘If a man dies, having no children, his brother must marry the widow, and raise up children for his brother.’ Now there were seven brothers among us; the first married, and died, and having no children left his wife to his brother. So too the second and the third, down to the seventh. After them all, the woman died. In the resurrection, therefore, to which of the seven will she be wife? For they all had her.’”

But Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like the angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not God of the dead, but of the living.” And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test Him. ‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?’ And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, “What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is He?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, “The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put thy enemies under thy feet”? If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?” And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Then said Jesus to the crowds and to His disciples, “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat; so, practise and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practise. They bind heavy burdens hard to bear and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger. They do all their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long and they love the place of honour at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the market places, and being called rabbi by men. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren. And call no man your father on earth, for you have one

Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called masters, for you have one master, the Christ. He who is greatest among you shall be your servant; whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you shut the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither enter yourselves, nor allow those who would enter to go in.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widow’s houses and for a pretence you make long prayers; therefore, you will receive the greater condemnation. “Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you traverse sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.

“Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘If any one swears by the temple, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.’ You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred? And you say, ‘If any one swears by the altar, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.’ You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So he who swears by the altar, swears by it and everything on it; and he who swears by the temple, swears by it and by him who dwells in it; and he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, justice, mercy and faith; these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

“Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you cleanse the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of extortion and rapacity. You blind Pharisee! first cleanse the inside of the cup and of the plate, that the outside also may be clean. “Woe to

you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like white-washed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. So, you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

“Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ Thus, you are witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore, I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachi’ah whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation.

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold your house is forsaken and desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Psalm 50

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done

this evil in Your sight that You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me. Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and gladness, that the bones You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You.

Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. O Lord open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise. For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart These, O God, You will not despise. Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem. Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.

The Little Litany

Priest: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, (*Most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

People: To You O Lord.

Priest: **For You are our God and loving toward mankind, and to You we ascribe glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.**

People: Amen.

Kontakion

Having realised, O my soul, the hour of the end, and remembering the cutting down of the fig tree, work therefore most diligently, O wretched soul, with the talent, which has been given to you, in vigilance and crying aloud: "May we not remain outside the Bridal Chamber of Christ".

Oikos

Why are you heedless, O my miserable soul? Why do you inopportunistly imagine vain cares? Why do you occupy yourself with that, which flows away? The last hour is at hand, and we shall shortly be parted from earthly things. Therefore, gaining time, rouse yourself and cry out: "I have sinned against You, my Saviour; do not cut me down like the unfruitful fig tree; but as the merciful Christ, have pity on me, for with fear I cry out: 'May we not remain outside the Bridal Chamber of Christ'."

Synaxarion

On Holy and Great Tuesday, we make remembrance of the parable of the ten virgins which Jesus told to others as he was coming to the Passion. It teaches us not to rest as though safe in virginity, but to guard it whenever possible, and not to desist from any virtues and good deeds, especially deeds of mercy, which make the lamp of virginity shine brilliantly. It teaches us also to be ready for our end, not knowing when our hour is coming, as the wise virgins were ready to meet the bridegroom, lest death overtake us and close the door of the heavenly chamber in our face, and we hear the terrible judgment which the foolish virgins heard “Truly, truly, I do not know you”.

Wherefore, O Bridegroom Christ, number us with the prudent virgins; and by including us in Your chosen flock, have mercy on us. Amen.

The Canon Eighth Ode (Tone 2)

Heirmos

The three holy children were not obedient to the decree of the tyrant; and even when cast into the furnace they confessed God singing: “All the works of the Lord, bless the Lord.”

Glory to You, Our God, glory to You.

Let us cast off slothfulness, and with bright lamps let us meet Christ, the immortal Bridegroom, crying out: "All the works of the Lord, bless the Lord."

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

May the oil of fellowship in the vessels of our soul be sufficient, lest in going to make the purchase we miss the reward, that we may sing: "All the works of the Lord, bless the Lord."

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All have received equal grace from God; increase accordingly the talent given to you with the help of Christ, singing: "All the works of the Lord, bless the Lord."

We praise, we bless, and we worship the Lord.

Katavasia

The three holy children were not obedient to the decree of the tyrant; and even when cast into the furnace they confessed God singing: "All the works of the Lord, bless the Lord."

Priest: The Theotokos and Mother of the Light let us honour and magnify in Hymns.

Nineth Ode (Tone 2)

Heirmos

We praise you, All-holy Virgin; you, who in your womb did contain the uncontainable God, bringing joy to the world.

Glory to You, Our God, glory to You.

You, O Lord, did say to the Disciples: "Watch, for you do not know the hour the Lord will come to render to each his reward."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

In Your second fearful coming, O Master, overlook the multitude of my sins, and place me with the sheep on Your right.

Katavasia

We praise you, All-holy Virgin; you, who in your womb did contain the uncontainable God, bringing joy to the world.

The Little Litany

Priest: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, (*Most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

People: To You O Lord.

Priest: For all the Powers of Heaven praise You, and to You we ascribe glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Exaposteilarion (Tone 3)

I see Your Bridal Chamber adorned, O my Saviour, and I have no wedding garment, that I may enter there within; make the robe of my soul to shine, O Giver of Light and save me. (x3)

The Praises (Tone 1)

Let every breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the heights. To You is due praise, O God.

Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts. To You is due praise, O God.

Tone 1

This honour have all His saints. Praise God in His Sanctuary. Praise Him in His mighty firmament!

Into the splendour of Your Saints, how can I, the unworthy enter? For should I dare to come into the Bridal Chamber, my vesture will reproach me, not being a wedding garment; and bound, I shall be cast out by the Angels. O Lord cleanse the impurity of my soul and save me.

Tone 2

Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness! Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp.

Since I, O Bridegroom Christ, have permitted my soul to slumber in indolence, I do not possess the flaming lamp of virtues; and like the foolish virgins, I wander, when it is the time for work. O Master, do not close for me Your heart of compassion; but awaken me, shaking off my darkening sleep, and bringing me in with the prudent Virgins to Your Bridal Chamber, where there is the clarity of song, from those who feast, and unceasingly cry out: "O Lord, glory to You."

Tone 4

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

O my soul, you have heard the condemnation of him, who hid his talent; likewise, do not hide away the word of God. Proclaim His wonders, so that, abounding in grace, You may enter into the joy of Your Lord.

Little Doxology

Priest: To You, Lord our God, belongs glory, and to You we send up glory: To the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill among men.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory.

O Lord, King, heavenly 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 take away the sin of the world: Have mercy on us, You that take away the sins of the world.

Receive our prayer, You that sit at the right hand of the Father; and have mercy on us.

For You alone are Holy, You alone are the Lord, Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your Name forever and unto the ages of ages.

Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said:
O Lord have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against
You.

Lord, to You have I fled for refuge; teach me to do Your will, for You
are my God.

For in You is the fountain of Life, in Your light we shall see light.

Continue Your mercy to those who know You.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.

Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and
glorified is Your name to the ages. Amen.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, even as we have hoped in You.

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your statutes.

Blessed are You, O Master, make me to understand Your
commandments.

Blessed are You, O Holy One, enlighten me with Your precepts.

Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever: Despise not the works of Your
hands.

To You belongs worship, to You belongs praise, to You belongs
glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and
forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Litany of Supplication

Priest: Let us complete our prayer unto the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

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

People: Grant this, O Lord.

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

People: Grant this, O Lord.

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

People: Grant this, O Lord.

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

People: Grant this, O Lord.

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

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, (*Most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

People: To You O Lord.

Priest: **For You are a God of mercies and of bounties and loving toward mankind, and to you we ascribe glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.**

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to you all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: O Holy Lord, Who dwells on high and regards the humble of heart and with Your all-seeing eye does behold all creation, to You have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we entreat You: O Holy of holies, stretch forth Your invisible hand from Your Holy

dwelling-place, and bless us all. And if indeed we have sinned, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive, inasmuch as You are a good God and love mankind, vouchsafing to us Your Earthly and Heavenly good things.

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

People: Amen.

Aposticha

Tone 6

Come, you faithful, let us eagerly work for the Master, for He distributes His wealth to His servants; accordingly, then, let us increase the talent of grace. Let one, be graced with wisdom through good works; let another, celebrate a service of splendour; let another, faithful to the word communicate this to the uninstructed; and yet another, distribute wealth to the poor; for thus, we shall increase what is entrusted to us, and as faithful stewards of His Grace, we may be worthy of the Master's joy. Of this, deem us worthy, O loving Christ, our God.

O satisfy us early with Your mercy, That we may rejoice and be glad all our days! Make us glad according to the days in which You have afflicted us, The years in which we have seen evil. Let Your work appears to Your servants, and Your glory to their children.

When You shall come in glory, O Jesus, with the angelic hosts, and shall sit upon the throne for judgement, do not drive me away, O Good Shepherd, for You know the ways of those on the right, and

that those on the left are perverted. Wherefore, though I be hardened in sin, do not condemn me to perish with the goats, but numbering me with the sheep on Your right, save me as a Loving God.

Tone 6

And let the brightness of the Lord our God be upon us, prosper the work of our hands; Yes, prosper the work of our hands.

The Bridegroom, surpassing all in comeliness, has called us to the spiritual wedding Feast. Through sharing in Your sufferings, remove the blotched raiment of my sins, and adorning me with a robe of glory of Your comeliness, make me a radiant guest of Your Kingdom, as a Merciful God.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen. (Tone 7)

Behold O my soul! The Master entrusts to you a talent. Receive the gift with fear; lend to Him Who gave it; distribute to the poor, and gain the Lord as a Friend; that you may stand on His right, when He comes in Glory, and hear His blessed voice: "Enter, O servant, into the joy of Your Lord!" In Your great Mercy, O Saviour, deem me, who has strayed, worthy of this joy.

Priest: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High. To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night.

The Trisagion Prayers

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
(x3)

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to 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 the evil one.

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

People: Amen.

Kontakion

Having realized, O my soul, the hour of the end, and remembering the cutting down of the fig tree, work therefore most diligently, O wretched soul, with the talent, which has been given to you, in vigilance and crying aloud: "May we not remain outside the Bridal Chamber of Christ".

Lord have mercy. (x40)

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

More honourable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare, more glorious than the Seraphim, who without corruption gave birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos: you do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, Father give the blessing.

Priest: Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: O Heavenly King, support the faithful; confirm the faith; guide the nations; give peace to the world; and preserve well this holy church and this city. Grant repose to our departed fathers and brethren in the dwelling-place of the righteous. Receive us in repentance and confession, for You are a good and merciful God and love mankind.

People: Amen.

The Prayer of St. Ephraim The Syrian

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

But bestow upon me, Your servant, the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love. (*Full Prostration*)

Yes, my Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and faults and not to judge my brother or sister; for You are blessed to ages of ages. Amen. (*Full Prostration*)

The Dismissal

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

People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord have mercy. (x3) In the name of the Lord, Father give the blessing.

Priest: May He Who is going to His voluntary passion for our salvation, Christ our True God, through the prayers of His most pure, blameless and holy Mother; at the supplications of the honourable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of Saint (*Name*), the patron(s) of this Church, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the Saints; have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

People: Amen.



Saints Michael and Gabriel Antiochian Orthodox Church