

# The Service of the Twelve Passion Gospels

Great and Holy Thursday Evening





## **The Service of the Twelve Gospels**

**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 and 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, town and village, 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 and 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 (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.**

### **Apolytikion of Great and Holy Thursday (Tone 8)**

When the glorious Disciples were enlightened at the washing of the feet, then Judas the ungodly one was stricken and darkened with the love of silver. And unto the lawless judges did he deliver You, the Righteous Judge. O you lover of money, behold you him that for the sake thereof, did hang himself, flee from that insatiable soul that dared such things against the Master. O You Who are good unto all, Lord glory be to You.

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

When the glorious Disciples were enlightened at the washing of the feet, then Judas the ungodly one was stricken and darkened with the love of silver. And unto the lawless judges did he deliver You, the Righteous Judge. O you lover of money, behold you him that for the sake thereof, did hang himself, flee from that insatiable soul that dared such things against the Master. O You Who are good unto all, Lord glory be to You.

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

When the glorious Disciples were enlightened at the washing of the feet, then Judas the ungodly one was stricken and darkened with the love of silver. And unto the lawless judges did he deliver You, the Righteous Judge. O you lover of money, behold you him that for the sake thereof, did hang himself, flee from that insatiable soul that dared such things against the Master. O You Who are good unto all, Lord glory be to You.

## **The First 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:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.  
(Chapter 13:31-18:1)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

The Lord said to his disciples, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and in him God is glorified. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me; and as I said to the Jews, so now I say to you ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” Simon Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, where are you going?” Jesus answered him, “Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you shall follow me afterward.” Peter said to him, “Lord, why cannot I follow you now? I will lay down my life for your sake.” Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for my sake? Truly, truly, I say

to you, the cock will not crow, till you have denied me three times.” John 14:1-31 Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself; that where I am, you may be also. And where I am going you know, and the way you know.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but by me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also; henceforth, you know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we shall be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you do not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority; but the Father who dwells in me does the works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father in me, or else believe me for the sake of the works themselves. “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in me shall also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do because I go to my Father. Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son; If you ask anything in my name, I will do it. If you love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray to the Father, and he will give you another Comforter to be with you forever; the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you. Yet a little while longer and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you will live also. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest

myself to him.” Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” Jesus answered him, “If a man loves me, he will keep my word; and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me does not keep my words; and the word which you hear is not mine but the Father who sent me. These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do, I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I go away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for my Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place, you may believe. I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me. But I do as the Father has commanded me so that the world may know that I love the Father. Arise, let us go hence. John 15:1-27 I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-dresser. Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, he prunes that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean by the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me and I in him, he it is who bears much fruit: for apart from me you can do nothing. If a man does not abide in me, he is cast out as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered and thrown into the fire and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this my Father is glorified: that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have

kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. This I command you, to love one another. If the world hates you, you know that it hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. But because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will keep yours also. But all this they will do to you for my name's sake because they do not know him who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. He who hates me hates my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. It is to fulfil the word that is written in their law, 'They hated me without a cause.' But when the Comforter comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me. And you also are witnesses because you have been with me from the beginning. John 16:1-33 I have said all this to you to keep you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues; indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. And they will do this because they have not known the Father nor me. But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes, you may

remember that I told you of them. I did not say these things to you from the beginning because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Comforter will not come to you; but if I go away, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you will see me no more; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. I have yet many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak; and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. Therefore, I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. A little while, and you will see me no more; again, a little while, and you will see me because I go to the Father." Some of his disciples said to one another: "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me; and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I go to the Father'?" They said, "What does he mean by 'A little while'? We do not know what he means." Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves: what I mean by saying, 'A little while, and you will not see me; and again a little while, and you will see me'? Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is in travail, she has sorrow because her hour has come; but when she is delivered of the child, she no longer remembers her anguish, for joy that a child is born into the world. So you have sorrow now; but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. In that day you will

ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask anything of the Father, he will give it to you in my name. Hitherto, you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. I have spoken to you in figures; the hour is coming when I shall no longer speak to you in figures but tell you plainly of the Father. In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray to the Father for you; for the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I am leaving the world and going to the Father.” His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly, and not in any figure! Now we know that you know all things and need no one to question you. By this we believe that you came from God.” Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? The hour is coming, indeed, it has come, when you will be scattered, every man to his own, and will leave me alone; yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. I have said this to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” John 17:1-26 When Jesus had spoke these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee, since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. I glorified thee on the earth, having accomplished the work which thou hast given me to do. And now, Father, glorify me together with thyself, with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world. They were thine, thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee, for I have given them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast

given me, for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name, which thou gavest me, I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to thee, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them thy word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not pray that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth. Thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth. I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word; that they may all be one, even as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee; that they also may be one in us, so that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. The glory which thou hast given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me; that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them even as thou hast loved me. Father, I desire that they also, whom thou hast given me, may be with me where I am, to behold my glory which thou hast given me; for thou loved me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father! The world has not known thee, but I have known thee, and these know that thou hast sent me. I made known to them thy name, and I will make it known, that the love with which thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.” John 18:1 When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples across the Kidron valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered.

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

### **The First Antiphon (Tone 8)**

The rulers of the people take counsel together, against the Lord, and against His Christ. A lawless accusation is laid against me Lord; O Lord, do not forsake me.

Let us present our senses pure to Christ, and as His friends, let us offer our souls to Him. Let us not, like Judas choke ourselves with the concerns of this world, but from our innermost depths, let us cry out: "Our Father, in Heaven, deliver us from evil."

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

O Mary Theotokos, as a Virgin you gave birth, and yet remained a Virgin; O unwedded Mother, entreat Christ our God, to save us.

### **The Second Antiphon (Tone 6)**

Judas hastened to the lawless Scribes saying: "What will you give me, and I will deliver Him to you?" And invisibly You stood in the midst of those, conspiring as to the price that would be agreed for You. Spare our souls; You, Who knows the hearts of humans.

Let us serve God with compassion, as did Mary at the supper; and let us not, like Judas, foster avarice, that we may forever be with Christ, our God.

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

Cease not, O Virgin, to implore Him, Whom you inexplicably bore; that He may save from dangers those, who flee to you; for He is ever merciful.

### **The Third Antiphon (Tone 2)**

By reason of raising Lazarus, O Merciful Lord, the Hebrew children cried: "Hosanna to You", but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

At Your Supper, O Christ our God, You were foretelling Your Disciples: "One of you shall betray Me", but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

When John asked You, Lord, who is Your betrayer, You revealed him by the bread; but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

For thirty pieces of silver, and a deceitful kiss, the Jews sought to slay You, Lord; but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

At the washing of the feet, You, O Christ our God, exhorted Your Disciples: "Do the same as you have seen", but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

"Be vigilant and pray, that you not be tempted", You, our God, were saying to Your Disciples; but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

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

O Theotokos, safeguard your servants from dangers; for, after God, it is to you that we take refuge, as an impregnable wall and protection.

## **The Kathisma (Tone 7)**

While feeding Your Disciples at the Supper, and knowing the scheme of Your betrayal, You accused Judas, recognizing that he was incorrigible. You wanted to make it known to all, that You willingly surrendered, in order to grasp the world from the enemy. O Long-suffering Lord, glory to You.

## **The Second Gospel**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John. (Chapter 18:1-28)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

At that time, Jesus went forth with his disciples over the Kidron brook, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with his disciples. So, Judas, procuring a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, went there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to befall him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." And Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. Again, Jesus asked them, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he; so, if you seek me, let these men go." This was to fulfil the word which he had spoken, "Of those whom you gave me I lost none." Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Jesus said

to Peter, “Put your sword into the sheath; Shall I not drink the cup which the Father has given me?” So, the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews seized Jesus and bound him. First, they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had given counsel to the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people. Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. As this disciple was known to the high priest, he entered the court of the high priest along with Jesus, while Peter stood outside at the door. So, the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the maid who kept the door, and brought Peter in. Then the maid who kept the door said to Peter, “Are you not also one of this Man’s disciples?” Peter said, “I am not.” Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, for it was cold, and they were warming themselves. Peter also was with them standing and warming himself. The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his doctrine. Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogue and in the temple, where all Jews come together; I have said nothing secretly. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.” When Jesus had said this, one of the officers standing by struck him with his hand, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” Jesus answered him, “If I have spoken wrongly, bear witness to the wrong; but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?” Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They said to him, “Are you not also one of his disciples?” He denied it and said, “I am not!” One of the servants of the high priest, a kinsman of the man whose ear Peter cut off, asked: “Did I not see you in the garden with him?” Peter again denied it; and at once the cock crowed. Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium. It was early. They themselves did not enter the Praetorium, so that they might not be defiled, but might eat the Pascha.

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

### **The Fourth Antiphon (Tone 5)**

Today Judas forsakes the Master and takes to himself the Devil; he is blinded by the passion of avarice, and in his darkness falls from the light. For, how is he able to see, who sold the Bearer of Light for thirty pieces of silver? But He Who suffered for the world has become the dawn for us. To Him let us cry out; "Glory to You, Who suffers for, and with mankind."

Today Judas simulates godliness and estranges himself from grace. While a Disciple, he becomes a traitor, and under a guise of friendship he conceals deceit. He, in his folly prefers thirty pieces of silver to the love of the Master and becomes a guide to the lawless council. But we, who have Christ as our salvation, let us glorify Him.

### **Tone 1**

As brothers in Christ, let us acquire brotherly love. Let us not lack compassion for our neighbours, that we may not be condemned like the unmerciful servant on account of money and let us not repent like Judas to no avail.

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

Glorious things have been spoken of you everywhere; for you have borne in the flesh the maker of all, O Mary Theotokos, all-praised, unwedded Bride.

### **The Fifth Antiphon (Tone 6)**

The Disciple of the Teacher contracted the price and sold the Lord for thirty pieces of silver. With a deceitful kiss, he surrenders Him to death at the hands of the lawless.

Today the Creator of Heaven and Earth said to His Disciples: "The hour is near, and Judas, who betrayed Me, is at hand. Let no one deny Me, seeing Me on the Cross between two thieves; for as Man I suffer, and as a Lover of mankind, I save those who believe in Me."

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

O Virgin, who in the last days ineffably conceived and bore your own Creator, save those, who magnify you.

### **The Sixth Antiphon (Tone 7)**

Today, Judas is vigilant as to how he can deliver up the Lord, the Saviour of the world before all Ages, Who with five loaves satisfied the multitude. Today, the transgressor denies the Teacher; becoming a Disciple, he betrays the Master. He sold for silver, the One, Who satisfied His people with manna.

Today, the Judeans nailed to the Cross the Lord, Who had divided the sea with a rod, leading them through the wilderness. Today, they pierced His side with a spear, Who, for their sakes smote Egypt with plagues; they gave Him gall to drink, Who had rained manna upon them for food.

O Lord, when You willingly came to Your Passion, You declared to Your Disciples; "If you could not watch with Me for one hour, how

could you promise to die for Me? Look at Judas, how he sleeps not, but hastens to betray Me to the enemy? Arise, pray, lest any of you deny Me when you see Me on the Cross." O long suffering One, glory to You.

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

Rejoice! O Theotokos! For you contained in your womb, the One, Whom the Heavens cannot contain. Rejoice! O Virgin! The proclamation of Prophets, through whom Emmanuel is made manifest to us. Rejoice! O Mother of Christ, our God.

### **The Kathisma (Tone 7)**

In what manner were you worked on, O Judas, to betray the Saviour? Did He separate you from the company of the Apostles? Did He deprive you of the grace of healing? Did He at the washing of the feet of the others, overlook yours? Oh! How forgetful you are of the many blessings! You are condemned for your ingratitude, while His bountiful forbearance and great mercy are proclaimed.

### **The Third Gospel**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew. (Chapter 26:57-75)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

At that time, the soldiers seized Jesus and led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter followed him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest.

And going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.’” And the high priest stood up and said: “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?” But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!” Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy! What is your judgment?” They answered, “He deserves death.” Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him saying, “Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?” Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a maid came up to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” But he denied it before them all saying, “I do not know what you mean.” And when he went out to the porch, another maid saw him and said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.” And again, Peter denied it with an oath, “I do not know the Man!” After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly, you also are one of them, for your accent betrays you.” Then Peter began to invoke a curse on himself and swear, “I do not know the Man!” And immediately the cock crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, “Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” And Peter went out and wept bitterly.

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

### **The Seventh Antiphon (Tone 8)**

While permitting the lawless men to seize You, O Lord, You thus declared: "Though you strike down the Shepherd, and scatter the twelve sheep, My Disciples, yet I could have summoned more than twelve legions of Angels by My side; but I forbear, so that the unknown and secret things, which I revealed to you through My prophets, maybe fulfilled." O Lord, Glory to You.

Peter having denied You three times, straightway recalled the words You said to him, but he brought to You tears of repentance, saying: "God have mercy on me, and save me."

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

Let us all praise the Holy Virgin, as the gateway to salvation; as a Paradise of delight; as a cloud of everlasting light, and saying, "Rejoice!"

### **The Eighth Antiphon (Tone 2)**

Say you lawless men; what have you heard from our Saviour? Did He not set forth the teaching of the Law and the Prophets? How then, could you take counsel to hand over to Pilate the Word of God, Who came forth from God, the Redeemer of our souls?

"Let Him be crucified!" cried they, who had always benefited by Your gifts of Grace. The slayers of the righteous, requested to receive a malefactor, instead of the Benefactor; but You, O Christ, were silent, enduring their impudence, that You might suffer, and save us, as a Loving Lord.

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

Since we have no boldness because of our many sins, O Virgin, Theotokos, implore the One, Who was born of you; for the prayer of a Mother avails much for the favour of the Master. All-holy Lady overlook not the entreaties of us sinners; for He is merciful and able to save; and Who also condescended to suffer for us.

### **The Ninth Antiphon (Tone 3)**

They set the thirty pieces of silver, as the price of the Priceless One, on Whom they, of the children of Israel had set a price. Watch and pray, that you enter not into temptation! The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak; Therefore, watch!

They gave me gall to eat, and when I was thirsty, they gave me vinegar to drink; but You, O Lord, raise me up again, and I shall repay them.

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

We, of the Gentiles, praise you, O pure Theotokos, for you gave birth to Christ, our God, Who, through you, freed mankind from the curse.

### **The Kathisma (Tone 8)**

How could Judas, who was once Your Disciple, meditate Your betrayal? The traitor and evil-doer deceitfully ate with You; and going to the Priests, he said: "What will you offer me, and I will deliver to you, Him, Who set aside the Law and profaned the Sabbath?" O Long-suffering Lord, glory to You.

## **The Fourth Gospel**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.  
(Chapter 18:28 to 19:16)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

At that time, they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium. It was early. They themselves did not enter the Praetorium so that they might not be defiled but might eat the Pascha. So, Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?" They answered him, "If this man were not an evildoer, we would not have handed him over." Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put any man to death." This was to fulfil the word which Jesus had spoken showing by what death he was to die. Pilate entered the Praetorium again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me; what have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would fight that I might not be handed over to the Jews; but my kingdom is not from the world." Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears my voice." Pilate said to him, "What is truth?" After Pilate had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no crime in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Pascha. Will you have me release for you the King of the Jews?" They cried out again, "Not this Man, but Barabbas!"

Now Barabbas was a robber. John 19:1-16 Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged him. And the soldiers plaited a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they arrayed him in a purple robe; they came up to him saying, “Rejoice, King of the Jews!” And struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you, that you may know that I find no crime in him.” So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the Man!” When the chief priests and officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourself and crucify him, for I find no crime in him.” The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by our law he ought to die because he made himself the Son of God.” When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid. He entered the Praetorium again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to crucify you, and power to release you?” Jesus answered him, “You would have no power over me unless it had been given to you from above. Therefore, the one who delivered me to you has the greater sin.” Upon this Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this Man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king speaks against Caesar.” When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Pascha, it was about the sixth hour. Pilate said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” They cried out, “Away with him, away with him! Crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar!” Then he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified. People: Glory to Your long-suffering, O Lord, glory to You. Tenth Antiphon, Sixth

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

### **The Tenth Antiphon (Tone 6)**

He Who clothed Himself with light as with a garment, stood naked at the judgment; and received blows on His cheeks from the hands which He had fashioned. When the lawless people nailed the Lord of glory to the Cross, then the veil of the temple was rent, and the Sun went dark, unable to endure the spectacle of God blasphemed, before Whom all the universe trembles. Him let us worship.

The Disciple denied Him; the thief exclaimed: "Remember me, O Lord, in Your Kingdom."

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

Grant peace to the world, O Merciful Lord; You, Who for Your servants' sake, condescended to take on flesh from the Virgin. Therefore, with one voice we praise You, as a Loving Lord.

### **The Eleventh Antiphon (Tone 6)**

In return for the benefits which You, O Christ, bestowed to the Hebrew race, they condemned You to be crucified, giving You vinegar mixed with gall to drink. Render to them, O Lord according to their works, for they comprehended not Your condescension.

With Your betrayal, O Christ, the Hebrew race was not content, but wagged their heads, sneering and mocking. Render to them, O Lord, according to their deeds, for they devised vain things against You.

Neither the earth as it quaked, nor the rocks as they split; neither the veil of the Temple, nor the raising from the dead convinced the

Hebrews. But You, O Lord, reward them according to their deeds; for they devised vain things against You.

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

We have known God receiving flesh from you, O Virgin Theotokos, the only pure, the only blessed; therefore, praising you, we unceasingly magnify.

### **The Twelfth Antiphon (Tone 8)**

Thus, says the Lord to the Judeans: "O My people, what have I done to you, or wherein have I wearied you? To your blind I gave light; your lepers I cleansed; your paralytic I raised up.

O My people; what have I done for you, and how have you recompensed Me? Instead of manna, gall; instead of water, vinegar; instead of loving Me, you nailed Me to the Cross. No longer will I endure; I will call to Me the Nations, and they will glorify Me, together with the Father and the Spirit; and I will grant to them eternal Life." Today the veil of the Temple is rent in two, as a reproof to the lawless; and the Sun hides its own rays, beholding the Master on the Cross.

The company of the Apostles calls out to you, "O Law-givers of Israel, Judeans, and Pharisees; behold the Temple, which you have destroyed; behold the Lamb, which you have crucified. You have delivered Him to the tomb, but by His own power He has arisen. Deceive not yourselves, O Judeans, for in the sea He saved, and in the desert He fed. He is the Life, and Light, and Peace of the world."

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

Rejoice! Gateway of the King of Glory, through which, only the Most High has passed, and again left sealed, for the salvation of our souls.

### **The Kathisma (Tone 8)**

When You, O God, stood before Caiaphas, and though being the Judge, You were given over to Pilate, the Heavenly Powers were shaken with fear. Then lifted up on the Wood between two robbers, You the sinless One, were numbered with the transgressors, in order to save mankind. O Most forbearing Lord, glory to You.

### **The Fifth Gospel**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew. (Chapter 27:3-32)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

At that time, when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt regret and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." They said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself!" And throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple he departed, and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests taking the pieces of silver said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money." So, they took counsel and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore, that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him who was valued by the sons of Israel, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed

me.” Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” But Jesus gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor wondered greatly. Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So, when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous Man, for I have suffered much over him today in a dream.” Now the chief priests and elders persuaded the people to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas!” Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!” And Pilate said, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!” When Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this righteous man’s blood. See to it yourselves.” And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children.” Then Pilate released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. And plaiting a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him they mocked him saying, “Rejoice, King of the Jews!” And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe, put his own

clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. This man they compelled to carry the cross of Jesus.

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

### **The Thirteenth Antiphon (Tone 6)**

The assembly of the Judeans demanded of Pilate that You, O Lord, be crucified; and finding no cause against You, they released the prisoner, Barabbas, and condemned You, the Righteous One, incurring for themselves the accusation of blood-guiltiness. Render to them, O Lord, according to their works; for they devised vain things against You.

The Priests struck with their hands, and gave gall to drink, to Him, before Whom, all things are awestricken and tremble, and every tongue praises. As a Lover of mankind, He condescended to suffer all things, wanting to save us from our sins by His own Blood.

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

O Theotokos! By word, you ineffably bore the Word, the Creator Himself. Implore Him, that He may save our souls.

### **The Fourteenth Antiphon (Tone 8)**

O Lord, having taken as Your fellow traveller the thief, whose hands were defiled with blood, we ask You to number us with him, as a Good and Loving Lord.

The thief upon the cross spoke in a low tone but found great faith. In an instant he was saved and being the first to open the Gates of Paradise, he entered. O Lord, Who accepted his repentance, glory to You.

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

Rejoice you, who through an Angel did receive the joy of the world. Rejoice you, who gave birth to your Creator and your Lord. Rejoice you, who were found worthy to become the Mother of Christ, our God.

*(All lights are turned off until the end of the service. As the Priest begins to sing “Today He Who hung”, he carries the Cross on his right shoulder around the church as in the Great Entrance and is preceded by the Altar Boys carrying the Processional Cross, Candles and Censer. The people kneel during the procession.)*

**The Fifteenth Antiphon (Tone 6)**

**Priest:** Today He is hung on a Tree, Who suspended the earth over the waters. (x3)

A crown of thorns was placed on the head of the King of the angels.

He who wore a false purple robe, covered the heavens with clouds.

He was struck Who, in the Jordan, delivered Adam.

The Bridegroom of the Church was fastened with nails. The Son of the Virgin was pierced with a spear.

We worship Your Passion, O Christ. (x3)

Show us Your Glorious Resurrection.

(The above hymn is repeated until the procession of the Cross has been completed.)

Christ, our God, Who is our Passover, is sacrificed for us; therefore let us not keep the Feast as the Judeans, but let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement, and sincerely beseech Him: "Arise, O Lord, and in Your mercy, save us."

Your Cross, O Lord, is life and resurrection to Your people; and trusting in it, we praise You, our crucified Lord. Have mercy upon us.

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

Seeing You hanging on the Cross, O Christ, Your Mother cried aloud: "What strange mystery do I see, my Son? How, do You, the Giver of Life, with Your flesh transfixed, die upon the Wood?"

### **The Kathisma (Tone 4)**

You ransomed us from the curse of the Law by Your precious Blood; You have shed forth immortality on mankind by being nailed to the Cross and pierced with a spear. O Saviour of us all, glory to You.

### **The Sixth Gospel**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark. (Chapter 15:16-32)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

At that time, the soldiers led Jesus away inside the palace (that is, Praetorium); and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and plaiting a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, "Rejoice, King of the Jews!" And they struck his head with a reed and spat on him; and knelt down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, and put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him. And they compelled a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry the cross of Jesus. And they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, (which means the Place of a Skull). And they offered him wine mingled with myrrh, but he did not take it. And when they crucified him, they divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "THE KING OF THE JEWS." And with him they also crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "He was reckoned with the transgressors." And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" So also, the chief priests mocked him to one another with the scribes saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe."

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

### **The Beatitudes (Tone 4)**

*In Your Kingdom O Lord, remember us when You come in Your Kingdom.*

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

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

***Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the Earth.***

Because of a tree, Adam was estranged from Paradise; because of the wood of the Cross, the thief abode in Paradise; for the former, in tasting, disobeyed the commandment of the Creator; but the latter, who was crucified with You, confessed, admitting to You, the concealed God. O Saviour; remember also us, in Your Kingdom.

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

The law transgressors verily did buy the Ordainer of the law from a Disciple. And they brought Him before Pilate as a law breaker, shouting "Crucify the One, Who gave them manna in the wilderness!" But we, emulating the righteous thief, cry out in faith: Remember also us, O Saviour, in Your Kingdom."

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

The assembly of the Judeans, that lawless swarm of God-slayers, shouted madly to Pilate, saying, crucify Christ the innocent, and asking that Barabbas rather be released. But we express the words of the grateful thief: "Remember also us, O Saviour, in Your Kingdom."

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

Your life-bearing side, O Christ, overflows like a spring from Eden, watering Your Church, and making it a living paradise; then dividing the glad tidings into four Gospels, as headwaters, it irrigates the

world, gladdening creation, and teaching the Gentiles to adore Your Kingdom in faith.

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

You were crucified O Christ, for my sake, to become the Source of my forgiveness. And Your side was pierced, that You might cause streams of life to flow for me. You were fastened with nails, that I may sense the depth of Your Passion and the height of Your Power and cry out to You: "O Life-giving Christ, glory to Your Cross and Passion, O Saviour."

***Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake; for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.***

All creation, O Christ, beholding Your Crucifixion, trembled. The foundations of the earth were shaken for dread of Your might; the lights of the firmament went into hiding; the veil of the Temple was rent; the mountains quaked; and the rocks burst asunder, as the believing thief cries out with us to You: "O Saviour, remember us."

***Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.***

O Lord, on the Cross You tore the writ of ordinances against us; and numbered among the dead, You bound up the tyrant there, delivering all from the bonds of death by Your Resurrection, through which we have been illuminated. O Merciful Lord, we cry out to You: "Remember also us, O Saviour, in Your Kingdom."

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

O Christ our God, Who was lifted up on the Cross, and as God, loosed the power of death, and eradicated the writ of ordinances against us, grant also to us, O Lord, who worship You in faith, the repentance of the thief, as we cry out to You: "Remember also us, O Saviour, in Your Kingdom."

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

Come, all you believers, let us worthily, with one mind pray, glorifying the one Godhead in three Persons; the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; permanent, without confusion, simple, indivisible, and unapproachable, through Whom, we were redeemed from the fire of punishment.

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

We offer You for intercession, O Christ, Your Mother, the true Virgin, who, without seed bore You in the flesh, and remained without corruption after her birth giving, that You might grant forgiveness of transgressions to those, who cry out: "Remember also us, O Saviour, in Your Kingdom."

### **The Prokeimenon (Tone 4)**

**People:** The Prokeimenon in Tone 4. They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots. (x2)

*My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?*

They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.

## **The Seventh Gospel**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.  
(Chapter 27:33-54)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

At that time, the soldiers led Jesus to a place called Golgotha, (which means the Place of a Skull), and they offered him wine to drink mingled with gall; but when he had tasted it, he would not drink. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots, that what was spoken by the prophet might be fulfilled: "They parted my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put a charge against him which read: this Is Jesus the King of the Jews. Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also, the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. If he is the King of Israel, let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now if he desires him; for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" That is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of bystanders hearing it said, "This Man is calling for Elijah!" And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with

vinegar and put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.” And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and gave up the spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, and the earth shook, and the rocks were split; the tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, 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 Eighth Gospel**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke. (Chapter 23:32-49)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

At that time, two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Jesus. And when they came to the place which is called the Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and one on the left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people who stood by watching and the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself. If he is the Christ, the chosen of God." The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself." There was also an inscription over him

in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew: this Is the King of the Jews. One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him saying, “If you are the Christ, save yourself and us.” But the other rebuked him saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” And he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” And Jesus said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the whole land until the ninth hour while the sun’s light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit.” And having said this, he gave up the spirit. Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he glorified God and said, “Certainly this was a righteous Man!” And all the multitudes who assembled to see the sight, when they saw what had taken place, returned beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things.

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

### **The Canon**

#### **Fifth Ode (Tone 6)**

##### ***Heirmos***

I approach You early in the morning, O Word of God, Who, through Your compassion for fallen man, emptied Yourself without change, and submitted to the Passion in impassivity. O Merciful Lord grant me peace.

With washed feet, and they themselves purified by participation in the Divine Mystery, Your servants, O Christ, now come together from Zion to the great mount of Olives, and praise You, O Merciful Lord.

You did say: "See, My friends, that you not be troubled; for now, the hour is near for Me to be given up and slain by the hands of lawless men. All you shall be scattered, forsaking Me; but those, whom I shall gather will preach a Loving God."

### ***Katavasia***

I approach You early in the morning, O Word of God, Who, through Your compassion for fallen man, emptied Yourself without change, and submitted to the Passion in impassivity. O Merciful Lord grant me peace.

### **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 watch over us, O God, by Your grace.

**People:** Lord have mercy.

**Priest:** Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and most glorious Lady, Theotokos, Mother of God and ever-Virgin Mary, together with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and each other, and our whole life, to Christ our God!

**People:** To You, O Lord.

**Priest:** For You are the King of Peace, O Christ 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.

### **Kontakion**

Come, let us all praise Him, Who was crucified for us. For Mary beheld Him on the Wood and said: "Even if You endure the Cross, You are my Son and my God."

### **Oikos**

The Virgin Mother, seeing her own Lamb led to the slaughter, followed wailing with the other women, and cried: "Where are You going my Child? Why do You travel along so fast? Would there perhaps be another wedding in Cana, and You hurry there, to turn for them water into wine? Can I not come with You my Child? Or tarry with You? Speak to me a word; You, Who are the Word. Pass me not by in silence, You, Who kept me pure. For You are my Son and my God."

### **Synaxarion**

On Holy and Great Friday we observe the holy, dread and saving Passion of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ; the spittings, blows and scourges, the curses, cheers, and the wearing of the purple robe, the rod, sponge, and vinegar; the nails, the spear, and especially the Cross and death; which He received willingly for our sakes. We observe also the confession of salvation which the grateful thief made on the cross with him.

Wherefore, O Christ our God, by Your infinite compassion for us, have mercy on us. Amen.

## **The Canon (continued)**

### **Eighth Ode (Tone 6)**

#### ***Heirmos***

The divine children exposed a monument of impious wickedness. And the arrogant and lawless Sanhedrin in vain took counsel against Christ, discussing how to slay Him, Who holds life in the palm of His hand, and Whom all creation blesses, glorifying to all ages.

You said to Your Disciples, O Christ: "Drive away sleep from your eyelids, be watchful in prayer lest you fall and especially you, Simon, for the proud suffers a greater trial. Do you know Me, O Peter, Whom all creation blesses, glorifying Me to all ages."?

Truly Peter cried; "O Master, no evil words shall come out of my lips, but, as one of true loyalty, I will die with You even though all deny You, for flesh and blood has not revealed You to me, but the Father Whom all creation blesses, glorifying to all ages. "

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

"All the depth of divine wisdom and knowledge, you have not sought out; and the bed rock of My judgment you, O man, have not comprehended," said the Lord. Boast not, for you are flesh, and thrice you shall deny Me, Whom all creation blesses, glorifying to all, Ages."

#### ***Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.***

"You protest, O Simon Peter, against the very thing you are to do, as I foretold. A maid-servant, suddenly approaching will terrify you," said the Lord. "Yet, weeping bitterly, you shall find Me merciful, Whom all creation blesses, glorifying to all ages."

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

***Katavasia***

The divine children exposed a monument of impious wickedness. And the arrogant and lawless Sanhedrin in vain took counsel against Christ, discussing how to slay Him, Who holds life in the palm of His hand, and Whom all creation blesses, glorifying to all ages.

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

**Ninth Ode (Tone 6)**

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

A wicked, worthless company of knavish, abominable, and God-slaying soldiers came upon You, O Christ, and dragged You away, as an evil-doer, the Creator of all, Whom we magnify.

The impious men, ignoring the Law, and vainly studying the Prophets to no purpose, unjustly dragged away as a lamb to the slaughter, You the Master of all, Whom we magnify.

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

The Priests, with the scribes, delivered to the gentiles to put to death the Life; and they smote, with their most envious malice, Him, Who is by nature the river of Life; Him we magnify.

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

Like many dogs they came round about You, O King, and smote You on the cheek with their hands. They questioned You and brought forth false witnesses; but You endured all things and have saved all.

**Katavasia**

More honoured than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, in all purity you gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos, we exalt You.

**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)**

You, O Lord, Who on the same day made the thief worthy of Paradise, illuminate me also by the wood of the Cross, and save me.  
(x3)

### **The Ninth Gospel**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.  
(Chapter 19:25-37)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

At that time, standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own. After this, Jesus, knowing that all now was finished, said (to fulfil the Scripture) "I thirst!" A bowl full of vinegar stood there; so, they put a sponge full of vinegar on hyssop, and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished!" And he bowed his head and gave up the spirit. Since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. So, the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne

witness--his testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth--that you also may believe. For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled, "Not a bone of him shall be broken." And again, another Scripture says, "They shall look on him whom they have pierced."

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

### **The Praises (Tone 3)**

Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the Heavens; praise Him in the heights. To You, O God, is due our song.

Praise Him, all His Angels; praise Him all His Hosts. To You, O God, is due our song.

### ***Tone 3***

***Praise God in His Sanctuary. Praise Him in His mighty firmament!***

"Israel, My first-born son, committed two evil deeds; He forsook Me, the source of the Living water, and hewed out for himself a broken well; and he crucified Me on the Wood, and asked for the release of Barabbas. The Heavens were aghast at this, and the Sun hid its rays. But you, O Israel, were not ashamed, and delivered Me to death. Forgive them, O Holy Father, for they know not what they have done".

***Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness!***

Every member of Your Holy body endured dishonour for us. Your head, the thorns; Your face, the spitting; Your cheeks, the smittings;

Your mouth, the taste of vinegar mixed with gall; Your ears, the impious blasphemies; Your back, the lash; Your hand, the reed; Your whole body, stretched out on the Cross; Your joints the nails; and Your side, the spear. O Almighty Saviour, Who in Your mercy condescended to suffer for us, and set us free from suffering, having raised us up, have mercy on us.

***Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; praise Him with the psaltery and harp.***

All creation trembled, O Christ, seeing You crucified. From fear of Your power, the foundations of the earth were shaken. For by You being raised today, the Hebrew race was lost, the veil of the Temple was rent in two, the tombs were opened, and the dead rose up from their graves. The centurion shuddered when he saw the miracle, and Your mother stood near, and cried with a mother's lamentation: "How can I not mourn, and strike my innermost being, seeing You naked, as a condemned man hanging on the wood?" O Lord Who was crucified, and buried, and did rise from the dead, glory to You.

### ***Tone 6***

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

"They stripped Me of My garments and put on Me a scarlet robe; they set upon My head a crown of thorns, and gave a reed into My right hand, that I may shatter them in pieces like a potter's vessels."

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

"I gave My back to scourging and turned not away My face from spitting; I stood before the judgment seat of Pilate, and endured the Cross, for the salvation of the world."

## **The Tenth Gospel**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.  
(Chapter 15:43-47)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that Jesus was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Jesus down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus observed where Jesus was laid

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

### **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.

### **The Eleventh Gospel**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John. (Chapter 19:38-42)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him leave. So, he came and took away Jesus' body. Also, Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds' weight. They took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb where no one had ever been laid. So, because of the Jewish day of Preparation, as the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

### **Aposticha**

#### **Tone 1**

All creation was changed by fear, when it saw You, O Christ, hanging on the Cross; the Sun was darkened, and the foundations of the earth were shaken. All things suffered together with the Creator of all things. O Lord, Who for us endured willingly, glory to You.

## **Tone 2**

**They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.**

An impious and lawless people, why do they contemplate in vain? Why do they condemn to death the Life of all? O wondrous marvel! The Creator of the world is betrayed into the hands of the lawless; and He, Who is merciful, is lifted up on the Cross, that He might bring freedom to those bound in Hades, who cry out "O long-suffering Father, glory to You".

**They also gave Me gall for My food, and for My thirst they gave Me vinegar to drink.**

Today the blameless Virgin saw You, O Word of God, hanging on the Cross, deeply mourning within herself, and bitterly pierced in the heart, she groaned in agony from the depth of her soul. Exhausted by beating on her breast, with hair dishevelled, she cried out wailing: "Woe to me! My Divine Son! Woe to me! Light of the world! Why O Lamb of God, have You faded from my eyes?" Wherefore, the legions of the Heavenly Hosts were seized with trembling, crying out: "O incomprehensible Lord, glory to You."

**For God is my King from of old, working salvation in the midst of the Earth.**

Seeing You hanging on the Cross, O Christ, the God and Creator of all, Whom as a Virgin she bore, she cried out bitterly: "O my Son, where has the beauty of Your form vanished? I cannot bear to see You unjustly crucified; hasten therefore and rise up, that I too may behold Your Resurrection from the dead on the third day."

## **Tone 8**

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

O Lord, when You were lifted up on the Cross, fear and trembling fell over creation. You did not permit the earth to engulf those, who crucified You, but You permitted Hades to send up its captives for the rebirth of mortals. O Judge of the living and dead, You came to grant life, and not death. Most merciful Lord, glory to You.

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

Already the sentencing pen is dipped by the unjust judges, and Jesus is arraigned and condemned to the Cross. All creation suffers, seeing the Lord on the Cross. But You, Who in the natural Body did suffer for me, gracious Lord, glory to You.

### **The Twelfth Gospel**

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

**Priest:** Peace be to you all.

**People:** And to your spirit

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.  
(Chapter 27:62-66)

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

**Priest:** Let us attend.

On the next day, that is, after the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, “Sir, we remember how that imposter said, while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise.’ Therefore, order the sepulchre to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go by night and steal him away and tell the people, ‘He has risen from the dead’; and the last fraud will be worse than the first.” Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can. So, they went and made the sepulchre secure by sealing the stone and setting the guard.

**People:** Glory to Your forbearance, O Lord, glory to You.

**Priest:** It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High. To declare Your lovingkindness 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 in Heaven hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, You 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, 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**

#### **Tone 4**

You ransomed us from the curse of the Law, by Your Precious Blood; You shed forth immortality on mankind, being nailed to the Cross and pierced with a spear. Saviour of us all, glory to You.

### **The Ektenia of Fervent Supplication**

**Priest:** Let us say with all our souls and with all our mind, let us say: O Lord Almighty, the God of our Fathers, we pray You: Hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

**Priest:** Again we pray for our Father Metropolitan (*Name*), for the Priests, Deacons, Monks and Nuns; and for all our brethren in Christ.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

**Priest:** Again we pray for those who govern this country, all civil authorities and our Armed Forces every where.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

**Priest:** Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health and salvation for the servants of God, the Orthodox Christians who dwell in this city. For those who are gathering in this Holy Church, for the Parish Council, for those who give and for their visitation, pardon and remission of their sins.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

**Priest:** Again we pray for the blessed and ever memorable founders of this holy Temple; and for all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

**Priest:** Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable Temple; for those who serve and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Your great and rich mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

**People:** Amen.

### **The Dismissal**

**Priest:** Wisdom.

**People:** Bless Father.

**Priest:** Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed at all times, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

**People:** Amen. Preserve, O God, the Holy Orthodox faith and Orthodox Christians, to the ages of ages. Amen.

**Priest:** Most Holy Theotokos, save us,

**People:** 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.

**Priest:** Glory be to You, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory be 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, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.  
In the name of the Lord, holy Father give the blessing.

**Priest:** May He Who endured spitting, scourges, reviling and death for the salvation of the world, Christ our True God, through the prayers of His most pure, blameless and holy Mother; of Saints (*Name*) the patron(s) of this Church; of the holy and righteous 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