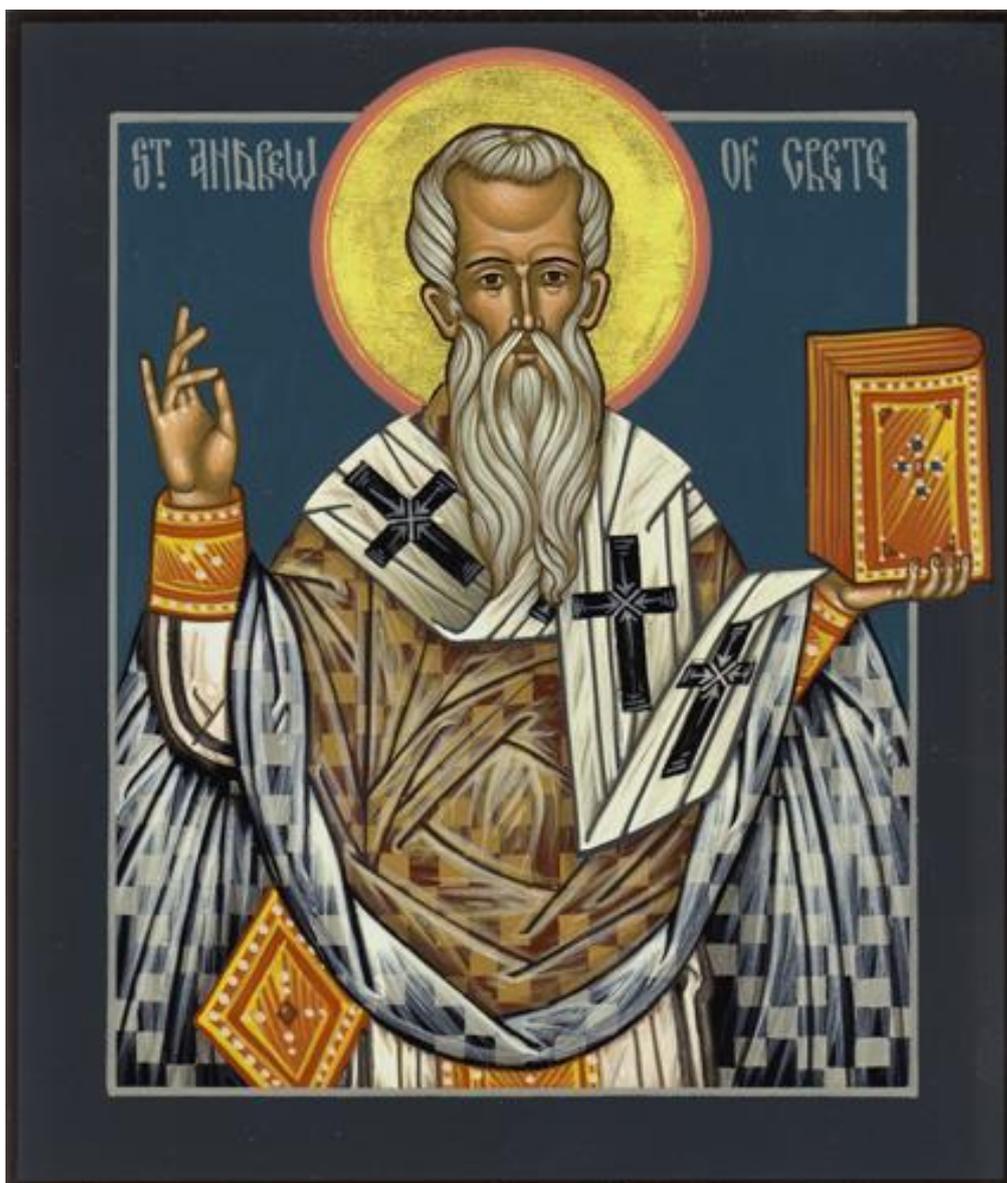


The Great Canon of Repentance by St. Andrew of Crete



The Small Compline

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

People: Amen.

Priest: Glory to You, our God, glory 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 are 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 50

Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your loving kindness; 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.

Psalm 69

Make haste, O God, to deliver me! Make haste to help me, O Lord! Let them be ashamed and confounded who seek my life; Let them be turned back and confused who desire my hurt. Let them be turned back because of their shame, who say, "Aha, aha!" Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; And let those who love Your salvation say continually, "Let God be magnified!" But I am poor and needy; Make haste to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay.

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.

Small Doxology

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, teach me Your precepts.

Blessed are You, O Holy One, teach me Your commandments.

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 Creed

I believe in one God, Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one essence with the Father, through Him all things were made.

Who for us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man. And He was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate and suffered and was buried.

And He rose on the third day, in accordance with the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

And will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the Prophets.

And in One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen.

Theotokion

It is truly right to call you blessed. O Theotokos, ever blessed and more blameless and Mother of our God. 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.

The Great Canon of St Andrew (Tone 6)

Ode One

He is my Helper and Protector and has become my Salvation. This is my God and I will glorify Him, the God of my fathers and I will exalt Him, for gloriously has He been glorified.

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

Where shall I begin to weep for the actions of my wretched life? What first-fruit shall I offer, O Christ, in this my lamentation? But in Your compassion grant me forgiveness of sins.

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

Come, wretched soul, with your flesh to the Creator of all. Make confession to Him and abstain henceforth from your past brutishness; and offer to God tears of repentance.

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

I have rivaled in transgression Adam the first-formed man, and I have found myself stripped naked of God, of the eternal Kingdom and its joy, because of my sins.

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

Woe to you, miserable soul! How like you are to the first Eve! For you have looked in wickedness and was grievously wounded; you have touched the tree and rashly tasted the deceptive food.

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

Instead of the visible Eve, I have the Eve of the mind: the passionate thought in my flesh, showing me what seems sweet; yet whenever I taste from it, I find it bitter.

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

Adam was justly banished from Eden because he disobeyed one of Your commandments, O Saviour. What then shall I suffer, for I am always rejecting Your words of life?

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

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

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

O Jesus, I have not been like Abel in his righteousness. Never have I offered You acceptable gifts or godly actions, a pure sacrifice or an unblemished life.

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

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

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

As the potter molds the clay, You have fashioned me, giving me flesh and bones, breath and life. But accept me in repentance, O my Maker and Deliverer and Judge.

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

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

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

Though I have sinned, O Saviour, yet I know that You are full of loving-kindness. You chastise with mercy and are fervent in compassion. You see me weeping and run to meet me, like the Father calling back the Prodigal Son.

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

I lie as an outcast before Your gate, O Saviour. In my old age cast me not down empty into hell; but, before the end comes, in Your love grant me remission of sins.

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

I am the man who fell among thieves, even my own thoughts; they have covered all my body with wounds, and I lie beaten and bruised. But come to me, O Christ my Saviour, and heal me.

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

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

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

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of all, take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Your compassion give me tears of compunction.

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

It is time for repentance: to You I come, my Creator. Take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Your compassion give me tears of compunction.

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

Reject me not, O Saviour; cast me not away from Your presence. Take from me the heavy yoke of sin and in Your compassion grant me remission of sins.

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

All my offenses, voluntary and involuntary, manifest and hidden, known and unknown, do You forgive, O Saviour, for You are God; be merciful and save me.

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

From my youth, O Saviour, I have rejected Your commandments. Ruled by the passions, I have passed my whole life in heedlessness and sloth. Therefore I cry to You, O Saviour, even now at the end: Save me.

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

As the Prodigal, O Saviour, I have wasted the substance of my soul in riotous living, and I am barren of the virtues of holiness. In my hunger I cry: O giver of mercy, come quickly out to meet me and take pity on me.

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

I fall down, Jesus, at Your feet: I have sinned against You, be merciful to me. Take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Your compassion, O God, accept me in repentance.

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

Enter not into judgment with me, bringing before me the things I should have done, examining my words and correcting my impulses. But in Your mercy overlook my sins and save me, O Lord almighty.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Grant me the light of grace, from God's providence on high, so that I may flee from the darkness of the passions and sing fervently the joyful tale of your life, O Mary.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Bowing before the divine laws of Christ, you have drawn near to Him, forsaking the unbridled longings of sensual pleasure; and in the fear of God you have gained all the virtues as if they were one.

Holy Father Andrew, pray to God for us.

Through Your intercessions, O Andrew, deliver us from shameful passions and, we pray you, make us now partakers of Christ's Kingdom; for with faith and love we sing Your praises.

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

Trinity beyond all being, worshipped in Unity, take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Your compassion grant me tears of compunction.

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

O Theotokos, the hope and protection of those who sing your praises, take from me the heavy yoke of sin and, pure Lady, accept me in repentance.

Ode Two

Attend, O Heaven, and I shall speak and sing in praise of Christ Who took flesh from a Virgin and came to dwell among us.

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

Attend, O Heaven, and I shall speak; give ear, O earth, to the voice of one who repents before God and sings His praise.

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

Look upon me, God my Saviour, with Your merciful eye, and accept my fervent confession.

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

More than all men I have sinned; I alone have sinned against You. But as God take pity on Your creation, O Saviour.

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

I am surrounded by the storm of sin, O compassionate Lord. But stretch out Your hand to me, as once you have to Peter.

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

I offer to You, O merciful Lord, the tears of the Harlot. Take pity on me, O Saviour, in Your compassion.

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

With the lusts of passion, I have darkened the beauty of my soul, and turned my whole mind entirely into dust.

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

I have torn the first garment that the Creator wove for me in the beginning, and now I lie naked.

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

I have clothed myself in the torn coat that the serpent wove for me by his counsel, and I am ashamed.

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

I looked upon the beauty of the tree and my mind was deceived, and now I lie naked and ashamed.

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

All the ruling passions have ploughed upon my back, making long furrows of wickedness.

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

I have lost the beauty and glory with which I was first created; and now I lie naked and ashamed.

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

Sin has stripped me of the robe that God once wove for me, and it has sewed for me garments of skin.

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

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

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

I am clad in a garment that is defiled and shamefully bloodstained by a life of passion and self-indulgence.

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

I have stained the garment of my flesh, O Saviour, and defiled that which was made in Your image and likeness.

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

I have fallen beneath the painful burden of the passions and the corruption of material things; and I am hard pressed by the enemy.

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

Instead of freedom from possessions, O Saviour, I have pursued a life in love with material things, and now I wear a heavy yoke.

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

I have adorned the idol of my flesh with a many-coloured coat of shameful thoughts, and I am condemned.

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

I have cared only for the outward adornment and neglected that which is within the tabernacle fashioned by God.

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

With my lustful desires I have formed within myself the deformity of the passions and disfigured the beauty of my mind.

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

I have discoloured with the passions the first beauty of the image, O Saviour. But seek me, as once You have sought the lost coin, and find me.

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

Like the Harlot I cry to You: I have sinned, I alone have sinned against You. Accept my tears also as sweet ointment, O Saviour.

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

Like David, I have fallen into lust and I am covered with filth; but wash me clean, O Saviour, by my tears.

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

Like the Publican I cry to You: Be merciful, O Saviour, be merciful to me. For no child of Adam has ever sinned against You as I have sinned.

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

I have no tears, no repentance, no compunction; but as God do You Yourself, O Saviour, bestow them on me.

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

Lord, Lord, at the Last Day shut not Your door against me; but open it to me, for I repent before You.

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

O Lover of mankind, who desires that all men shall be saved, in Your goodness call me back and accept me in repentance.

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

Give ear to the groaning of my soul and accept the tears that fall from my eyes; O Lord, save me.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

O Theotokos undefiled, Virgin alone worthy of all praise, intercede fervently for our salvation.

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

See now, see that I am God, who rained down manna in the days of old, and made springs of water flow from the rock, for my people in the wilderness, by My right hand and by My power alone.

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

‘See now, see that I am God’: give ear, my soul, to the Lord as He cries to you; forsake your former sin, and fear Him as your Judge and God.

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

To whom shall I liken you, O soul of many sins? Alas! To Cain and to Lamech. For you have stoned your body to death with your evil deeds and killed your mind with your disordered longings.

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

Call to mind, my soul, all who lived before the Law. You have not been like Seth, or followed Enos or Enoch, who was translated to Heaven, or Noah; but you are found destitute, without a share in the life of the righteous.

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

You alone, O my soul, have opened the windows of the wrath of your God, and you have flooded, as the earth, all your flesh and deeds and life; and you have remained outside the Ark of salvation.

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

‘I have slain a man to my grief and wounding,’ said Lamech, ‘and a young man to my hurt’; and he cried aloud lamenting. Do you not tremble then, my soul, for you have defiled your flesh and polluted your mind?

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

Ah, how I have emulated Lamech, the murderer of old, slaying my soul as if it were a man, and my mind as if it were a young man. With sensual longings I have killed my body, as Cain the murderer killed his brother.

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

Skillfully have you planned to build a tower, O my soul, and to establish a stronghold for your lusts; but the Creator confounded your designs and dashed your devices to the ground.

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

I am wounded and smitten see the enemy's arrows which have pierced my soul and body. See the wounds, the open sores and the injuries, that cry out to God against the blows inflicted by my freely chosen passions.

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

Roused to anger by their transgressions, the Lord once rained down fire from Heaven and burnt up the men of Sodom. And you, my soul, have kindled the fire of Gehenna, and there to your bitter sorrow you shalt burn.

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

Know and see that I am God, searching out men's hearts and punishing their thoughts, reproving their actions and burning up their sins; and in My judgment I protect the orphan, the humble and the poor.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Sunk in the abyss of wickedness, O Mary, you have lifted up your hands to the merciful God. And, as to Peter, in His loving-kindness He stretched out His hand to you in help, seeking in every way your conversion.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

With all eagerness and love have you run to Christ, turning from your former path of sin, finding your food in the trackless wilderness, and fulfilling in purity the commandments of God.

Holy Father Andrew, pray to God for us.

Let us see, O my soul, let us see the love of our God and Master for mankind; and before the end comes, with tears let us fall down before Him, crying: At the prayers of Andrew, O Saviour, have mercy upon us.

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

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

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

Most pure Lady, Mother of God, hope of those who run to you and the haven of the storm-tossed: pray to the merciful God, your Creator and Your Son, that He may grant His mercy even to me.

Ode Three

Upon the unshaken rock of Your commandments, O Christ, make firm Your Church.

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

The Lord, my soul, once rained down fire from Heaven and consumed the land of Sodom.

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

O my soul, flee like Lot to the mountain, and take refuge in Zoar before it is too late.

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

Flee from the flames, my soul, flee from the burning heat of Sodom, flee from destruction by the fire of God.

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

I confess to You, O Saviour: I have sinned, I have sinned against You. But in Your compassion absolve and forgive me.

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

I alone have sinned against You, I have sinned more than all men; reject me not, O Christ my Saviour.

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

You are the Good Shepherd: seek me, the lamb that has strayed, and do not forget me.

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

You are my beloved Jesus, You are my Creator; in You shall I be justified, O Saviour.

God the Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

O God, Trinity in Unity, save us from error and temptation and distress.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Hail, Womb that held God! Hail, throne of the Lord! Hail, Mother of our Life!

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

O Lord, upon the rock of Your commandments make firm my wavering heart, for You alone are holy and Lord.

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

For me You are the Fountain of life and the Destroyer of death; and from my heart I cry to You before the end: I have sinned, be merciful to me and save me.

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

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

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

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned against You; be merciful to me. For there is no sinner whom I have not surpassed in my offenses.

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

O my soul, you have followed Ham, who mocked his father. You have not covered your neighbor's shame, walking backwards with averted face.

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

O wretched soul, you have not inherited the blessing of Shem, nor have you received, like Japhet, a spacious domain in the land of forgiveness.

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

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

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

You have heard, my soul, how Abraham in days of old left the land of his fathers and became a wanderer: follow him in his choice.

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

At the oak of Mamre the Patriarch gave hospitality to the angels, and in his old age he inherited the reward of the promise.

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

You know, O my miserable soul, how Isaac was offered mystically as a new and unwonted sacrifice to the Lord: follow him in his choice.

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

You have heard O my soul, be watchful how Ishmael was driven out as the child of a bondwoman. Take heed, lest the same thing happen to you because of your lust.

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

O my soul, you have become like Hagar the Egyptian: your free choice has been enslaved, and you have borne as your child a new Ishmael, stubborn willfulness.

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

You know, my soul, the ladder that was shown to Jacob, reaching up from earth to Heaven. Why have you not provided a firm foundation for it through your godly actions?

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

Follow the example of Melchizedek, the priest of God, the king set apart, who was an image of the life of Christ among men in the world.

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

Turn back, wretched soul, and lament, before the fair-ground of life comes to an end, before the Lord shuts the door of the bridal chamber.

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

Do not look back, my soul, and so be turned into a pillar of salt. Fear the example of the people of Sodom and take refuge in Zoar.

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

Flee, my soul, like Lot from the burning of sin; flee from Sodom and Gomorrah; flee from the flame of every brutish desire.

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

Have mercy, O Lord, have mercy on me, I cry to You, when You come with Your angels to give to every man due return for his deeds.

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

Reject not, O Master, the prayer of those who sing Your praises, but in Your loving-kindness be merciful and grant forgiveness to them that ask with faith.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

I am held fast, O Mother, by the tempest and billows of sin: but do you keep me safe and lead me to the haven of divine repentance.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

O holy Mary, offer your prayer of supplication to the compassionate Theotokos, and through your intercessions open unto me the door that leads to God.

Holy Father Andrew, pray to God for us.

Through your prayers grant even to me forgiveness of trespasses, O Andrew, Bishop of Crete, best of guides, leading us to the mysteries of repentance.

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

O simple Unity praised in Trinity of Persons, uncreated Nature without beginning, save us who in faith worship Your power.

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

O Mother of God, without knowing man you have given birth within time to the Son, who was begotten outside time from the Father; and strange wonder! you give suck while still remaining Virgin.

Ode Four

The prophet heard of Your coming, O Lord, and he was afraid: how was to be born of a Virgin and revealed to men and he said: I have heard the report of You and I was afraid. Glory to Your power, O Lord.

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

O righteous Judge despise not Your works; forsake not Your creation. I have sinned as a man, I alone, more than any other man, O You Who loves mankind. But as Lord of all You have the power to pardon sins.

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

The end draws near, my soul, the end draws near; yet you do not care or make ready. The time grows short, rise up: The Judge is at the door. The days of our life pass swiftly, as a dream, as a flower. Why do we trouble ourselves in vain?

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

Awake, my soul, consider the actions which you have done; set them before your eyes, and let the drops of your tears fall. With boldness tell Christ of your deeds and thoughts, and so be justified.

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

No sin has there been in life, no evil deed, no wickedness, that I have not committed, O Saviour. I have sinned as no one ever before, in mind, word and intent, in disposition, thought and act.

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

For this I am condemned in my misery, for this I am convicted by the verdict of my own conscience, which is more compelling than all else in the world. O my Judge and Redeemer, Who knows my heart, spare and deliver and save me in my wretchedness.

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

The ladder which the great Patriarch Jacob saw of old is an example, O my soul, of approach through action and of ascent in knowledge. If then you do wish to live rightly in action and knowledge and contemplation, be you made new.

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

In privation Jacob the Patriarch endured the burning heat by day and the frost by night, making daily gains of sheep and cattle, shepherding, wrestling, and serving, to win his two wives.

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

By the two wives, understand action and knowledge in contemplation. Leah is action, for she had many children; and Rachel is knowledge, for she endured great toil. For without toil, O my soul, neither action nor contemplation will succeed.

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

Be watchful, O my soul, be full of courage like Jacob the great Patriarch, that you may acquire action with knowledge, and be named Israel, 'the mind that sees God'; so shalt you reach by contemplation the innermost darkness and gain great merchandise.

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

The great Patriarch had the twelve Patriarchs as children, and so he mystically established for you, my soul, a ladder of ascent through action, in his wisdom setting his children as steps, by which you can mount upwards.

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

You have rivaled Esau the hated, O my soul, and given the birthright of your first beauty to the supplanter; you have lost your father's blessing and in your wretchedness been twice supplanted, in action and in knowledge. Therefore, repent now.

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

Esau was called Edom because of his raging love for women; burning always with unrestrained desires and stained with sensual pleasure, he was named 'Edom', which means the red heat of a soul that loves sin.

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

You have heard, O my soul, of Job justified on a dung-hill, but you have not imitated his fortitude. In all your experiences and trials and temptations, you have not kept firmly to your purpose but have proved inconstant.

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

Once he sat upon a throne, but now he sits upon a dung-hill, naked and covered with sores. Once he was blessed with many children and admired by all, but suddenly he is childless and homeless. Yet he counted the dung-hill as a palace and his sores as pearls.

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

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

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

If he who was righteous and blameless above all men did not escape the snares and pits of the deceiver, what will you do, wretched and sin-loving soul, when some sudden misfortune befalls you?

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

I have defiled my body, I have stained my spirit, and I am all covered with wounds: but as physician, Christ, heal both body and spirit for me through repentance. Wash, purify, and cleanse me, O my Saviour, and make me whiter than snow.

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

Your Body and Your Blood, O Word, You have offered at Your Crucifixion for the sake of all: Your Body to refashion me, Your Blood to wash me clean; and You have given up Your spirit, O Christ, to bring me to Your Father.

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

O Creator, You have worked salvation in the midst of the earth, that we might be saved. You were crucified of Your own will upon the Tree; and Eden, closed until then, was opened. Things above and things below, the creation and all the peoples have been saved and worship You.

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

May the Blood from Your side be to me a cleansing fount and may the Water that flows with it be a drink of forgiveness. May I be purified by both, O Word, anointed and refreshed, having as chrism and drink Your words of life.

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

I am deprived of the bridal chamber, of the wedding and the supper; for want of oil my lamp has gone out; while I slept the door was closed; the supper has been eaten; I am bound hand and foot and cast out.

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

As a chalice, O my Saviour, the Church has been granted Your life-giving side, from which there flows down to us a twofold stream of forgiveness and knowledge, representing the two Covenants, the Old and the New.

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

The time of my life is short, filled with trouble and evil. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do You, O Saviour, take pity on me.

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

Now I speak boastfully, with boldness of heart; yet all to no purpose and in vain. O righteous Judge, Who alone are compassionate, do not condemn me with the Pharisee; but grant me the abasement of the Publican and number me with him.

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

I know, O compassionate Lord, that I have sinned and violated the vessel of my flesh. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do You, O Saviour, take pity on me.

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

I have become my own idol, utterly defiling my soul with the passions. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do You, O Saviour, take pity on me.

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

I have not hearkened to Your voice, I have not heeded Your Scripture, O Giver of the Law. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do You, O Saviour, take pity on me.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

You have lived a bodiless life in the body, O holy Mary, and you have received great grace from God. Protect us who honor you with faith and, we entreat you, deliver us by your prayers from every trial.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

You were brought down into an abyss of great iniquity, yet not held fast within it: but with better intent you have mounted through action to the height of virtue, past all expectation: and the angels, O Mary, were amazed at you.

Holy Father Andrew, pray to God for us.

O Andrew, renowned among the fathers, glory of Crete, as you stand before the Trinity supreme in Godhead, in your prayers do not forget to ask that we may be delivered from torment; for we call upon you with love as our advocate in Heaven.

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

Undivided in Essence, unconfused in Persons, I confess You as God: Triune Deity, one in kingship and throne; and to You I raise the great thrice-holy hymn that is sung on high.

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

You give birth and are a virgin, and in both you remain by nature inviolate. He Who is born makes new the laws of nature, and the womb brings forth without travail. When God so wills, the natural order is overcome; for He does whatever He wishes.

Ode Five

From the night I seek You early, O Lover of mankind; give me light, I pray You, and guide me in Your commandments, and teach me, O Saviour, to do Your will.

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

In night have I passed all my life: for the night of sin has covered me with darkness and thick mist. But make me, O Saviour, a son of the day.

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

In my misery I have followed Reuben's example, and have devised a wicked and unlawful plan against the most-high God, defiling my bed as he defiled his father's.

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

I confess to You, O Christ my King: I have sinned; I have sinned like the brethren of Joseph, who once sold the fruit of purity and chastity.

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

As a figure of the Lord, O my soul, the righteous and gentle Joseph was sold into bondage by his brethren; but you have sold yourself entirely to your sins.

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

O miserable and wicked soul imitate the righteous and pure mind of Joseph; and do not live in wantonness, sinfully indulging your disordered desires.

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

Once Joseph was cast into a pit, O Lord and Master, as a figure of Your Burial and Resurrection. But what offering such as this shall I ever make to You?

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

You have heard, my soul, of the basket of Moses: how he was borne on the waves of the river as if in a shrine; and so, he avoided the bitter execution of Pharaoh's decree.

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

You have heard, wretched soul, of the midwives who once killed in its infancy the manly action of self-control: like great Moses, then, be suckled on wisdom.

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

O miserable soul, you have not struck and killed the Egyptian mind, as did Moses the great. Tell me, then, how will you go to dwell through repentance in the wilderness empty of passions?

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

Moses the great went to dwell in the desert. Come, seek to follow his way of life, my soul, that in contemplation you may attain the vision of God in the bush.

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

Picture to yourself, my soul, the rod of Moses striking the sea and making hard the deep by the sign of the Holy Cross. Through the Cross you also can do great things.

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

Aaron offered to God fire that was blameless and undefiled, but Hophni and Phinehas brought to Him, as you have done, my soul, strange fire and a polluted life.

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

In my soul and body, O Lord, I have become like Jannes and Jambres, the magicians of cruel Pharaoh; my will is heavy, and my mind is drowned beneath the waters. But do You come to my aid.

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

Woe is me! I have defiled my mind with filth. But I pray to You, O Master: wash me clean in the waters of my tears and make the garment of my flesh white as snow.

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

When I examine my actions, O Saviour, I see that I have gone beyond all men in sin; for I knew and understood what I did; I was not sinning in ignorance.

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

Spare, O spare the work of Your hands, O Lord. I have sinned, forgive me: for You alone are pure by nature, and none save You is free from defilement.

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

You who are God, O Saviour, was for my sake fashioned as I am. You have performed miracles, healing lepers, giving strength to the paralyzed, stopping the issue of blood when the woman touched the hem of Your garment.

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

O wretched soul do as the woman with an issue of blood: run quickly, grasp the hem of the garment of Christ, so shall you be healed of your afflictions and hear Him say: Your faith has saved you.

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

O my soul, do as the woman who was bowed down to the ground. Fall at the feet of Jesus, that He may make you straight again; and you shall walk upright upon the paths of the Lord.

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

You are a deep well, O Master: make springs gush forth for me from Your pure veins, that like the woman of Samaria I may drink and thirst no more; for from You flow the streams of life.

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

O Master and Lord may my tears be unto me as Siloam: that I also may wash clean the eyes of my heart, and with my mind behold You, the pre-eternal Light.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

O blessed saint, with a love beyond compare you have longed to venerate the wood of the Cross, and your desire was granted. Make me also worthy to attain the glory on high.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Crossing the stream of the Jordan, you have found peace, escaping from the deadening pleasures of the flesh. Deliver us also from them, holy Mary, by your intercessions.

Holy Father Andrew, pray to God for us.

Best of shepherds, chosen above all others, O wise Andrew, with great love and fear I beseech you: through your intercessions may I receive salvation and eternal life.

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

We glorify You, O Trinity, the one God. Holy, holy, holy, are You: Father, Son, and Spirit, simple Essence and Unity, worshipped forever.

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

O Virgin inviolate and Mother who has not known man, from you has God, the Creator of the ages, taken human flesh, uniting to Himself the nature of men.

Ode Six

With my whole heart I cried to the all-compassionate God: and He heard me from the lowest depths of hell and brought my life out of corruption.

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

I offer to You in purity, O Saviour, the tears of my eyes and groanings from the depths of my heart, crying: 'I have sinned against You, O God; be merciful to me.'

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

Like Dathan and Abiram, O my soul, you have become a stranger to your Lord; but from the lowest depth of hell cry out, 'Spare me', that the earth may not open and swallow you up.

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

Raging as a maddened heifer, O my soul, you are become like Ephraim. As a hart from the nets rescue then your life, gaining wings through action and the mind's contemplation.

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

O my soul, the hand of Moses shall be our assurance, proving how God can cleanse a life full of leprosy and make it white as snow. So do not despair of yourself, though you are leprous.

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

The waves of my sins, O Saviour, have returned and suddenly engulfed me, as the waters of the Red Sea engulfed the Egyptians of old and their charioteers.

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

Like Israel before you, you have made a foolish choice, my soul; instead of the divine manna you have senselessly preferred the pleasure-loving gluttony of the passions.

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

The swine's meat, the flesh-pots and the food of Egypt you have preferred, my soul, to the food of Heaven, as the ungrateful people did of old in the wilderness.

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

O my soul, you have valued the wells of Canaanite thoughts more than the veined Rock, Jesus, the Fountain of Wisdom from which flow the rivers of divine knowledge.

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

When Your servant Moses struck the rock with his rod, he prefigured Your life-giving side, O Saviour, from which we all draw the water of life.

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

Like Joshua, the son of Nun, search and spy out, my soul, the land of your inheritance and take up your dwelling within it, through obedience to the Law.

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

Rise up and make war upon the passions of the flesh, as Joshua against Amalek, ever gaining the victory over the Gibeonites, your deceitful thoughts.

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

O my soul, pass through the flowing waters of time like the Ark of old, and take possession of the land of promise: for God commands you.

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

As You have saved Peter when he cried out, 'Save me', come quickly, O Saviour, before it is too late, and save me from the beast. Stretch out Your hand and lead me up from the deep of sin.

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

I know You as a calm haven, O Lord, Lord Christ: come quickly, before it is too late, and deliver me from the lowest depths of sin and despair.

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

O Saviour, I am the coin marked with the King's likeness, which You have lost of old. But, O Word, light Your lamp, Your Forerunner, and seek and find again Your image.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Your soul on fire, O Mary, you have ever shed streams of tears, to quench the burning of the passions. Grant the grace of these your tears to me also, your servant.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Through the perfection of your earthly life, O Mother, you have gained a heavenly freedom from the sinfulness of passion. In your intercessions pray that this same freedom may be given to those who sing your praises.

Holy Father Andrew, pray to God for us.

Shepherd and bishop of Crete, intercessor for the inhabited earth, to you I run, O Andrew, and I cry: Deliver me, father, from the depths of sin.

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

'I am the Trinity, simple and undivided, yet divided in Persons, and I am the Unity by Nature one', says the Father and the Son and the divine Spirit.

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

Your womb bore God for us, fashioned in our shape. O Theotokos, pray to Him as the Creator of all, that we may be justified through your intercessions.

Kontakion of The Great Canon (Tone Six)

My soul, O my soul, rise up! Why are you sleeping? The end draws near and soon you shall be troubled. Watch, then, that Christ your God may spare you, for He is everywhere present and fills all things.

Ode Seven

We have sinned, we have transgressed, we have done evil in Your sight; we have not kept or followed Your commandments. But reject us not utterly, O God of our fathers.

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

I have sinned, I have offended, and I have set aside Your commandments, for in sins have I progressed, and to my sores I have added wounds. But in Your compassion have mercy upon me, O God of our fathers.

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

The secrets of my heart have I confessed to You, my Judge. See my abasement, see my affliction, and attend to my judgment now; and in Your compassion have mercy upon me, O God of our fathers.

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

When Saul once lost his father's donkeys, in searching for them he found himself proclaimed as king. But watch, my soul, let unknown to yourself you prefer your animal appetites to the Kingdom of Christ.

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

David, the forefather of God, once sinned doubly, pierced with the arrow of adultery and the spear of murder. But you, my soul, are more gravely sick than he, for worse than any acts are the impulses of your will.

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

David once joined sin to sin, adding murder to fornication; yet then he showed at once a twofold repentance. But you, my soul, have done worse things than he, yet you have not repented before God.

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

David once composed a hymn, setting forth, as in an icon, the action he had done; and he condemned it, crying: 'Have mercy upon me, for against You only have I sinned, O God of all. Do You cleanse me.'

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

When the Ark was being carried in a cart and the ox stumbled, Uzzah did no more than touch it, but the wrath of God smote him. O my soul, flee from his presumption and respect with reverence the things of God.

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

You have heard of Absalom, and how he rebelled against nature; you know of the unholy deeds by which he defiled his father David's bed. Yet you have followed him in his passionate and sensual desires.

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

Your free dignity, O my soul, you have subjected to your body; for you have found in the enemy another Ahitophel and have agreed to all his counsels. But Christ Himself has brought them to nothing and saved you from them all.

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

Solomon the wonderful, who was full of the grace of wisdom, once did evil in the sight of Heaven and turned away from God. You have become like him, my soul, by your accursed life.

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

Carried away by sensual passions, he defiled himself. Alas! The lover of wisdom became a lover of harlots and a stranger to God. And you, my soul, in mind have imitated him through your shameful desires.

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

O my soul, you have rivaled Rehoboam, who paid no attention to his father's counselors, and Jeroboam, that evil servant and renegade of old. But flee from their example and cry to God: I have sinned, take pity on me.

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

Alas, my soul! You have rivaled Ahab in guilt. You have become a dwelling-place of fleshly defilements and a shameful vessel of the passions. But groan from the depths of your heart and confess your sins to God.

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

Elijah once destroyed with fire twice fifty of Jezebel's servants, and he slew the prophets of shame, as a rebuke to Ahab. But flee from the example of both of them, my soul, and be strong.

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

Heaven is closed to you, my soul, and a famine from God has seized you: for you have been disobedient, as Ahab was to the words of Elijah the Tishbite. But imitate the widow of Zarephath and feed the Prophet's soul.

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

By deliberate choice, my soul, you have incurred the guilt of Manasseh, setting up the passions as idols and multiplying abominations. But with fervent heart emulate his repentance and acquire compunction.

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

I fall before You, and as tears I offer You my words. I have sinned as the Harlot never sinned, and I have transgressed as no other man on earth. But take pity on Your creature, O Master, and call me back.

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

I have discolored Your image and broken Your commandments. All my beauty is destroyed, and my lamp is quenched by the passions, O Saviour. 'But take pity on me,' as David sings, and 'restore to me Your joy.'

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

Turn back, repent, uncover all that you have hidden. Say unto God, to whom all things are known: You alone know my secret, O Saviour; 'have mercy on me', as David sings, 'according to Your mercy.'

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

My days have vanished as a dream of one awaking; and so, like Hezekiah, I weep upon my bed, that years may be added to my life. But what Isaiah will come to me, O my soul, except the God of all?

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Raising your cry to the pure Mother of God, you have driven back the fury of the passions that violently assailed you and put to shame the enemy who sought to make you stumble. But give your help in trouble now to me also, your servant.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

He Whom you have loved, O mother, whom you have desired, in Whose footsteps you have followed; He it was Who found you and gave you repentance, for He is God compassionate. Pray, O Mary, to Him without ceasing, that we may be delivered from passions and distress.

Holy Father Andrew, pray to God for us.

Set me firmly on the rock of faith, O father, through your intercessions; fence me round with fear of God, O Andrew; grant repentance to me now, I beseech you, and deliver me from the snare of the enemies that seek my life.

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

O simple and undivided Trinity, O holy and consubstantial Unity: You are praised as Light and Lights, one Holy and three Holies. Sing, O my soul, and glorify Life and Lives, the God of all.

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

We praise you, we bless you, we venerate you, O Mother of God: for you have given birth to One of the undivided Trinity, your Son and God, and you have opened the heavenly places to us on earth.

Ode Eight

The hosts of Heaven give Him glory: before Him tremble the cherubim and seraphim; let everything that has breath and all creation praise Him, bless Him and exalt Him above all forever.

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

I have sinned, O Saviour, have mercy on me. Awaken my mind and turn me back; accept me in repentance and take pity on me as I cry: I have sinned against You, save me; I have done evil, have mercy on me.

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

Riding in the chariot of the virtues, Elijah was lifted up to Heaven, high above earthly things. Reflect, O my soul, on his ascent.

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

With the mantle of Elijah, Elisha made the stream of Jordan stand still on either side: but in this grace, my soul, you have no share, by reason of your greed and uncontrolled desires.

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

Elisha once took up the mantle of Elijah and received a double portion of grace from the Lord: but in this grace, my soul, you have no share, by reason of your greed and uncontrolled desires.

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

The Shunammite woman gladly entertained the righteous Prophet: but in your house, my soul, you have not welcomed stranger or traveler; and so you shall be cast out weeping from the bridal chamber.

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

O wretched soul, always you have imitated the unclean thoughts of Gehazi. Cast from you, at least in your old age, his love of money. Flee from the fire of hell, turning away from your wickedness.

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

You have followed Uzziah, my soul, and have his leprosy in double form: for your thoughts are wicked, and your acts unlawful. Leave what you have and hasten to repentance.

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

O my soul, you have heard how the men of Nineveh repented before God in sackcloth and ashes. Yet you have not followed them but are more wicked than all who sinned before the Law and after.

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

You have heard, my soul, how Jeremiah in the muddy pit cried out with lamentations for the city of Zion and asked to be given tears. Follow his life of lamentation and be saved.

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

Jonah fled to Tarshish, foreseeing the conversion of the men of Nineveh; for as a prophet he knew the loving-kindness of God, but he was jealous that his prophecy should not be proved false.

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

My soul, you have heard how Daniel stopped the mouths of the wild beasts in the lions' den; and you know how the Children with Azarias quenched through their faith the flames of the fiery furnace.

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

All the names of the Old Testament have I set before you, my soul, as an example. Imitate the holy acts of the righteous and flee from the sins of the wicked.

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

O righteous Judge and Saviour, have mercy on me and deliver me from the fire that threatens me and from the punishment that I deserve to suffer at the Judgment. Before the end comes, grant me remission through virtue and repentance.

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

Like the Thief I cry to You: 'Remember me'; like Peter I weep bitterly; like the Publican I call out: 'Forgive me, Saviour'; like the Harlot I shed tears. Accept my lamentation, as once You have accepted the entreaties of the woman of Canaan.

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

O Saviour, heal the putrefaction of my humbled soul, for You are the one Physician; apply plaster and pour in oil and wine – works of repentance and compunction with tears.

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

Like the woman of Canaan, I cry to You, 'Have mercy on me, Son of David.' Like the woman with an issue of blood, I touch the hem of Your garment. I weep as Martha and Mary wept for Lazarus.

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

As precious ointment, O Saviour, I empty on Your head the alabaster box of my tears. Like the Harlot, I cry out to You, seeking Your mercy: I bring my prayer and ask to receive forgiveness.

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

No one has sinned against You as I have; yet accept even me, compassionate Saviour, for I repent in fear and cry with longing: Against You alone have I sinned; I have transgressed, have mercy on me.

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

Spare the work of Your own hands, O Saviour, and as shepherd seek the lost sheep that has gone astray. Snatch me from the wolf and make me a nursling in the pasture of Your own flock.

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

When You sit upon Your throne, O merciful Judge, and reveal Your dread glory, O Christ, what fear there will be then! When the furnace burns with fire, and all shrink back in terror before Your judgment's seat.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

The Mother of the Light that never sets illumined you and freed you from the darkness of the passions. O Mary, who have received the grace of the Spirit, give light to those who praise you with faith.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

The holy Zosimas was struck with amazement, O Mother, beholding in you a wonder truly strange and new. For he saw an angel in the body and was filled with astonishment, praising Christ unto all ages.

Holy Father Andrew, pray to God for us.

Since you have boldness before the Lord, O Andrew, honored renown of Crete, I beseech you, intercede that I may find deliverance from the bonds of iniquity through your prayers, O teacher, glory of holy monks.

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

Father without beginning, coeternal Son, and loving Comforter, the Spirit of righteousness; Begetter of the Word of God, Word of the eternal Father, Spirit living and creative: O Trinity in Unity, have mercy on me.

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

As from purple silk, O undefiled Virgin, the spiritual robe of Emmanuel, His flesh, was woven in your womb. Therefore, we honor you as Theotokos in very truth.

Ode Nine

Conception without seed; nativity past understanding, from a Mother who never knew a man; child-bearing undefiled. For the birth of God makes both natures new. Therefore, as Bride and Mother of God, with true worship all generations magnify you.

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

My mind is wounded, my body has grown feeble, my spirit is sick, my speech has lost its power, my life is dead; the end is at the door. What shalt you do, then, miserable soul, when the Judge comes to examine your deeds?

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

I have put before you, my soul, Moses' account of the creation of the world, and after that all the recognized Scriptures that tell you the story of the righteous and the wicked. But you, my soul, have followed the second of these, not the first, and have sinned against God.

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

The Law is powerless, the Gospel of no effect, and the whole of Scripture is ignored by you; the prophets and all the words of the righteous are useless. Your wounds, my soul, have been multiplied, and there is no physician to heal you.

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

I bring you, O my soul, examples from the New Testament, to lead you to compunction. Follow the example of the righteous, turn away from the sinful, and through prayers and fasting, through chastity and reverence, win back Christ's mercy.

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

Christ became a child and shared in my flesh; and willingly He performed all that belongs to my nature, only without sin. He set before you, my soul, an example and image of His condescension.

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

Christ became man, calling to repentance thieves and harlots. Repent, my soul: the door of the Kingdom is already open, and Pharisees and publicans and adulterers pass through it before you, changing their life.

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

Christ saved the Wise Men and called the Shepherds; He revealed as martyrs a multitude of young children; He glorified the Elder and the aged Widow. But you, my soul, have not followed their lives and actions. Woe to you when you are judged!

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

The Lord fasted forty days in the wilderness, and at the end of them He was hungry, thus showing that He is man. Do not be dismayed, my soul! If the enemy attacks you, through prayer and fasting drive him away.

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

Christ was being tempted; the devil tempted Him, showing Him the stones that they might be made bread. He led Him up into a mountain, to see in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. O my soul, look with fear on what happened; watch and pray every hour to God.

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

The Dove Who loved the wilderness, the Lamp of Christ, the voice of one crying aloud, was heard preaching repentance; but Herod sinned with Herodias. O my soul, see that you are not trapped in the snares of the lawless, but embrace repentance.

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

The Forerunner of Grace went to dwell in the wilderness, and Judea and all Samaria ran to hear him; they confessed their sins and were baptized eagerly. But you, my soul, have not imitated them.

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

Marriage is honorable, and the marriage-bed undefiled. For on both Christ has given His blessing, eating in the flesh at the wedding in Cana, turning the water into wine and revealing His first miracle, to bring you, my soul, to a change of life.

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

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

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

By the touch of the hem of His garment, the Lord healed the woman with an issue of blood; He cleansed lepers and gave sight to the blind and made the lame walk upright; He cured by His word the deaf and the dumb and the woman bowed to the ground, to bring you, wretched soul, to salvation.

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

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

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

The Publican was saved, and the Harlot turned to chastity, but the Pharisee with his boasting was condemned. For the first cried 'Be merciful', and the second, 'have mercy on me'; but the third said, boasting, 'I thank You, O God', and other words of madness.

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

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

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

O wretched soul, you have not acted like the Harlot, who took the alabaster box of precious ointment, and anointed with tears and wiped with her hair the feet of the Lord. And He tore in pieces the record of her previous sins.

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

You know, O my soul, how the cities were cursed to which Christ preached the Gospel. Fear their example, lest you suffer the same punishment. For the Master likened them to Sodom and condemned them to hell.

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

Be not overcome by despair, my soul; for you have heard of the faith of the woman of Canaan, and how through it her daughter was healed by the word of God. Cry out from the depth of your heart, 'Save me also, Son of David', as she once cried to Christ.

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

O Son of David, with Your Word You have healed the possessed: take pity on me, save me and have mercy. Let me hear Your compassionate voice speak to me as to the thief: 'Verily, I say unto you, you shall be with Me in Paradise, when I come in My glory.'

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

A thief accused You, a thief confessed Your Godhead: for both were hanging beside You on the Cross. Open to me also, O Lord of many mercies, the door of Your Glorious Kingdom, as once it was opened to Your thief who acknowledged You with faith as God.

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

The creation was in anguish, seeing You crucified. Mountains and rocks were split from fear, the earth quaked, and hell was despoiled; the light grew dark in the daytime, beholding You, O Jesus, nailed in the flesh.

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

Do not demand from me worthy fruits of repentance, for my strength has failed within me. Give me an ever-contrite heart and poverty of spirit, that I may offer these to You as an acceptable sacrifice, O only Saviour.

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

O my Judge who do know me, when You come again with the angels to judge the whole world, look upon me then with Your eye of mercy and spare me; take pity on me, Jesus, for I have sinned more than any other man.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

By your strange way of life, you have struck all with wonder, both the hosts of angels and the gatherings of mortal men; for you have surpassed nature and lived as though no longer in the body. Like a bodiless angel you have walked upon the Jordan with your feet, O Mary, and crossed over it.

Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

O holy Mother call down the gracious mercy of the Creator upon us who sing your praises, that we may be set free from the sufferings and afflictions that assail us; so without ceasing, delivered from temptations, we shall magnify the Lord who has glorified You.

Holy Father Andrew, pray to God for us.

Venerable Andrew, father thrice-blessed, shepherd of Crete, cease not to offer prayer for us who sing your praises; that we may be delivered from all danger and distress, from corruption and sin, who honor your memory with faith.

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

Trinity in one Essence, Unity in three Persons, we sing Your praises; we glorify the Father, we magnify the Son, we worship the Holy Spirit, truly one God by nature, Life and Lives, Kingdom without end.

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

Watch over Your city, all-pure Mother of God. For by you she reigns in faith, by you she is made strong; by you she is victorious, putting to flight every temptation, despoiling the enemy and ruling her subjects.

Irmos of the Ninth Ode (Tone Six)

Conception without seed; nativity past understanding, from a Mother who never knew a man; child-bearing undefiled. For the birth of God makes both natures new. Therefore, as Bride and Mother of God, with true worship all generations magnify you.

Continuing Small Compline
The Trisagion Prayers

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

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

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

People: Amen.

Kontakion Of The Great Canon

My soul, O my soul, rise up! Why are you sleeping? The end draws near and soon you shall be troubled. Watch, then, that Christ your God may spare you, for He is everywhere present and fills all things.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x40)

People: Have mercy on us and save us, O only begotten Son of God:

At all times and at every hour, You are worshipped and glorified in heaven and on earth, O Christ our God, long-suffering and most merciful and compassionate. You love the righteous and have mercy on sinners, calling all to salvation through the promise of good things to come. At this very hour receive our prayers, O Lord, and guide our life toward Your

commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our intentions, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil and pain. Surround us with Your Holy Angels, so that, guided and guarded by Your Heavenly Host, we may attain to the unity of the faith, and to the knowledge of Your unapproachable glory. For You are blessed to the ages of ages. Amen.

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.

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

In the name of the Lord, holy father give the blessing.

Priest: May God be merciful to us, and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us, and be merciful to us.

People: Amen

The Prayer of St. Ephraim The Syrian

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

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

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

The 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.

Lord, have mercy. (x12)

Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Prayer of Supplication to the Most Holy Theotokos

(Usually read in front of the icon of the Theotokos at the Iconostasis)

O all-pure, undefiled, incorrupt, all-chaste, all-blessed Lady, blameless Bride of God, who by your most glorious birth-giving, united the Word of God with man and linked our fallen nature with the heavenly. You are alone the hope of the hopeless, the helper of those attacked, the speedy defender of those who flee to you, and the refuge of all Christians. Do not despise me, I a sinner who is defiled by evil thoughts, words and deeds, and who became slave of life's pleasures. But being Mother of God, the lover of mankind, have mercy in compassion on me, your sinful and prodigal servant.

Accept this prayer which I offer to you from my impure lips, and exercising your maternal favour with your Son, our Lord and Master, intercede with Him to open to me the wings of His love of mankind, His loving-kindness, and bounty.

Beseech Him to disregard my countless transgressions and to lead me back to true repentance, and to make me a keeper and a faithful doer of His commandments. And as you are gracious, compassionate, and tender-hearted, be ever present with me in this life as my Mediatrix and helper, to repel the assaults of my adversaries and to guide me to salvation, and at the hour of departure of my wretched soul, care for me and drive from it the dark form of evils; and in the dreadful Judgment Day deliver me from everlasting punishments and torments, revealing me as an heir of the unspeakable glory of your Son and our God.

All which I shall obtain, O holy Mother of God, my Lady, through your mediation and intercession. By the grace and compassion of your only begotten Son, our Lord God, and, Saviour Jesus Christ, to whom belong with His eternal Father, and the all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit all honour, glory and worship now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

A prayer to our Lord Jesus Christ

(Usually read in front of the icon of Christ at the Iconostasis)

And now as we lay down to sleep, O Master, grant us repose both of body and soul, and preserve us from the dark sleep of sin and from the sensuous pleasure of the dark passions of the night. Still the assaults of passions; quench the fiery darts of evil which are craftily directed against us; calm the commotions of our flesh and put away all earthly and material thoughts as we sleep. And grant us, O God, a watchful mind, pure thoughts, a sober heart, and a gentle sleep, free from all the fantasies of Satan. Raise us up again at the hour of prayer, strengthened in your commandments, and holding steadfast within ourselves the remembrance of Your judgments. Give us the words of Your glorification, all night long, that we may praise, bless, and glorify Your most honourable and magnificent Name, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

O most glorious, ever-virgin and blessed Mother of God, entrust our prayer to your Son, our God, and implore Him to save our souls through you.

The Father is my hope; the Son is my refuge; the Holy Spirit is my shelter. O Holy Trinity, glory to You.

All my hope I place in you, O Theotokos keep me under the wings of your care.

The Dismissal

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

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

Lord, have mercy (x3)

In the name of the Lord, holy father give the blessing.

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of Saint (*Name*), the patron and protector of this holy community; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of our righteous Father St Andrew, Bishop of Crete, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

People: Amen.

Priest: Forgive me brothers and sisters, I am a sinner

People: May God forgive you, holy Father and forgive us.

Ektenia

*The priest recites the following Ektenia, the people respond to each petition with: **Lord, have mercy***

Let us pray for the peace of the world.

For pious and Orthodox Christians.

For our Father Metropolitan (*Name*), and all our brethren in Christ.

For those who govern this country and our armed forces, that they may govern and serve in righteousness.

For our absent fathers and brethren.

For those who hate us, and those who love us.

For those who are kind to us and those who serve us.

For those who have asked us to pray for them, although we are unworthy.

For the deliverance of captives and their salvation.

For those who travel by sea, by land, and by air.

For those who lie in sick.

Let us pray also for abundance of the fruits of the earth.

For the founders of this Holy Church, and our parents, teachers, and all our fathers gone before us, the Orthodox, who here and everywhere lie asleep in the Lord, let us say for them

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

And have mercy on us and save us for You are a good God and love mankind.

Theotokion in Tone Two

Joy of all that sorrow are you, and of the oppressed a protectress, and nurture of all the poor, comfort unto the estranged, a staff are you of the blind, visitation of all the sick, a shelter and succor unto those brought down by pain, helper of the orphaned ones: Theotokos in the highest are you, O immaculate Maiden; hasten, we beseech you, to redeem your servants.

The Synaxarion (Plain Reading)

On this day, which is the fifth Thursday of the Great Fast, we sing, according to the ancient tradition, the order of the Great Canon of Repentance.

Verses: Verily, Jesus, will I now sing unto You the Great Canon; Grant You me tears of contrition and awe.

This reverential and compunctionate canon is “great” not only because of the large number of Troparia, but because of the mystical thoughts, insights and pious references it contains. Andrew, bishop of Crete, composed the Great Canon of Repentance in the seventh century. He artistically included the entire history of the Old and New Testaments into one sacred song in order to urge all souls to perform good deeds and to shun evil ones, thus returning to God through repentance.

By the intercessions of Saint Andrew of Crete, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Apolytikion St. Andrew of Crete in Tone Eight

Guide of Orthodoxy, teacher of piety and holiness, luminary of the world, God-inspired adornment of hierarchs, O wise Andrew of Crete, by your teachings you have enlightened all, O harp of the Spirit. Intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

People: Amen.

