

**COPTIC ORTHODOX PATRIARCHATE**

# **THE AGPEYA**

**(THE BOOK OF THE HOURS)**

**TRANSLATED FROM THE COPTIC**

**SAINT MARY'S COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH  
KITCHENER, ONTARIO, CANADA  
[www.stmaryscopticorthodox.ca](http://www.stmaryscopticorthodox.ca)**



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## **INTRODUCTORY PRAYERS**

In the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, One God. Amen.

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord bless. Amen.

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

Make us worthy to say thankfully,

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your Kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Our bread of the morrow, give us today, 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; in Christ Jesus our Lord. For Yours is the

Kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## **THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Let us give thanks to the beneficent and merciful God, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. For He has covered us, helped us, guarded us, accepted us to Himself, spared us, supported us, and has brought us to this hour.

Let us also ask Him, the Lord our God, the Pantocrator, to guard us in all peace this holy day and all the days of our life.

O Master, Lord, God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, we thank You for everything, concerning everything, and in everything. For You have covered us, helped us, guarded

us, accepted us to You, spared us, supported us, and have brought us to this hour.

Therefore, we ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, grant us to complete this holy day, and all the days of our life, in all peace with Your fear.

All envy, all temptation, all the work of Satan, the counsel of wicked men and the rising up of enemies, hidden and manifest, take them away from us, and from all Your people, and from this holy place that is Yours.

But those things which are good and profitable do You provide for us, for it is You Who has given us the authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and upon all the power of the enemy.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the Evil One, by the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Your

Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the adoration are due unto You, with Him, and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

### **PSALM 50**

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your great mercy: and according to the multitude of Your compassions You shall blot out my iniquity. You shall wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my iniquity: and my sin is before me at all times. Against You alone have I sinned, and done evil before You: that You may be justified in Your words, and prevail when You are judged.



For behold, I was conceived in iniquity; and in sin did my mother desire me.

For behold, You have loved truth, the secret and the hidden things of Your wisdom, You have manifested unto me. You shall sprinkle me with Your hyssop, and I shall be clean: You shall wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. You shall cause me to hear joy and gladness; and my humble bones shall rejoice. Turn Your face away from my sins, and all my iniquities You shall blot out. A pure heart You shall create in me, O God; and an upright spirit renew within me. Cast me not away from Your face; and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Give me the joy of Your salvation; and strengthen me with a governing spirit. That I may teach the lawless Your ways; and the wicked shall turn to You.

Deliver me from blood, O God, the God of my salvation: and my tongue shall rejoice in Your righteousness. O Lord, You shall open my lips; and my mouth shall declare Your praise. For if You had desired sacrifice; I would indeed have given it: but, You delight not in burnt offerings. A sacrifice of God is a broken spirit: a broken and a humble heart, God will not despise.

Do good, O Lord, in Your good pleasure unto Zion: and may the walls of Jerusalem be built. Then shall You be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with oblation and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer calves upon Your altar. *Alleluia.*

## THE MORNING PRAYER (PRIME)

*The worshipper prays the introductory prayers:*

The Lord's Prayer                      Page 1

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*Then is said,*

O come, let us worship! O come, let us  
ask Christ our God!

O come, let us worship! O come, let us  
ask Christ our King!

O come, let us worship! O come, let us  
ask Christ our Saviour!

O our Lord Jesus Christ, the Logos of  
God, our God, through the intercessions of  
Saint Mary and of Your saints, guard us, let us  
give glory with a good glorification. Have

mercy upon us according to Your will forever. The night has gone by; we give thanks unto You, O Lord, and we pray You to guard us this day without sin and deliver us.

### **EPHESIANS 4:1-5**

I ask you, I who am bound in the Lord, to walk worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness of heart, and meekness, and long-suffering, bearing with one another in love; hastening to keep the unity of the Spirit in the perfect bond of peace. One body, and one Spirit, even as you have been called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

One is God the Father of everyone. One is His Son, Jesus Christ the Logos, Who was incarnate, died and rose again from the dead on the third day, and has raised us up with Him. One is the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, the One

and the same in His hypostasis; Who proceeds from the Father. He sanctifies the whole creation; He teaches us to worship the Holy Trinity in One Godhead and One nature. We praise Him; we bless Him forever. Amen.

The hymn of the morning of the blessed day I offer to Christ, my King and my God: I will hope in Him that He may forgive me my sins.

## **PSALM 1**

Blessed is the man who has not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor stood in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seat of the pestilent. But his desire is in the Law of the Lord; and in His Law he will meditate day and night. And he shall be like the tree that is planted by the streams of water, which shall bring forth its fruit in its season; and its leaf shall not fall off;

and whatsoever he does, he shall be pleased with.

Not so, the wicked, not so: but (they are) like the dust which the wind drives away from the face of the earth. Therefore the wicked shall not rise up in the judgment, nor the sinners in the counsel of the righteous. For the Lord knows the way of the righteous: the way of the wicked shall perish. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 2

Why have the nations cried out, and the people meditated vanities? The kings of the earth have stood up, and the rulers have gathered together to fight against the Lord, and against His Christ. Let us break their bonds, and let us cast away their yoke from us.

He Who dwells in the heavens shall laugh at them: and the Lord shall scorn them. Then

shall He speak to them in His anger, and trouble them in His wrath.

But I was erected a king by Him on Zion, His holy mountain, to preach the commandment of the Lord. The Lord has said unto Me, You are my Son; this day have I begotten You. Ask of Me, and I shall give You the nations for Your inheritance, and Your dominion to the ends of the earth. You shall shepherd them with a rod of iron; You shall crush them like a clay vessel.

Now, O you kings, understand. Be instructed, all you judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice in Him with trembling. Embrace discipline, lest the Lord be angry, and you perish from the way of truth, when His wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed is everyone who trusts in Him. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 3**

Lord, why have those who afflict Me increased? Many have risen up against Me. Many say to My soul, There is no salvation for him in his God. But You, O Lord, You are my defender; my glory, and the lifter up of my head. With my voice have I cried unto the Lord, and He heard Me out of His holy mountain. But I laid down and slept; and I arose; for the Lord is He Who defends Me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that surround Me, who rise up against Me.

Arise, O Lord; save Me, O My God: for You have smitten all them who are My enemies in vain. The teeth of the sinners You have crushed.

Salvation is of the Lord: and His blessing is upon His people. *Alleluia.*



**PSALM 4**

When I cried up, the God of my righteousness heard me. In distress You have enlarged me. Have compassion on me, O Lord, and hear my prayer.

Sons of men, how long will you be dull of heart? Why do you love vanity, and seek after lying? Know that the Lord has made His holy One wonderful: the Lord will hear me when I cry unto Him. Be angry and sin not: what you say in your hearts, be sorry for upon your beds. Slay the sacrifice of righteousness, and trust in the Lord.

There are many that say, Who will show us good things? The light of Your countenance, O Lord, has been signed upon us. You have given joy to my heart, more than those to whom were increased the fruit of their corn, their wine and their oil.

In peace, I will also lie down, and sleep: for You, Lord, alone have made me dwell in hope.  
*Alleluia.*

## PSALM 5

Listen to my words, O Lord, and understand my cry. Hearken to the voice of my supplication, my King, and my God. For to You will I pray O Lord; in the morning You shall hear my voice. Early in the morning will I stand before You, and You shall see me.

For You are a God Who desires not iniquity: neither shall evil doers abide in You, nor shall transgressors be established before Your eyes. O Lord, You have hated all workers of iniquity. You shall destroy every one that speaks lies. A bloody and deceitful man the Lord abhors. But as for me, in the multitude of Your mercy I will enter into Your house: and worship before Your holy temple in Your fear.

Lead me, O Lord, in the way of Your righteousness because of my enemies; make my way straight before You. For there is no truth in their mouth; their heart is vain; their throat is an open sepulchre; they have deceived with their tongues.

Judge them, O God; may they fall by all their counsels; according to the multitude of their wickedness wipe them out; for they have angered You, O Lord.

Let them be glad, all those that hope in You: they shall rejoice forever; and You shall abide in them. And they shall boast in You all those who love Your Name; for You, Lord, have blessed the righteous; as with the shield of good will You have crowned us. *Alleluia*

## PSALM 6

O Lord, rebuke me not in Your anger, neither chasten me in Your wrath. Have mercy

upon me, O Lord; for I am weak: heal me, O Lord for my bones are troubled. And my soul is greatly troubled: but You, O Lord, until when?

Return, deliver my soul: revive me for Your mercies' sake. For there is no one in death that remembers You: and who shall confess to You in Amenti? I am wearied in my groaning; every night I wash my bed; with my tears I water my sleeping-mat. My eyes became troubled because of anger; I have grown old among all my enemies.

Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity; for the Lord has heard the voice of my weeping. The Lord has heard my supplication; the Lord has received my prayer. Let all my enemies be ashamed and be exceedingly troubled: let them be turned back and be greatly ashamed speedily. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 8**

O Lord our Lord, like wonder became Your Name upon all the earth! For Your splendour is exalted above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings You have prepared praise because of Your enemies, that You might still an enemy and an avenger.

For I behold the heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, You have founded; what is man, that You are mindful of him? And the son of man, that You visit him? You have made him a little lower than the angels, with glory and honour You have crowned him.

You have set him over the works of Your hands; You have subjected all things under his feet: all sheep and oxen, yea, and the cattle of the field; the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, that passes through the paths of the seas.

O Lord our Lord, like wonder became  
Your Name upon all the earth! *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 11

Revive me, Lord; for the saint has ceased (to be); and the righteous have diminished from among the children of men. Vain things every one spoke with his friend: deceitful lips are in their hearts and with their hearts they have spoken. The Lord will cut off all the deceitful lips, and the tongue that speaks with pride: who have said, we will exalt our tongues; our lips are our own: who is lord over us? Because of the misery of the needy and the groaning of the poor, now will I arise, says the Lord; I will be in salvation and I will manifest Myself in it.

The words of the Lord are pure words: silver that is fired, tried in the earth, purified seven times. But You O Lord, shall deliver us and guard us from this generation for ever.

The wicked walk roundabout us; like unto Your Highness, You have increased the days of the children of men. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 12

Until when, then, O Lord, will You forget me? for ever? Until when, then, will You turn away Your face from me? Until when, then, shall I take counsel in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all the day? Until when, then, shall my enemy exalt himself over me?

Behold and hear me, O Lord my God: enlighten my eyes, lest I sleep in death; lest my enemy say, I have prevailed over him. Those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved. But as for me, I have hoped in Your mercy; my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.

I will praise the Lord, Who has done good things to me and I will sing to the Name of the Lord Most High. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 14**

Lord, who shall abide in Your dwelling-place? Or who shall rest in Your holy mountain except he that walks blameless, and works righteousness, speaking truth in his heart?

Who has not deceived with his tongue, neither has done evil to his friend, nor has taken up a reproach against his neighbours. A worker of evil is despised before him; but he glorifies those who fear the Lord.

He that makes oath to his friend, and does not deny it. His silver he has not given at interest, nor received a bribe against the saints. He that does these things shall never be moved.

*Alleluia.*

**PSALM 15**

Guard me, O Lord: for in You have I hoped. I said to the Lord, You are my Lord:



and You have no need of my goodness; He has manifested His wonders to His saints who are on His earth, and He has made all His desires in them. Their sicknesses have been multiplied, after these they have hastened: I will not assemble at their synagogues of blood, nor will I mention their names by my lips.

The Lord is the portion of my inheritance and my cup: You are He Who shall restore my inheritance to me. The measuring cords are fallen to me among the mighty; and my inheritance is established for me. I will bless the Lord, who has given me understanding: till the night, also, my reins have instructed me. I preceded and beheld the Lord before me at all times: because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart has been gladdened, and my tongue has rejoiced: moreover, my flesh also shall dwell in hope. For You will not leave my soul in Amenti; neither will You suffer Your

Holy One to see corruption. You have instructed me in the ways of life: You will fill me with joy by Your countenance; at Your right hand there is gladness for evermore. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 18

The heavens tell of the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims the creation of His hands. Day utters speech unto day and night manifests knowledge unto night. There are no words nor are there speeches: those whose voices are not heard. Their sound is gone out through all the earth, and their words have reached unto the end of the world.

He has set His tabernacle in the sun, and He is like a bridegroom coming out of His bridechamber, Who will rejoice like a giant to run His course. His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his goal is unto the ends of

the heaven: nothing can hide from the heat thereof.

The Law of the Lord is pure, restoring the souls: the testimony of the Lord is faithful, teaching the little children. The truths of the Lord are upright, giving joy to the heart: the commandment of the Lord shines from afar, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring for ever: the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. The desires of His heart are more elect than gold, and much precious stone: and sweeter than honey and the honeycomb. Therefore, Your servant shall keep them and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can understand transgressions? Cleanse me, O Lord, from those hidden in me. From those that are not mine spare Your servant; if they have no dominion over me: then shall I be pure, and I shall be cleansed from a

great sin. All the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart shall be pleasing before You, at all times.

The Lord is my helper, and my redeemer.  
*Alleluia.*

## PSALM 24

I have lifted up my soul unto You, O Lord. My God, I have put my trust in You: let me not be ashamed, neither let my enemies laugh at me. For all of those who wait on You shall not be ashamed: let them be ashamed that work iniquity in vain.

Manifest unto me Your ways, O Lord; and teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth, and teach me: for You are God my Saviour; on You have I waited all the day.

Remember, O Lord, Your compassions and Your mercies; for they are since the beginning. The sins of my youth and my ignorances

remember them not; according to Your mercy remember me for Your goodness' sake, O Lord.

For good and upright is the Lord: therefore will He set a Law for those who sin in the way. He will guide the meek in judgment, He will teach the meek His ways. All the ways of the Lord are mercy and truth unto those who seek after His covenant and His testimonies.

For the sake of Your Name, O Lord, You shall forgive me my sin; for it is great.

Who is the man that fears the Lord? He shall set for him a Law in the way which has pleased (Him). His soul shall dwell among good things; and his seed shall inherit the earth. The Lord is the strength of those who fear Him; and His Name is for those who fear Him; His covenant will He manifest unto them.

My eyes are looking to the Lord at all times; for He shall pluck my feet out of the snare.

Look upon me, and have mercy on me; for I am an only son and I am poor. The troubles of my heart have multiplied: bring me out of my afflictions. Look upon my lowliness and my toil; and forgive me all my sins.

Look upon my enemies; for they are multiplied; and they have hated me with a violent hatred. Guard my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I have hoped in You.

The innocent and the upright have cleaved unto me; for I have waited on You, O Lord. Deliver Israel, O God, out of all his afflictions.  
*Alleluia.*

## PSALM 26

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is He Who provides for my safety; of whom shall I be afraid? When they come near me to eat my

flesh, those who trouble me and my enemies, they themselves became weak and fell.

If an encampment should be arrayed against me, my heart shall not fear: if war should rise up against me, in this I have hope.

One thing have I asked of the Lord, this also will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, that I may behold the joy of the Lord, and visit His holy temple. For He has hidden me in His tabernacle in the day of my evils: He has covered me in the hidden place of His tabernacle.

He has exalted me upon a rock. And now, behold, He has exalted my head above my enemies.

I went roundabout and I sacrificed in His tabernacle the sacrifice of rejoicing; I will praise, I will sing unto the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, my voice with which I have cried: have mercy upon me, and hear me: for

my heart has said unto You, I have sought after Your face: Your face, O Lord, do I seek after.

Turn not Your face away from me; and turn not away from Your servant in anger: be You to me a helper; forsake me not, neither disregard me, O God my Saviour. For my father and my mother have forsaken me: but the Lord has received me.

Set for me a Law, O Lord, in Your ways, and lead me in the path of uprightness, because of my enemies. Deliver me not over unto the souls of those who afflict me: for unjust witnesses have risen up against me, and injustice has lied to itself. I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait on the Lord: be strong, and let your heart be strengthened: and wait on the Lord.

*Alleluia.*



**PSALM 62**

O God, my God; unto You will I rise early: for my soul has thirsted for You. That my flesh may blossom for You in a barren land and an untrodden place, a place without water.

Thus have I appeared before You, in the sanctuary, to see Your power and Your glory. For Your mercy is elect, better than life; my lips shall praise You.

Therefore will I bless You in my life: in Your Name will I lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and (my) joyful lips shall praise Your Name.

I remembered You upon my bed, and at dawn I meditated on You: for You have been a help unto me, and in the shadow of Your wings will I rejoice. My soul has cleaved after You and Your right hand has supported me. But as for those who have sought after my soul in vain; they shall go into the lower parts of the

earth, they shall be delivered into the hand of the sword, they shall become portions for foxes.

But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that swears by Him shall boast: for the mouth of those who speak unjustly shall be stopped.

*Alleluia.*

## PSALM 66

May God have compassion upon us, bless us, manifest His face upon us, and have mercy upon us. That Your way may be known upon the earth, and Your salvation among all nations.

Let the people confess to You, O God; let all the people confess to You. Let the nations rejoice and be glad: for You shall judge the people uprightly, and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the people confess to You, O God; let all the people confess to You. The earth has given its fruit.

May God, our God, bless us; may God bless us: may all the ends of the earth fear Him.

*Alleluia.*

## PSALM 69

O God, attend to my help; make haste O Lord to help me. Let them be ashamed and be scorned that seek after my soul: let them be turned backward, and be ashamed, that desire to do evil against me. Let them be turned back straightway in shame that say unto me, “Well! Well!”

Let them rejoice and be glad in You: all who seek after You, and let them who love Your salvation say at all times, “Let the Lord be magnified.”

But as for me, I am poor and feeble: O God help me. You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, make no delay. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 112

Praise the Lord, O you children, praise the Name of the Lord. May the Name of the Lord be blessed from now and for ever. From the rising of the sun until its setting, praise the Name of the Lord.

The Lord is exalted above all nations; His glory is above the heavens.

Who is like unto the Lord our God, Who dwells in the highest and looks upon the lowly, in the heaven, and upon the earth; Who has raised up the poor out of the earth, and lifts the needy out of the dunghill; that He may seat him with rulers, with the rulers of his people. Who

makes the barren woman to dwell in the house of a joyful mother of children. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 142

Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplications in Your truth. Hear me in Your righteousness, and enter not into judgment with Your servant: for none living shall be justified before You. For the enemy has pursued after my soul; he has humbled my life down to the earth; he has made me to sit in dark places, as those that have been dead of old. My spirit is anguished within me; my heart is troubled within me.

I remembered the days of old; I meditated on all Your works; I meditated on the creations of Your hands.

I spread forth my hands unto You: my soul has become like a land without water unto You.

Hear me speedily, O Lord: for my spirit has failed: turn not Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down into the pit.

Cause me to hear Your mercy in the morning; for in You have I hoped: instruct me, O Lord, in the way wherein I should walk; for unto You have I lifted up my soul.

Deliver me, O Lord, from the hands of my enemies: for I have fled unto You. Teach me to do Your will; for You are my God: let Your Holy Spirit lead me unto uprightness.

Revive me, O Lord, for Your Name's sake: in Your truth bring my soul out of trouble, and in Your mercy You shall cut off my enemies, and destroy all those who afflict my soul: for I am Your servant. *Alleluia.*

## THE GOSPEL FROM SAINT JOHN 1:1-17

In the beginning was the Logos, and the Logos was with God, and the Logos was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things became through Him; and without Him there did not become any thing of that which became. In Him was the life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that every one might believe through Him. He was not the Light, but (came) that he might bear witness of the Light.

That was the true Light, Which enlightens every man who comes into the world. He was in the world, and the world became through Him, and the world knew Him not. He came

to those who were His own, and those who were His own received Him not. But those who received Him, to them He gave power to become sons of God, those who believe on His Name: those who were not of blood, nor of the desire of the flesh, nor of the desire of man, but they were born of God.

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, as the glory of an Only-Begotten Son of His Father, full of grace and truth. John bare witness of Him, and cried, saying, This is He of Whom I said, that He Who comes after me was before me: for He was indeed earlier than me. For we all received of His fullness, and grace instead of grace. For the Law was given through Moses, but grace and truth became through Jesus Christ. *Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall this Psali Adam be said,*



**O True Light** Which enlightens every man who comes to the world, You have come to the world through Your love toward man; all the creation rejoiced at Your coming. You have saved Adam from the deceitfulness and set free Eve from the pangs of death. You have given to us the Spirit of sonship. We praise You, we bless You with Your angels.

*Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.*  
(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

When the morning hour comes upon us, O Christ our God, the True Light, let the thoughts of light arise within us, and let not the darkness of passions cover us; that we may praise You rationally with David, crying unto You and saying, "My eyes are awake before the dawn time that I might meditate on all Your words." Hear our voices according to Your great mercy;

save us, O Lord our God, according to Your compassions.

*Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.* (Both now and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

You are the Mother of the Light, who is honoured throughout the entire world. Glorifications are offered unto you, O Mother of God, the Second Heaven. For you are the pure and unchanging flower, and the ever-virgin Mother. For the Father has chosen you, and the Holy Spirit has overshadowed you, and the Son of God came and was incarnate of you. Ask Him to grant deliverance unto the world that He has created, and to save it from the temptations. That we may praise Him with a new hymn, and bless Him, now and forever. Amen.

## THE GLORIA

Let us praise with the angels, saying, “Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth and goodwill toward men.” We praise You, we bless You, we serve You, we worship You, we confess to You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great Glory, O Lord, Heavenly King, God the Father, the Pantocrator; O Lord, the Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. You Who takes away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. You Who sits at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For You only are Holy; You only are exalted, O Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, to the Glory of God the Father. Every day will I bless You, and I will praise Your Name forever; yes, forever and ever. Amen.

From the night my soul awakes early unto You, O my God, for Your commandments are a light upon the earth. I was meditating on Your ways for You have become a helper unto me. In the morning, Lord, You shall hear my voice. Early will I stand before You, and You shall see me.

## TRISAGION

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,  
Who was born of the Virgin, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,  
Who was crucified for us, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,  
Who rose from the dead and ascended into the  
heavens, have mercy on us.

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

O Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

O Lord, forgive our sins. O Lord, forgive our iniquities. O Lord, forgive us our trespasses.

O Lord, visit the sick of Your people, heal them for the sake of Your Holy Name. Our fathers and our brethren who have fallen asleep, O Lord, repose their souls.

O You Who are sinless, Lord have mercy on us. O You Who are sinless, Lord help us and receive our supplications. For Yours is the glory, the dominion, and the triple holiness. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord bless. Amen.

Our Father Who art in Heaven...

## HAIL TO YOU

Hail to you! We ask you, O saint full of glory, the ever-virgin Mother of God, the Mother of Christ; offer our prayers unto your beloved Son, that He may forgive us our sins. Hail to the holy Virgin, who has brought forth unto us the True Light, Christ our God. Ask the Lord on our behalf, that He may have mercy on us and forgive us our sins.

O Virgin Mary, the holy Mother of God, the faithful advocate for all mankind, intercede on our behalf before Christ, Whom you have brought forth, that He may forgive us our sins.

## THE INTRODUCTION TO THE CREED

We exalt you, the Mother of the True Light. We glorify you, O saint and Mother of God, for you brought forth unto us the Saviour

of the whole world; He came and saved our souls.

Glory to You, our Master, our King, Christ; the pride of the Apostles, the crown of the martyrs, the joy of the righteous, the firmness of the churches, the forgiveness of sins.

We proclaim the Holy Trinity in One Godhead. We worship Him. We glorify Him. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord bless. Amen.

## **THE ORTHODOX CREED**

We believe in one God; God the Father, the Pantocrator, Who created heaven and earth, and all things seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord; Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; True God of True God; begotten, not created; of One Essence with the Father; by Whom all

things were made; Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit, and of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose from the dead, according to the scriptures. Ascended into the heavens, He sits at the right hand of His Father; and He is coming again in His glory, to judge the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

Yes, we believe in the Holy Spirit; the Lord, the Giver of Life; Who proceeds from the Father; Who, with the Father and the Son, is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets.

And in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, we confess one Baptism for the remission of sins. We look for the resurrection



of the dead, and the life of the coming age.  
Amen.

*Then shall be said, "Lord hear us and have mercy on us and forgive us our sins," "Kirié Eleison" (Lord have mercy) 41 times, and the following prayer:*

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of Your glory and Your honour. Have mercy on us, O God, the Father, the Pantocrator. All-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, God of the powers be with us, for we have no helper in our afflictions and our troubles, save You. Loose, remit and forgive us, O God, our iniquities, which we have committed willingly, and which we have committed unwillingly; which we have committed knowingly, and which we have committed unknowingly. The hidden and the

manifest, O Lord, remit unto us, for the sake of Your Holy Name which is called upon us.

According to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.

Our Father Who art in Heaven...

*Then shall this absolution be said,*

O Lord, God of hosts, Who is before the ages and Who abides forever; Who created the sun for a light of the day, and the night for a rest of all flesh; we give thanks to You, O King of the ages, for You have made us to pass this night in peace, and have brought us to the beginning of the day. Therefore, we ask You, O our Master, King of the ages: may the light of Your truth shine upon us, and enlighten us with the light of Your divine knowledge. Make us children of light, children of the day, that we may pass this day in purity, righteousness and

good disposition, that we may complete the rest of our life without stumbling.

By the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the adoration are due unto You, with Him, and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

*Another absolution:*

O You Who sends the light and it goes; Whose sun rises upon the righteous and upon the wicked; Who created the light, which enlightens the world; enlighten our hearts, O Master of all, and graciously grant unto us that we may be pleasing to You, this present day. Watch over us against every evil thing, every sin, and every adverse power; in Christ Jesus

our Lord, with Whom You are blessed together with the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is Co-Essential with You now, and forever, and unto the age of ages. Amen.

## **THE PRAYER OF THE HOURS**

Have mercy on us, O God, Who is worshipped and glorified at all times and at every hour, in heaven and on earth. Christ our Good God, the long-suffering, plenteous in mercy and compassion, Who loves the righteous and has mercy upon sinners, (among whom I am chief; Who desires not the death of a sinner, but rather that he return and live.) Who calls everyone to salvation, through the promises of the good things to come; do You, O Lord, receive our supplications at this very hour, and straighten our life to do Your commandments.

Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, rectify our thoughts, cleanse our consciences, and deliver us from all evil affliction and grief. Surround us with Your holy Angels, that we being guarded and guided by their encampment; may attain to the unity of the faith, and the knowledge of Your unapproachable glory. For blessed are You forever. Amen.

# THE THIRD HOUR PRAYER (TERCE)

*The worshipper prays the introductory prayers:*

The Lord's Prayer                      Page 1

The Prayer of Thanksgiving      Page 2

Psalm 50                                      Page 4

*Then is said:*

The hymn of the third hour of the blessed day I offer to Christ, my King and my God, I will hope in Him that He may forgive me my sins.

## PSALM 19

May the Lord hear you in the day of your trouble; may the Name of the God of Jacob defend you. May He send you help from the sanctuary, and support you out of Zion. May

He remember all your sacrifices and may your burnt offerings be fattened before Him. May the Lord give you according to your heart, and fulfil all your counsel. We will confess to You, O Lord in Your salvation, and in the Name of our God we shall grow: the Lord will fulfil all your petitions.

Now have I known that the Lord has saved His Anointed; He will hear Him from His holy heaven with the saving strength of His right hand.

Some (trust) in chariots, and some in horses: but we shall grow in the Name of the Lord our God. They have stumbled and have fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright.

O Lord save Your king, and hear us in the day when we call upon You. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 22**

The Lord will shepherd me; therefore I shall not be in want of anything. He has made me to dwell in a place of green pastures. He has brought me up on the water of rest. He has restored my soul: He has led me in the paths of righteousness for His Name's sake. Though I should walk in the midst of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil: for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they have comforted me.

You have prepared a table before me against those who afflict me. You have anointed my head with oil; and Your cup has inebriated me like strong drink. And Your mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and my dwelling (shall be) in the house of the Lord unto the length of days. *Alleluia.*



**PSALM 23**

The earth is the Lord's, and its fulness; the world, and all they that dwell in it. He has founded it upon the seas, and has prepared it upon the rivers. Who shall ascend into the mountain of the Lord? Or who shall stand in His holy place? The holy in his hands, and the pure in his heart; who has not brought his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully to his neighbour.

Such a one shall receive a blessing from the Lord, and mercy from God his Saviour. This is the generation of those who seek the Lord, who seek after the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your gates; O you princes and be lifted up, O you eternal gates; and the King of glory shall enter in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord

mighty in wars. Lift up your gates; O you princes and be lifted up, O you eternal gates; and the King of glory shall enter in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 25

Judge me, O Lord; for I have walked in my innocence: I have hoped in the Lord; (therefore) I shall not be weakened. Prove me, O Lord, and try me; fire my heart and my reins. For Your mercy is before my eyes: and I have been pleased in Your truth.

I have not sat in the council of vanity, neither did I go in with breakers of the Law. I have hated the congregation of evil doers; neither did I sit with the wicked.

I will wash my hands in holiness: and I will compass Your altar, O Lord: that I may

hear the voice of Your praise, and declare all Your wonders.

Lord, I have loved the beauty of Your house, and the place where Your glory dwells. Destroy not my soul with the ungodly, nor my life with bloody men: in whose hands is iniquity, and their right hand is full of bribes.

But as for me, I have walked in my innocence: save me, and have mercy on me. For my feet have stood in uprightness: in the churches will I bless You, O Lord. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 28

Bring unto the Lord, O you children of God, bring unto the Lord the offspring of rams. Bring unto the Lord glory and honour, bring unto the Lord the glory of His Name; worship the Lord in His holy court.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters: the God of glory has thundered: the Lord (is) upon many waters. The voice of the Lord (is) in power; the voice of the Lord (is) in splendour. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord will break the cedars of Lebanon. And He will break them into pieces like the calf of Lebanon, and the beloved like the son of a unicorn.

The voice of the Lord divides the flame of fire. The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord prepares the hinds, and lays bare the forests. In His holy temple every one utters glory.

The Lord dwells in the flood; yea, the Lord shall sit as King for ever. The Lord will give strength unto His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 29**

I will exalt You, O Lord; for You have received me, and have not made my enemies to rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I have cried unto You, and You have healed me. O Lord, You have brought up my soul from Amenti: You have saved me from the hands of those who go down into the pit.

Sing unto the Lord, all you saints of His, and confess at the remembrance of His holiness. For wrath is in His anger, but in His will there is life: at night there will be weeping, but in the morning joy. And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved. Lord, by Your will You have given power to my beauty: You turned Your face away from me, and I became troubled.

Unto You, O Lord, will I cry and unto my God will I make supplication. What

profit is there in my blood, if I go down to corruption? Will the earth confess You? Or declare Your truth? The Lord heard, and has had mercy upon me: the Lord, became for me a helper. You have turned my mourning into joy for me: You have rent my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness. That my glory may sing to You, and I may not be grieved. O Lord my God, I will confess You for ever.

*Alleluia.*

### PSALM 33

I will bless the Lord at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: let the meek hear and be glad.

Ascribe greatness to the Lord with me, and let us exalt His Name together. I have sought the Lord, and He heard me, and

delivered me from all my sojournings. Come unto Him, that you may be enlightened: and your faces shall not be ashamed.

This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, and saved him from all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps round about everyone who fears Him, and He will deliver them. O taste and see that the Lord is sweet: blessed is the man that hopes in Him.

Fear the Lord, all you His saints: for there is no want to those who fear Him. The rich have become poor and hungry: but they that seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing.

Come, my children, listen to me: that I may teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is the man who desires life, who thinks about seeing good days? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

Turn away from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their supplication. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil, that He may wipe out the remembrance of them from the earth.

The righteous cried out, and the Lord heard them, and delivered them from all their troubles.

The Lord is near unto those who are contrite in their heart; the humble in spirit shall He save.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous: and the Lord shall deliver them out of them all. The Lord will guard all their bones: not one of them shall perish.



The death of sinners is evil: and they that hate the righteous shall regret<sup>1</sup>. The Lord will redeem the souls of His servants: and none of those who trust in Him shall regret. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 40

Blessed is he who attends to the needy and the poor: in the evil day the Lord will deliver him. The Lord will guard him, and keep him alive; and make him blessed upon the earth: and deliver him not unto the hands of his enemies. The Lord will help him upon the bed of his sorrow: You have turned all his bed in his sickness.

I, myself said, O Lord, have mercy upon me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against

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<sup>1</sup>Literally, “eat their hearts”

You. My enemies have spoken evil of me, saying, "When shall he die, and his name perish?" When he was coming to see me, he was speaking vanity: and his heart gathered iniquity unto himself; he was going out and he was speaking against me at once. All my enemies have whispered against me: they took council against me for evil. And words that are against the Law, they have established against me "He who sleeps, shall he rise up again?" For even the man of my peace, in whom I trusted, he who has eaten my bread, has lifted up his heel against me. But You, O Lord, have mercy upon me, and raise me up, and I will give them their recompense.

By this have I known that You have delighted in me, because my enemy shall not rejoice over me. And as for me, because of my innocence You have accepted me and

established me before You for ever. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting, to everlasting. So be it, so be it. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 42

Judge me, O God, and avenge my cause against an unclean nation: and from a man unjust and deceitful deliver me. For You are my God and my strength: why have You cast me off? And why do I go sorrowful while my enemy troubles me?

Send forth Your light and Your truth: they have guided me and brought me up to Your holy mountain, and to Your dwelling place. Then will I go unto the altar of God, before the face of God Who has given joy to my youth. I will confess to You upon the harp, O God my God.

Why are you sad, O my soul? And why do you trouble me? Hope in God: for to Him will I confess. The salvation of my countenance is my God. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 44

My heart has poured forth a good word: I will declare my works to the king: my tongue is the pen of a swift writing scribe.

(You are) comely in beauty above the sons of men: grace is poured forth from Your lips: therefore God has blessed You for ever.

Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O Mighty One. With Your beauty and Your comeliness, draw it out, prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and Your right hand shall guide You wonderfully.

Your arrows are sharp, O Mighty One—under You shall people fall—in the heart of the king's enemies.

Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever. A sceptre of uprightness is the sceptre of Your kingdom. Because You have loved righteousness, and have hated iniquity, therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness above Your fellows. Myrrh, and stacte, and cassia, (smell) out of Your garments, from the ivory palaces, wherein the daughters of the kings have made You glad in Your honour.

The queen stood at Your right hand arrayed in a vesture of inwoven gold, adorned in varied ways.

Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear; and forget your own people, and your father's house; because the King has desired your beauty: for He Himself is

your Lord. And the daughter of Tyre shall worship Him with gifts; the rich among the people of the earth shall entreat His countenance.

All the glory of the king's daughter is within: clothed with gold-fringed garments, adorned in varied ways. Virgins shall be brought unto the King following her, all her companions shall be brought unto Him. They shall be brought with joy and rejoicing: they shall enter into the temple of the King.

Instead of your fathers shall be your children, whom you may make princes in all the earth. And they shall remember Your Name in every generation and generation. Therefore shall the people confess to You, O God for ever and unto the age of ages.

*Alleluia*

**PSALM 45**

Our God is our refuge and our strength. He is our helper in our afflictions which have befallen us exceedingly. Therefore we shall not fear, should the earth tremble, and the mountains move into the midst of the seas.

The waters roared and trembled, the mountains were shaken by His might. The flowing of the rivers shall make the city of God rejoice, the Most High has sanctified His dwelling place. And God is in the middle of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her countenance.

The nations trembled, the kingdoms were moved: He uttered His voice, the earth shook. The Lord, the God of powers is with us; our protector is the God of Jacob.

Come and behold the works of the Lord, what wonders He has established upon the

earth. Who makes wars to cease unto the end of the earth; He will crush their bows, and break their weapons; their shields He shall burn in the fire.

Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth. The Lord, the God of powers is with us; our protector is the God of Jacob. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 46

Clap your hands, all you nations; shout unto God with the voice of rejoicing. For the Lord is exalted and awesome; He is a great King over all the earth. He has subdued the people under us, and the nations under our feet. He has chosen us for His inheritance, the beauty of Jacob whom He has loved. God has ascended with



jubilant, the Lord with the sound of the trumpet. Sing unto our God, sing: sing unto our King, sing. For the Lord is King of all the earth, sing with understanding. For the Lord has reigned over all the nations: God sits upon His holy throne. The rulers of the people are gathered together with the God of Abraham: for the mighty ones of God have been greatly exalted in the earth. *Alleluia.*

### **THE GOSPEL FROM SAINT JOHN 14:26-15:3**

But, if the Paraclete comes—the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My Name—He Himself shall teach you all things, and remind you of every thing which I have said to you.

I will leave My peace with you, My peace I will give to you: not as the world gives, will

I give to you. Let not your heart tremble, neither let it be fearful.

You have heard how I said to you, I will go, and come unto you. If you love Me, you would rejoice, because I will go unto the Father: for My Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it happens, that, should it happen, you may believe.

I will not talk much with you any longer: for the ruler of this world comes, and he has nothing in Me. But that the world may know that I love My Father; and like My Father gave Me commandment, thus I do. Arise, let us go from here.

I am the True Vine, and My Father is the vine-dresser. Every branch in Me which will not bring forth fruit He will cut off: and every one which will bring forth fruit, He will purify, so that it may bring forth more fruit.

Already you have been purified because of the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in Me, and I in you. *Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall these Troparia be said,*

**Your Holy Spirit,** O Lord, Whom You have sent forth upon Your holy Disciples and the honourable Apostles at the third hour, This take not away from us, O Good One, but renew Him within us. A pure heart You shall create in me, O God; and an upright spirit renew within me. Cast me not away from Your face; and Your Holy Spirit take not from me.

*Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.*  
(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

O Lord, Who have sent forth Your Holy Spirit upon Your holy Disciples and the honourable Apostles at the third hour, This take not away from us, O Good One, but we ask You to renew Him within us, O our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Logos: an upright and life-giving Spirit, a prophetic and reverent Spirit; a sanctifying and righteous and governing Spirit, Who has power over every thing. For You are He Who enlightens our souls, Who enlightens every man who comes into the world. Have mercy upon us.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

O Mother of God, you are the True Vine, who has borne the cluster of life. We ask you, O full of grace, together with the Apostles, concerning the salvation of our

souls. Blessed be the Lord our God. Blessed be the Lord day by day. The God of our salvation shall prepare our way for us.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

**O Heavenly King**, the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth, Who are in every place and Who fills all; the Treasure of the good and the Giver of Life, graciously come and be in us, and cleanse us from every blemish, O Good One, and save our souls.

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***  
(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

As You were with Your Disciples, O Saviour, and gave them peace, come also and be with us; save us and deliver our souls.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

If we stand in Your holy temple, we count ourselves as those who stand in heaven. O Mother of God, you are the gate of heaven; open to us the door of mercy.

*Then shall be said: Lord hear us and have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 41 times, Holy, Holy, Holy, (Page 45), the Lord's Prayer and this absolution:*

O God of all compassion and Lord of all comfort, Who has comforted us at all times with the comfort of Your Holy Spirit, we give thanks to You that You have made us to stand for prayer at this holy hour in which

You poured forth the grace of Your Holy Spirit in abundance, upon Your own holy Disciples and honourable and blessed Apostles, in the likeness of tongues of fire.

We ask and entreat You, O Lover of mankind: receive our prayers, and send down upon us the grace of Your Holy Spirit. Cleanse us from all stain of body and spirit, and translate us into a spiritual state, that we may walk in the Spirit and not fulfill the desire of the flesh. And make us worthy to serve You in purity and righteousness all the days of our life. For to You are due the glory, the honour and the might, with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto the age of ages. Amen.

*Then shall be said "The Prayer of the hours" (Page 48).*

# THE SIXTH HOUR PRAYER (SEXT)

*The worshipper prays the introductory prayers:*

The Lord's Prayer                      Page 1

The Prayer of Thanksgiving      Page 2

Psalm 50                                      Page 4

*Then shall be said,*

The hymn of the sixth hour of the blessed day: I offer to Christ, my King and my God: I will hope in Him that He may forgive me my sins.

## PSALM 53

God, save me by Your Name, and judge me in Your strength. O God, hear my prayer; give ear to the words of my mouth. For strangers have risen up against me, and



the strong have sought after my soul: they have not set God before them.

Behold, God will help me: the Lord is the protector of my soul. He shall bring back evil unto my enemies: and in Your truth wipe them out. Willingly will I sacrifice to You: I will confess Your Name, O Lord; for it is good. For You have delivered me out of all trouble: and my eyes have looked upon my enemies. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 56

Have mercy upon me, O God, have mercy upon me: for my soul has trusted in You: and in the shadow of Your wings will I hope, until the iniquity passes.

I will cry unto God Most High; to God Who has done good things for me. He has sent forth from heaven, and He has delivered

me: and those who trample upon me, He has put to shame.

God has sent forth His mercy and His truth. He has delivered my soul from among the lion cubs. I slept being troubled: the sons of men, their teeth are weapons and arrows, and their tongue a sharpened sword.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; and Your glory above all the earth. They have prepared snares for my feet; and they have bowed down my soul: they have dug a pit before me, and they have fallen into it.

My heart is prepared, O God, my heart is prepared: I will praise and sing in my glory. Arise, my glory, arise psaltery and harp: I will rise early. I will confess to You, O Lord, among the people: I will sing to You among the nations.

For Your mercy is magnified unto the heavens, and Your truth unto the clouds. Be

exalted, O God, above the heavens: and Your glory above all the earth. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 60

Hear O God my supplication; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth I have cried aloud unto You, when my heart was grieved: You have exalted me upon a rock. You have led me: You have become my hope and a tower of strength from the face of the enemy.

I will abide in Your dwelling-place for ever: I will take shelter under the covering of Your wings. For You, O God, have heard my prayers: You have given a heritage to those who fear Your Name.

Days shall You add to the days of the king: and to his years days from generation to generation. And he shall abide before God

for ever: His mercy and His truth who has sought after them? Thus will I sing unto Your Name unto the age of ages, that I may perform my vows from day to day. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 62

O God, my God; unto You will I come early: for my soul has thirsted for You. That my flesh may blossom for You in a barren land and an untrodden place, a place without water.

Thus have I appeared before You, in the sanctuary, to see Your power and Your glory. For Your mercy is elect, more than the way of life; my lips shall praise You.

Therefore will I bless You in my life: in Your Name will I lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and (my) joyful lips shall praise Your Name.

I was remembering You upon my bed, and in the morning hours I used to meditate on You: for You have been a helper unto me, and under the shadow of Your wings will I rejoice. My soul has cleaved after You and Your right hand has supported me. But as for those who have sought after my soul in vain; they shall go into the lower parts of the earth, they shall be delivered into the hand of the sword, they shall become portions for foxes.

But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that swears by him shall boast: for the mouth of those who speak unjustly shall be stopped. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 66

May God have compassion upon us, bless us, manifest His face upon us, and have

mercy upon us. That Your way may be known upon the earth, and Your salvation among all nations.

Let the people confess to You, O God; let all the people confess to You. Let the nations rejoice and be glad: for You shall judge the people in uprightness, and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the people confess to You, O God; let all the people confess to You. The earth has given its fruit.

May God, our God, bless us; may God bless us: may all the ends of the earth fear Him. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 69

O God, attend to my help; make haste O Lord to help me. Let them be ashamed and be scorned that seek after my soul: let them

be turned backward, and be ashamed, that desire to do evil against me. Let them be turned back straightway in shame that say unto me, "Well! Well!"

Let them rejoice and be glad in You: all who seek after You, and let them who love Your salvation say at all times, "Let the Lord be magnified."

But as for me, I am poor and feeble: O God help me. You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, make no delay. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 83

How beloved are Your dwellings, O Lord, God of the powers! My soul yearns, and faints to enter into the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh have rejoiced in the living God.

For the sparrow has found him a house, and the turtle dove a nest for herself, to lay her young: Your altars, O Lord, God of the powers, my King, and my God. Blessed are all who dwell in Your house: they shall praise You forever and ever.

Blessed is the man whose support is from You, O Lord: he has established highways in his heart; in the valley of weeping, in the place in which he has established it. For the Law-giver shall give blessings: they shall go from strength to strength: the God of gods shall appear in Zion.

O Lord, God of the powers, hear my prayer: hearken, O God of Jacob. Behold, O God our defender, and look upon the face of Your Christ. For a good day in Your courts is better than thousands. I have chosen for myself to be cast in the house of my God,



than to dwell in the tents of the sinners. For the Lord God loves mercy and truth: and will give glory and grace. The Lord will not withhold the good thing from those who walk in innocence. O Lord, God of the powers, blessed is the man who hopes in You. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 84

Lord, You have been pleased with Your land: You have brought back the captivity of Jacob. You have forgiven the iniquities of Your people, You have covered all their sins. You have taken away all Your anger: You have turned away from the anger of Your wrath.

Turn us, O God of our salvation, and turn Your wrath away from us. Will You be angry with us for ever? Will You draw out

Your anger from generation to generation?  
You, O God will turn and revive us again:  
and Your people will rejoice in You. Show  
us Your mercy, O Lord, and grant us Your  
salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God will speak  
within me: for He will speak peace unto His  
people, and to His saints: and those who will  
turn to Him with all their hearts. For His  
salvation is near to everyone who fears Him;  
that glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are met together;  
righteousness and peace have grasped hands  
with one another. Truth has sprung out of  
the earth; and righteousness has looked down  
from heaven. For the Lord shall give  
goodness; and our land shall give its fruit.  
Truth shall go before Him; and shall set His  
footsteps in the way. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 85**

Incline Your ear, O Lord, and hear me: for I am poor and weak. Preserve my soul; for I am pure: save Your servant my God, who hopes in You. Have mercy upon me, O Lord: for I have cried aloud unto You all the day.

Rejoice the soul of Your servant: for unto You, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul. For You (are) good, Lord. You are meek; and plenteous is Your mercy unto all those who cry unto You.

Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications. In the day of my trouble I have cried aloud unto You: for You have heard me. There is none like You, among the gods O Lord; neither is there any who can do like unto Your works.

All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord; and shall glorify Your Name. For You are great, and do wonders: You, alone, are God the great.

Lead me in Your way, O Lord; and I will walk in Your truth: let my heart be glad to fear Your Name. I will confess to You, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify Your Name for evermore. For great is Your mercy toward me: and You have delivered my soul from the lowest Amenti.

O God, the breakers of the Law have risen against me, and the synagogue of the strong ones have sought after my soul; and have not set You before them. But You, O Lord, God, You are compassionate, and merciful. You are longsuffering, and plenteous in Your mercy and true. Look upon me, and have mercy upon me: give

strength unto Your servant, and deliver the son of Your handmaid. Make with me a sign unto good; let those who hate me see, and be ashamed: because You, Lord, have helped me, and have comforted me. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 86

His foundations are in the holy mountains. The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Honourable things are spoken of You, O city of God.

I will remember Rahab and Babylon as those who know me: behold the strange tribes, and Tyre, and the people of Ethiopia, these were there. Mother Zion will say, that a man and a man has dwelt in her: and He is the Highest Who has founded her forever.

The Lord shall declare, in the writings of the people and the rulers, those who dwelt in her. For the dwelling of all those who are glad is in you. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 90

He who abides in the help of the Most High shall rest under the shadow of the God of heaven. He shall say to the Lord, You are my protector and my refuge: my God; in Him will I hope. For He will deliver me from the snare of the hunter, and from the troublesome word. He shall overshadow You in the midst of His shoulders, and under His wings you shall trust: His truth shall encompass you as a weapon.

You shall not be afraid of the terror of the night; nor of the arrow that flies by day; nor of a thing that walks in the dark; nor of

the destruction and the demon of the noon. Thousands shall fall at your left hand, and myriads at your right hand; but they shall not come near you. Rather with your eyes you will behold and see the reward of the sinners. For You, O Lord, are my hope. You have made the Most High, your refuge; no evil shall come to you, neither shall any scourge come near your dwelling. For He shall command His angels concerning you, to keep you in all your ways. They will bear you upon their hands, lest you stumble with your foot on a stone.

You shall tread upon the serpent and the basilisk: and trample upon the lion and the dragon.

Because he has hoped in Me, I will deliver him: I will cover him, because he has known My Name. He shall pray to Me, and I will hear him: I am with him in trouble; I will

deliver him, and glorify him. With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation.

*Alleluia.*

## PSALM 92

The Lord has reigned, He has clothed Himself with beauty; the Lord has clothed Himself with power, and He has girded Himself with it: for He has set up the world, that it cannot be moved.

Your throne is prepared from the beginning: and from everlasting are You. The rivers have raised themselves up, O Lord, the rivers have lifted up their voice; the rivers lift up their voices, more than the voice of many waters. Wonderful are the surges of the sea. Wonderful is the Lord in the highest. His testimonies are exceedingly



faithful: holiness befits Your house, O Lord,  
unto length of days. *Alleluia.*

**THE GOSPEL FROM  
SAINT MATTHEW 5:1-16**

But when He saw the multitudes, He went up upon the mountain: and when He had sat down, His Disciples came unto Him: and He opened His mouth, and taught them, saying,

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.

Blessed are they who mourn now: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and those who thirst for righteousness: for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in their heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are those who have been persecuted because of righteousness: for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens. Blessed are you if they should persecute you, and despise you, and say every evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be glad: for great is your reward in the heavens: for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

You are the salt of the earth: but if the salt loses its taste, with what shall they salt it? It is not good for anything, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

You are the light of the world. A city that is set upon a mountain cannot be hidden. Neither do men light a lamp, and put it under a bushel, but on a lamp stand; and it gives light unto every one who is in the house. Thus let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father Who is in the heavens.  
*Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall these Troparia be said,*

**O You Who** on the sixth day, at the sixth hour was nailed to the Cross because of the sin Adam dared to commit in Paradise, tear away the handwriting of our sins, O Christ our God and deliver us.

I have cried unto God and the Lord has heard me. O God hear my prayer and

disregard not my supplication; attend unto me and hear me.

At evening and at morning and at noontime will I say my words and He will hear my voice and save my soul in peace.

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***

(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

O Jesus Christ, our God, Who was nailed to the Cross at the sixth hour, You have slain sin by the Wood, and through Your death gave life to the dead, which is man, whom You have created with Your own hands, who had died through sin.

Slay our passions by Your saving and life-giving sufferings and by the nails with which You were nailed rescue our minds from the harm of material things and worldly lusts, unto the remembrance of Your

heavenly judgements, according to Your compassions.

*Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.* (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

In as much as we have not any opportunity, because of the multitude of our sins, yet, because of you, O Virgin Mother of God, we have boldness before Him Whom you did bear, for abundant are your intercessions, strong and acceptable with our Saviour, O pure Mother. Reject not the sinners in your intercessions with Him Whom you did bear, for He is merciful; for He has power to save us: for truly He suffered on our behalf that He might deliver us. Let Your compassions speedily precede us for we have become exceedingly poor. Help us, O God, our Saviour, for the sake of

the glory of Your Name, O Lord You will deliver us and forgive our sins, for the sake of Your Holy Name.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

**You have** worked salvation in the midst of the earth, O Christ our God, in the stretching forth of Your holy hands upon the Cross. Therefore all nations cry out saying, “Glory to You, O Lord!”

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.*** (Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

We worship Your incorruptible form, O You the Good One. We ask for the forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God. For, truly, of Your will You were pleased to

go upon the Cross to deliver those whom You have created from the servitude of the enemy. We cry unto You, we give thanks unto You, for You have filled all with joy, O Saviour, when You came to help the world. Lord, Yours is the glory.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

You are she who is full of grace, O Virgin Mother of God; we praise you. For through the Cross of your Son, Amenti has fallen and death was destroyed. We who were dead were raised and were made worthy of eternal life, and have obtained the joy of the first Paradise. Therefore we, in thanksgiving, glorify Him, the mighty Christ our God.

*Then shall be said: Lord hear us, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 41 times, Holy, Holy, Holy, (page 45), the Lord's Prayer and this absolution:*

We give thanks to You, O our Master, the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ, and we glorify You, for You have appointed the hours of the suffering of Your Only-Begotten Son to be times of prayer and supplication. Receive our prayers and blot out the handwriting of our sins that is written against us, even as You have rent it apart at this holy hour through the Cross of Your Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and the Saviour of our souls, by Whom You have shattered all the power of the enemy.

And give us, a bright and blameless life, and a calm living, that we may please Your



holy worshipful Name, and may stand before the awesome and righteous judgment seat of Your Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, without falling into judgement; and that we may glorify You with all Your saints; You, the unoriginate Father, and the Son, Who is Co-Essential with You, and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, now, and ever, and unto the age of ages. Amen.

*Then shall be said "The Prayer of the hours" (Page 48).*

# THE NINTH HOUR PRAYER (NONE)

*The worshipper prays the introductory prayers:*

The Lord's Prayer                      Page 1

The Prayer of Thanksgiving      Page 2

Psalm 50                                  Page 4

*Then shall be said,*

The hymn of the ninth hour of the blessed day: I offer to Christ, my King and my God: I will hope in Him that He may forgive me my sins.

## PSALM 95

Sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, praise His Name; preach His salvation from day to day.

Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all people. For the Lord is great, and exceedingly blessed: He is fearful above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are demons: but the Lord, He created the heavens. Confession and beauty are before Him: purity and splendour are in His sanctuary.

Bring unto the Lord, all you families of the nations, bring unto the Lord glory and honour. Bring unto the Lord glory to His Name: bring sacrifices and enter into His courts. Worship the Lord in His holy courts.

Let all the earth be moved from before His face: say among the nations that the Lord has reigned from a Wood: for He has also set up the world that it shall not be moved: He shall judge the people in uprightness.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea be moved, and all its

fullness. Let the plains rejoice, and everything that is in them: then all the trees of the wood shall rejoice, before the Lord: for He comes, for He comes to judge the earth: He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with His truth.

*Alleluia.*

## **PSALM 96**

The Lord has reigned; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of islands be glad. Clouds and darkness are round about Him: righteousness and judgment are the foundation of His throne.

A fire shall proceed before Him, and with a flame shall burn up His enemies who surround Him. His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and moved. The mountains melted like wax from before the

face of the Lord, from before the face of the Lord of all the earth. The heavens have declared His righteousness, and all the people have seen His glory.

All they who worship things made with hands shall be ashamed: they who boast themselves in their idols. Worship Him, all His angels. Zion heard, and was glad; the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of Your judgements, O Lord. For You are the Lord, Who is exalted above all the earth: You are exalted exceedingly above all gods.

You who love the Lord, hate evil: for the Lord shall guard the souls of His saints; and He shall deliver them from the hands of the sinners. A light has risen for the righteous, and joy for those who are upright in their heart. Be glad in the Lord, you righteous; and confess at the remembrance of His holiness. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 97**

Sing unto the Lord a new song; for the Lord has done wondrous works: His right hand, and His holy arm, have revived Him. The Lord has manifested His salvation before the nations: and has revealed His righteousness to them. He has remembered His mercy to Jacob and His righteousness to the house of Israel: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout aloud unto the Lord, all the earth: praise, and rejoice, and sing. Sing unto the Lord with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm. With loud trumpets and a sound of the horn trumpet, shout aloud before the Lord, the King. Let the sea be moved, and all its fulness; the world, and everyone that dwells in it. The rivers shall clap their hands together: and the mountains shall rejoice

before the Lord; for He has come to judge the earth: He will judge the world with righteousness, and the people with uprightness. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 98

The Lord has reigned; let the people rage: He Who sits upon the Cherubim; let the earth be moved. Great is the Lord in Zion; and He is exalted above all the people. Let them confess His great Name; for It is fearful and holy. And the honour of the King loves judgment; You have prepared uprightness: judgment and righteousness You have performed in Jacob.

Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at the footstool of His feet; for it is holy. Moses and Aaron among His priests, and Samuel among those who entreat His Name;

they were entreating the Lord, and He was hearkening to them, in a pillar of cloud He was speaking to them: for they had kept His testimonies, and the commandments which He gave to them.

O Lord our God, You were hearkening to them: You, O God, have become unto them, a forgiver and an avenger of all their works. Exalt the Lord our God: worship at His holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 99

Shout aloud unto the Lord, all the earth: serve the Lord with gladness: come before Him with rejoicing. Know that the Lord He is God: He has created us, and not we ourselves; for we are His people, and the sheep of His fold. Enter into His gates with



confession, and into His courts with praise: confess to Him, and bless His Name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth is from generation to generation. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 100

I will praise You, O Lord: mercy and judgment, will I sing. And I will understand in a blameless way. When will You come unto me? I was walking in innocence of my heart within my house. I have not set an unlawful thing before my eyes: I have hated those who work transgression; no crooked heart has cleaved unto me. The evil will turn aside from me, I did not know (it). He who privately slanders his neighbour, him I drove away: with him that had a proud eye and a puffed up heart, I would not eat.

My eyes were upon the faithful of the earth, that they may sit with me: he that walks in a blameless way, he was serving me. He who acts proudly did not dwell within my house: he that speaks unjust things was not established before my eyes. In the hours of the morning I was slaying all the sinners of the land; that I may cut off from the city of the Lord everyone that works iniquity.

*Alleluia.*

## PSALM 109

The Lord said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, until I put Your enemies beneath Your feet. A rod of Your power the Lord shall send forth from Zion: and You shall rule in the midst of Your enemies. With You is the dominion in the day of Your power, in the brightness of the saints: from the womb,

before the star of the morning, I have begotten You.

The Lord has sworn, and will not repent, You are the priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek. The Lord at Your right hand has crushed kings in the day of His wrath. He will judge among the nations, He shall fill them with corpses; He shall crush the heads of many upon the earth. He shall drink water on the way from a spring: therefore He will lift up the head. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 110

I will confess to You, O Lord, with all my heart, in the council of those who are upright, and in their synagogue. Great are the works of the Lord: all His wishes are sought out. Confession and splendour is His

work: and His righteousness endures for ever.

He has made a memorial of His wonders: the Lord is merciful and compassionate. He has given food to those who fear Him: He will ever be mindful of His covenant. The power of His works, He has made known to His people: that He may give them the heritage of the nations. The works of His hands are truth and judgment; all His commandments are faithful: they are confirmed unto the age of ages: they are done in truth and uprightness. He has sent redemption to His people: He has commanded His covenant for ever: holy and fearful is His Name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding has everyone who does it: and His praise endures for ever and ever. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 111**

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord: in His commandments he shall exceedingly delight. His seed shall be strengthened upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed. Glory and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endures for ever and ever. A light has risen in the darkness for those who are upright: merciful and compassionate and just is the Lord God.

Good is the man that shows compassion, and lends: he shall order his words with judgement. For he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is ready to hope in the Lord. His heart is established, and he shall not be moved, until he look upon his enemies. He has distributed, he has given to the poor; and

his righteousness endures for ever; his horn shall be exalted with glory. The sinner shall see it, and be angry; he shall gnash his teeth, and shall melt away: the desire of the sinner shall perish. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 112

Praise the Lord, O you children, praise the Name of the Lord. May the Name of the Lord be blessed from now and for ever. From the rising of the sun until its setting, praise the Name of the Lord.

The Lord is exalted above all nations; His glory is above the heavens.

Who is like unto the Lord our God, Who dwells in the highest and looks upon the lowly, in the heaven, and upon the earth; Who has raised up the poor out of the earth, and lifts the needy out of the dunghill; that

He may seat him with rulers, with the rulers of His people. Who makes the barren woman to dwell in the house of a joyful mother of children. *Alleluia.*

### **PSALM 114**

I have loved, because the Lord has heard the voice of my supplication. Because He has inclined His ear unto me, and in my days I entreated Him. For the sorrows of death held me, and the perils of Amenti have found me: I found trouble and grief. And I entreated the Name of the Lord; O Lord, deliver my soul. Merciful is the Lord, and righteous; our God shows mercy. He Who keeps the little children is The Lord: I humbled myself, and He delivered me. Return, O my soul unto Your resting place; for the Lord has done good unto me. He has

delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling. I will please the Lord in the region of the living.  
*Alleluia.*

### PSALM 115

I believed, therefore I spoke: I was also exceedingly humbled: I said in my amazement: all men are liars. What shall I give to the Lord in return for all He has given me? I will take the cup of salvation, and entreat the Name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord before all the people.

Precious before the Lord is the death of His saints. Lord, I am Your servant; I am Your servant, and the son of Your handmaid: You have broken my bonds. I will sacrifice to You the sacrifice of praise, and will entreat the Name of the Lord. I will pay my vows



unto the Lord, in the courts of the house of the Lord before all the people, in the midst of Jerusalem. *Alleluia.*

### **THE GOSPEL FROM SAINT LUKE 9:1-17**

And when the Apostles returned, they told Him all they had done. And He took them with Him, and went apart alone into a city called Bethsaida.

But when the multitudes knew, they followed Him: and He received them, and spoke unto them of the kingdom of God, and healed those who had need of healing.

And when the day began to decline, then the twelve came, and said unto Him, "Send the multitude away, so that they may go into the villages and the fields round about, that

they may rest, and may find what to eat: for we are here in a desert place.”

But He said unto them, “Give you them (what) to eat.” And they said, “We have no more than five loaves and two fishes; except we should go and buy food for all this people.” For they were about five Yousand men.

But He said to His Disciples, “Make them sit down, fifty in each place.” And they did so, and all sat down.

Then He took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them, and broke them, and He gave to the Disciples that they might set before the multitudes.

And they ate, and all were satisfied: and they took that which was in excess to them, twelve baskets full of fragments. *Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall these Troparia be said,*

**O You Who** tasted death in the flesh at the time of the ninth hour for our sakes, we the sinners, slay our carnal thoughts, O Christ our God, and deliver us.

Let my supplication come near before You, O Lord; give me understanding according to Your word. My petition shall come before You; revive me according to Your word.

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***  
(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

O You Who gave up the spirit into the hands of the Father, when You hanged upon the Cross at the time of the ninth hour, and have led into Paradise the thief who hung with You, forget me not, O You the Good

One. Forget me not; but purify my soul and enlighten my understanding. You shall make me a partaker of the graces of Your immortal mysteries, that when I have tasted of Your goodness, I may offer unto You praise without ceasing, I shall long for Your beauty above all things. O Christ our God and deliver us.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

O You Who for our sakes was born of the Virgin, and have tolerated the Cross, O You the Good One. You have slain death by Your death, and manifested forth the Resurrection. O God, leave not behind those whom You have created with Your hands; show forth Your love toward mankind, O You the Good One, and accept

the supplications of Your Mother on our behalf.

O our Saviour, save a humble people. Leave us not unto the end neither give us up unto the age; make not void Your covenant. Take not away Your mercy from us, for the sake of Abraham Your beloved, Isaac Your servant and Israel Your holy one.

*Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.* (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

**When the thief** saw the Author of Life hanging on the Cross, he said, “If He Who is hanging with us were not God Who was Incarnate, the sun would not have hidden its rays, nor would the earth had quaked, trembling. But, O You, Who is able to do everything, and Who tolerates every thing,

remember me, O Lord, when You come into Your Kingdom.”

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***

(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

O You Who received the confession of the thief upon the Cross, receive us, O You the Good One, we who have fallen under sentence of death because of our sins. With him we acknowledge our sins, confessing Your Divinity, crying with him unto You, saying, “Remember us, O Lord, when You come into Your Kingdom.”

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

When the Mother saw the Lamb and the Shepherd, Saviour of the world, hanging on

the Cross, she said, weeping: “The world indeed rejoices, for it has received salvation. But my bowels burn seeing Your crucifixion, which You have endured patiently for all, O my Son and my God!”

*Then shall be said: Lord hear us, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 41 times, Holy, Holy, Holy, (Page 45), the Lord's Prayer and this absolution:*

O God, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, Who by His manifestation has redeemed us and delivered us from the servitude of the enemy; we entreat You in His blessed and great Name, turn our minds away from the cares of life and worldly desires, unto the remembrance of Your heavenly judgements.

Perfect in us Your love toward mankind, O You the Good One, and let the prayer of the ninth hour before You, be accepted in Your presence at all times. And grant unto us to walk worthy of the calling You have called us to, that when we pass out of the body, we may be numbered with the true worshippers of the passion of Your Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, and that we may obtain mercy and forgiveness of our sins and salvation, together with the choir of Your saints, who have pleased You in truth from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.

*Then shall be said "The Prayer of the hours" (Page 48).*



# THE ELEVENTH HOUR PRAYER (VESPERS)

*The worshipper prays the introductory prayers,*

The Lord's Prayer                      Page 1

The Prayer of Thanksgiving      Page 2

Psalm 50                                  Page 4

*Then shall be said,*

The hymn of the blessed evening: I offer to Christ, my King and my God: I will hope in Him that He may forgive me my sins.

## PSALM 116

Praise the Lord, all you nations: praise Him, all you people. For His mercy is confirmed upon us: and the truth of the Lord endures for ever. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 117**

Confess unto the Lord; for He is good: because His mercy endures for ever. Let the house of Israel say, that He is good: that His mercy endures for ever. Let the house of Aaron say, that He is good: that His mercy endures for ever. Let those who fear the Lord say, that He is good: that His mercy endures for ever.

In my trouble, I have cried unto the Lord: and He has heard me, and brought me into a broad place. The Lord is my helper; I will not fear: what can man do to me? The Lord is my helper; and I will look upon my enemies.

It is better to trust in the Lord than to trust in man. It is better to hope in the Lord than to hope in rulers. All nations surrounded me: but in the Name of the Lord

I took my vengeance upon them. They surrounded me and compassed me about; and in the Name of the Lord I took my vengeance upon them. They surrounded me like bees around a honeycomb; and they burned as a fire in thorns: and in the Name of the Lord I took my vengeance upon them. They laid their hands on me that I might fall: but the Lord supported me. My strength and my praise is the Lord, He has become to me salvation.

The voice of rejoicing and salvation in the dwellings of the righteous: the right hand of the Lord has made strength. The right hand of the Lord has exalted me: the right hand of the Lord has made strength. I shall not die, but I shall live, and I shall declare the works of the Lord. For with chastening the Lord has chastened me: but He has not delivered me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness: that I may go into them, and confess to the Lord: this is the gate of the Lord, the righteous shall enter into it. I shall confess You, Lord: for You have heard me, and have become to me salvation. The stone which the builders despised, the same is become the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; and it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. O Lord, You shall save us, O Lord, You shall straighten our way. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord: we have blessed you out of the house of the Lord. God the Lord, has enlightened us. Ordain a feast, in those who reach unto the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will confess You: You are my God, I will exalt You. I shall confess You, Lord: for You have heard me, and have

become to me salvation. Confess unto the Lord; for He is good: because His mercy endures for ever. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 119

In my trouble I cried unto You, Lord, and You have heard me. O Lord, deliver my soul, from iniquitous lips, and from a deceitful tongue. What shall be given to you? Or what shall be added unto you, by a deceitful tongue? The sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals of the desert. Woe unto me, that my sojourn is prolonged: I have dwelt in the dwellings of Kedar! My soul has been a sojourner in a multitude of places. With those who hated peace, I was peaceable: when I spoke with them, they fought against me in vain. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 120**

I have lifted up my eyes unto the mountains, from where comes my help. My help is from the Lord, Who created the heaven and the earth. Let not your foot be moved: He Who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, He Who watches over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord shall keep you: the Lord shall be a shade upon your right hand. By day, the sun shall not burn you, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall guard you from all evil: the Lord shall guard your soul. The Lord shall guard your coming in and your going out from now and for ever. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 121**

I was gladdened by what they said to me: we will go into the house of the Lord. Our

feet stood in the courts of Jerusalem. Jerusalem is built as a city: her good pleasure is in this and that: for to there had the tribes gone up, the tribes of the Lord, a testimony of Israel, to confess the Name of the Lord. For there are set thrones of judgment, thrones over the house of David.

Seek after that which belongs to your peace, Jerusalem: and abundance for those who love you. Let peace be in your strength, and abundance in your heavy towers. For the sake of my brethren and my relatives, I have spoken peace concerning you. For the sake of the house of the Lord our God I have sought after good things concerning you. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 122**

I have lifted up my eyes unto You Who dwells in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants on the hands of their masters, and as the eyes of a handmaiden on the hand of her mistress; so our eyes (are) unto the Lord our God, until He has compassion upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we are exceedingly filled with contempt, and our soul is exceedingly filled. Give the reproach to those who are prosperous, and the contempt to the proud.  
*Alleluia.*

**PSALM 123**

Except the Lord had been with us, let Israel say; except the Lord had been with us, when men rose up against us: they would have swallowed us alive, when their wrath



raged against us: the water would have submerged us, our soul would have passed through a torrent: Our soul would have passed through bottomless water. Blessed be the Lord, Who has not given us as a prey to their teeth. Our soul has escaped as a sparrow from the snare of the hunters: the snare is crushed, and we have escaped. Our help is in the Name of the Lord, Who created the heaven and the earth. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 124

Those who trust in the Lord are like mount Zion: He who dwells in Jerusalem shall not be moved for ever. Mountains surround her, and the Lord is round about His people from now and for ever. The Lord shall not leave the rod of the sinners (rest) upon the lot of the righteous; lest the

righteous stretch forth their hands unto iniquity. Do good, O Lord, to the good, and to those who are upright in their hearts.

But those who sway into stumbling blocks, the Lord will remove them with evil doers: but peace (be) upon Israel. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 125

When the Lord brought back the captivity of Zion, we became like those who are comforted. Then our mouth was filled with joy, and our tongue with rejoicing: then shall be said among the nations, that the Lord has magnified His doings with them. The Lord has magnified His doings with us; we have become joyful.

The Lord shall bring back our captivity, like torrents in the south. Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. Going, they went and

they were weeping, bearing their seeds; coming, they will come with joy, bearing their sheaves. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 126

Unless the Lord build the house, they labour in vain who build it: unless the Lord guard the city, those who guard it watch in vain. It is vain for you to rise up early, rise up, after being seated, who eat the bread of grief: for He gives sleep to His beloved ones. Lo, sons are the heritage of the Lord: the reward of the fruit of the womb. As arrows in the hand of a mighty one; so are children of those who have been awakened. Blessed is the man who shall fulfil his desire with them. Then they shall not be ashamed, when they speak with their enemies in the gates. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 127**

Blessed are all who fear the Lord; who walk in His ways. You will eat of the fruit of your labours: you will be blessed, and it shall be well with you. Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine blossoming forth by the sides of your house: your children like olive shoots around your table. Behold, thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. The Lord shall bless you out of Zion: and you shall see the good things of Jerusalem all the days of your life. You shall see your children's children, and peace be upon Israel.

*Alleluia.*

**PSALM 128**

Many a time have they fought against me from my youth, let Israel say: many a time have they fought against me from my youth:

Yet they could not prevail against me. The sinners were striking me upon my back: and they lengthened their iniquity. The Lord is righteous: He will break the necks of the sinners. Let them be ashamed and turned back all who hate Zion. Let them be as the grass upon the housetops, which withers before it is plucked up: with which the reaper has not filled his hand; Neither has he who gathers sheaves filled his bosom. And those who pass by have not said, "The blessing of the Lord be upon you: we have blessed you in the Name of the Lord." *Alleluia.*

**THE GOSPEL FROM  
SAINT LUKE 4:38-41**

But when He had risen out of the synagogue, He entered into Simon's house. And Simon's mother in law had a great fever;

and they entreated Him for her. And He stood over her, and rebuked the fever; and it left her: and immediately she rose and ministered unto them.

Now when the sun set, every one that had any sick (ones) with many kinds of sickness, brought them unto Him; and He laid His hands on every one of them, and healed them. And demons also were coming out of many, crying out, and saying, You are (Christ) the Son of God. And He rebuking them did not let them speak: for they knew that He was Christ. *Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall these Troparia be said,*

**If the righteous** is hardly saved, where shall I the sinner appear? The burden of the day and its heat I could not bear because of my human frailty. But, O You the merciful

God, count me among those of the eleventh hour, for behold, I was conceived in iniquities and in sin did my mother desire me. Therefore, I (dare) not lift up my eyes unto heaven, rather, I trust in the richness of Your mercy and Your love to mankind, proclaiming and saying, “O God, forgive me, a sinner, and have mercy upon me!”

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***

(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

Hasten, O my Saviour, to accept me in the Fatherly bosom, for I have destroyed my life in pleasures and lusts, and the day is over and spent. Therefore, I now trust on the abundance of Your infinite compassion. So, do not be far away from a lowly heart, begging for Your mercy, for I cry to You, O Lord, with fear, “Father, I have sinned

against heaven and before You, and I am not worthy to be called Your son, so make me like one of Your hired servants.”

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

I have sinned with attention and eagerness and I have subjected (myself) to every sin with yearning and diligence and I have become worthy of every torture and judgement. Prepare for me the causes of repentance, O Lady, the Virgin, for your intercessions I ask and entreat: and to you, only, I cry to help me lest I be ashamed. And when my soul flies forth from me, be with me, and the counsel of the enemies, defeat, and the mouths of Amenti shut, lest they swallow me, O spotless bride of the True Bridegroom.



*Then shall be said: Lord bear us, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 41 times, Holy, Holy, Holy, (Page 45), the Lord's Prayer and this absolution:*

We thank You, our Master, the compassionate, that You have granted us to pass this day in peace, brought us to the evening in thanksgiving, and made us worthy to behold the light until sunset. Accept, O God, our doxology which has now been made, and deliver us from the wiles of the adversary, and abolish all his snares which are laid against us. Grant us in this coming night peace without suffering, nor trouble, nor weariness, nor fantasies, that we may pass it also in peace and chastity; that we may stand up for hymns and prayers, at all times and in all places, glorifying Your Holy Name in all things, together with the Father Who is in-

comprehensible nor having any beginning, and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is Co-Essential with You, now and unto the age of ages. Amen.

*Then shall be said "The Prayer of the hours" (Page 48).*

# THE TWELFTH HOUR PRAYER (COMPLINE)

*The worshipper prays the introductory prayers,*

The Lord's Prayer                      Page 1

The Prayer of Thanksgiving      Page 2

Psalm 50                                      Page 4

*Then shall be said,*

The hymn of the blessed Sleep: I offer to  
Christ, my King and my God: I will hope in  
Him that He may forgive me my sins.

## PSALM 129

Out of the depths I have cried unto You,  
O Lord. Lord, hear my voice: let Your ears  
be attentive to the voice of my supplication.  
If You, Lord, should pay heed to iniquities,  
O Lord, who shall stand? For my

forgiveness is from You, for Your Name's sake, O Lord, I have waited for You. My soul has held firmly upon Your Law, my soul has hoped in the Lord, from the morning watch till the night. From the morning watch, let Israel hope in the Lord: for mercy is with the Lord, and great is His redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 130

Lord, my heart has not been exalted, nor have my eyes exalted themselves: neither have I exercised myself in great matters, nor in wonders above me. Yet, if I have not been humbled, but my voice has been raised as he who has been weaned from the milk towards his mother: In this manner

recompense my soul. Let Israel hope in the Lord from this time and for ever. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 131

Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness: how he swore to the Lord, and vowed to the God of Jacob; I will not enter into the dwelling of my house, nor go up upon the bed of my sleeping-mat; I will not give sleep to my eyes, and slumber to my eyelids, and rest to my temples, until I find a place for the Lord, and a habitation for the God of Jacob.

Behold, we have heard of it at Ephratah: we found it in the place of the forest. We will go into His tabernacles: we will worship in the place where His feet stood.

Arise, O Lord, to Your rest; You, and the ark of Your holy place. Your priests shall

be clothed with righteousness; and Your saints shall rejoice. For the sake of Your servant David, turn not Your face away from Your Christ. The Lord has sworn to David in truth; and He will not turn from it; of the fruit of your belly will I set upon your throne. If your sons will keep My covenant and My testimonies that I shall teach them, their sons shall also sit upon your throne for evermore. For the Lord has chosen Zion; He has chosen it for His habitation. This is My place of rest to the age of ages. Here will I dwell; for I have desired it. Her widow with a blessing will I bless: and her poor I will satisfy with bread. Her priests I will clothe with salvation: and her saints shall rejoice with rejoicing. There will I raise up a horn to David: I have prepared a lamp for My Christ. His enemies will I clothe with shame: but

upon Him My holiness shall blossom.  
*Alleluia.*

### PSALM 132

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together! Like precious ointment upon the head, which comes down upon the beard, the beard of Aaron: which comes down to the edge of his garment; as the dew of Hermon, which comes down upon the mountain of Zion: for there the Lord has commanded the blessing, and life for evermore. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 133

Behold, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. In the nights, lift up your hands to the

sanctuary, and bless the Lord. The Lord will bless you out of Zion, Who has created the heaven and the earth. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 136

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and we wept, when we remembered Zion. Upon the willows in its midst we hanged our harps. For those who led us captive asked us there for words of songs: and they who had taken us there: sing to us a praise of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the praise of the Lord in a strange land? If I forget Jerusalem, I shall forget my right hand. My tongue shall cleave to my throat if I do not remember you, if I place not Jerusalem first at the beginning of my joy.

Remember, O Lord, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said,



trash it, trash it, even to its foundation. O wretched daughter of Babylon, blessed is he who shall reward you the same reward you have given us. Blessed is he who shall seize your little children and bury them beside the rock. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 137

I will confess You, O Lord, with all my heart, for You have heard all the words of my mouth: before the angels I will sing to You. And I will worship before Your holy temple, and I will confess Your Name on account of Your mercy and Your truth: for You have magnified Your holy Name above every one. In the day when I shall entreat You, speedily hear me, You shall look the more upon my soul with power. Let all the kings of the earth confess You, O Lord, for

they have heard all the words of my mouth. Let them praise in the ways of the Lord: for great is the glory of the Lord. For the Lord is exalted, and He beholds the lowly: and He knows them who are (exalted) from afar. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me: You have stretched forth Your hand against the wrath of the enemies, and Your right hand has delivered me. The Lord will repay for me: Your mercy, O Lord, endures for ever: forsake not the works of Your own hands. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 140

Lord, I have cried unto You, hear me: attend to the voice of my supplication when I cry aloud unto You. Let my prayer be set forth before You as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. Set a

watch, O Lord, over my mouth; and a strong door across my lips. Incline not my heart to evil words, to find occasion for excuses in sins with men who work iniquity: and I shall not take pleasure with their elect. The righteous shall chasten me in mercy; and shall reprove me: the oil of a sinner, let it not anoint my head: for my prayer also shall be in pleasure. Their strong ones have been swallowed up beside the rock, they shall hear my words; for they are sweet. As a clod of earth crushed on the ground, their bones are scattered beside Amenti. For our eyes are towards You, O Lord. Lord, I have hoped in You; slay not my soul. Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and from the stumbling-blocks of those who work iniquity. Sinners shall fall in his net, I, myself, remain alone until the iniquity passes on. *Alleluia.*

**PSALM 141**

I have cried aloud unto the Lord with my voice; with my voice I made supplication to the Lord. I will pour out my prayer before Him; my trouble will I pour out before Him. When my spirit perished within me, then You knew my paths. In this way in which I was walking have they hidden a snare for me. I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; there was no one who has regard for my soul. I have cried unto You, O Lord and I said, You are my hope and my portion in the land of the living. Attend unto my prayer; for I have been exceedingly humbled: deliver me from the hands of those who persecute me; for they have strengthened (themselves) more than I. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may

confess Your Name, O Lord: the righteous wait for me; until You repay me. *Alleluia.*

## PSALM 145

Praise the Lord, my soul. I will praise the Lord in my life: I will sing to my God while I have any being. Put not your trust in rulers, nor in the sons of men, in whom there is no salvation. Their spirit shall go out, and they shall return to their earth; in that day all their thoughts shall perish.

Blessed is he whose helper is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God: Who has created the heaven, and the earth, the sea, and all that is in it: Who keeps truth for ever: Who executes judgment for those who suffer injustice: Who gives food to the hungry. The Lord shall loose the bound: The Lord shall raise those who are cast down: the

Lord makes wise the blind: the Lord loves the righteous: the Lord shall keep the strangers; the orphan and the widow He shall accept: and the way of the sinners He shall destroy. The Lord shall reign for ever, and your God, O Zion, from generation to generation. *Alleluia.*

### PSALM 146

Praise the Lord: for psalm is good: praise shall delight our God. He Who builds up Jerusalem is the Lord: the Lord will gather together the scattered of Israel. Who heals the broken in their hearts, and binds up all their bruises. Who numbers the multitude of the stars; and gives names to all of them. Great is the Lord, and great is His power: and infinite is His understanding. The Lord

accepts the meek: but He humiliates the sinners down to the earth.

Begin, first by confessing to the Lord; sing to our God with a harp: Who covers the heaven with clouds, Who prepares rain for the earth, Who makes grass to grow upon the mountains, and herbs for the service of men. And gives the beasts their food, and to the young ravens which cry unto Him. He shall not delight in the strength of the horse: nor take pleasure in the legs of a man. The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, and those who hope in His mercy. *Alleluia.*

### **PSALM 147**

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. For He has strengthened the bars of your gates; He has blessed your children within you. Who set your borders in

peace, and satisfies you with the fat of wheat. Who sends His word to the earth: His word runs very swiftly. Who gives snow like wool: Who pours down mist like ashes. And casts icicles like crumbs: Who can stand before the face of His frost? He will send His word, and will melt them: His wind will blow, and the waters will flow. Who declares His word to Jacob, His truths and His judgements to Israel. He has not dealt thus with every nation: and His judgements He has not manifested to them. *Alleluia.*

### **THE GOSPEL FROM SAINT LUKE 2:25-32**

And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and this man was just and devout, waiting for the



consolation of Israel: and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Spirit, that he should not see death, before he saw the Lord Christ.

And he came in the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him that which was required by the Law. And Simeon took Him up in his arms, and he blessed God, saying, “Now, O my Master, You shall let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word: for my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people; a light for a revelation to the nations, and the glory of Your people Israel.”  
*Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall these Troparia be said,*

**Behold**, I am about to stand before the Just Judge, frightened and trembling because of the multitude of my sins, for the life that is spent in desires is worthy of judgement. Repent therefore, O my soul, as long as you dwell on this earth, for the dust in the grave offers no praise, and among the dead no one remembers God, nor do they who are in Amenti give thanks. But rise up from the sleep of negligence and entreat the Saviour in repentance, saying, “O God, have mercy on me and save me!”

*Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.*

(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

Had life been unending and this world eternal, O my soul, you would have had an excuse; but when your vile deeds and ugly evils are exposed before the Just Judge, what

will you give in answer, while you are lying on the bed of sins and negligent in humiliating the flesh? O Christ our God, before the awesome throne of Your judgement I am frightened; and because of the ray of Your Divinity I dread, I, the defiled wretch who is lying on my bed and careless about my life. Yet, I identify myself with the Publican, beating upon my breast and crying, “God be merciful to me, a sinner!”

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

O undefiled Virgin, help me, I, who am your servant. And keep away from me the waves of vile thoughts. And raise my sickly soul to watch and pray because it has long lain in heavy sleep. For you are an able,

merciful and helpful mother, the Mother of the Fountain of Life, Jesus Christ my King, my God and my Hope.

*Then shall be said,*

Graciously accord, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed are You, O Lord, God of our fathers. And exceedingly blessed and full of glory is Your Holy Name forever. Amen.

Let Your mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope in You. For the eyes of everyone wait upon You, for You give them their food in due season.

Hearken to us, O God, our Redeemer, the hope of all the regions of the earth. And You, O Lord, shall keep us, deliver us and save us from this generation and forever. Amen.

Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes. Blessed are You, O Lord; make me to understand Your commandments. Blessed are You, O Lord; enlighten me with Your precepts.

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

Lord, You have been our refuge in all generations. I said, "Be merciful to me, heal my soul; for I have sinned against You."

Lord, I have fled unto You; Deliver me and teach me to do Your will, for You are my God. With You is the Fountain of Life. In Your Light shall we see Light. Let Your mercy come to those who know You, and Your righteousness unto the upright in heart.

To You belongs the blessing, to You belongs the praise, to You belongs the glory, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Who are from

the beginning, and now, and unto the age of ages. Amen.

It is a good thing to confess unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto Your Name, O Most High; to show forth Your mercy in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night.

### **THE TRISAGION**

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,  
Who was born of the Virgin, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,  
Who was crucified for us, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,  
Who rose from the dead and ascended into the heavens, have mercy on us.

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

O Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

O Lord, forgive our sins. O Lord, forgive our iniquities. O Lord, forgive us our trespasses.

O Lord, visit the sick of Your people, heal them for the sake of Your Holy Name. Our fathers and our brethren who have fallen asleep, O Lord, repose their souls.

O You Who are sinless, Lord have mercy on us. O You Who are sinless, Lord help us and receive our supplications. For Yours is the glory, the dominion, and the triple holiness. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord bless. Amen.

Our Father Who art in Heaven...

## HAIL TO YOU

Hail to you! We ask you, O saint full of glory, the ever-virgin Mother of God, the Mother of Christ; offer our prayers unto your beloved Son, that He may forgive us our sins. Hail to the holy Virgin, who has brought forth unto us the True Light, Christ our God. Ask the Lord on our behalf, that He may have mercy on us and forgive us our sins.

O Virgin Mary, the holy Mother of God, the faithful advocate for all mankind, intercede on our behalf before Christ, Whom you have brought forth, that He may forgive us our sins.



## THE INTRODUCTION TO THE CREED

We exalt you, the Mother of the True Light. We glorify you, O saint and Mother of God, for you brought forth unto us the Saviour of the whole world; He came and saved our souls.

Glory to You, our Master, our King, Christ; the pride of the Apostles, the crown of the martyrs, the joy of the righteous, the firmness of the churches, the forgiveness of sins.

We proclaim the Holy Trinity in One Godhead. We worship Him. We glorify Him. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord bless. Amen.

## THE ORTHODOX CREED

We believe in one God; God the Father, the Pantocrator, Who created heaven and earth, and all things seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord; Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; True God of True God; begotten, not created; of One Essence with the Father; by Whom all things were made; Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit, and of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose from the dead, according to the scriptures. Ascended into the heavens, He sits at the right hand of His Father; and He is coming again in His glory,

to judge the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

Yes, we believe in the Holy Spirit; the Lord, the Giver of Life; Who proceeds from the Father; Who, with the Father and the Son, is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets.

And in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, we confess one Baptism for the remission of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the coming age. Amen.

*Then shall be said: Lord bear us, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 41 times, Holy, Holy, Holy, (Page 45), the Lord's Prayer and this absolution:*

Lord, all things in which we have sinned against You this day, whether in deed, or in

word, or in thought, or by all senses, do You pardon and forgive us, for the sake of Your Holy Name, as a Good One and as a Lover of mankind. And grant unto us, O God, a peaceful night, and this sleep to be pure. And send to us an angel of peace to keep us from every evil, every calamity and every temptation of the enemy.

By the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the adoration are due unto You, with Him, and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

*Then shall be said "The Prayer of the hours" (Page 48).*

## THE PRAYER OF THE VEIL

*The worshipper prays the introductory prayers:*

The Lord's Prayer	Page 1
The Prayer of Thanksgiving	Page 2
Psalm 50	Page 4

*Then shall be said,*

The hymn of the veil: I offer to Christ,  
my King and my God: I will hope in Him  
that He may forgive me my sins.

*Then the following Psalms from Prime are said:*

Psalm 4	Page 13	Psalm 24	Page 24
Psalm 6	Page 15	Psalm 26	Page 26
Psalm 12	Page 19	Psalm 66	Page 30
Psalm 15	Page 20	Psalm 69	Page 31

*Then the following Psalm from Terce are said:*

Psalm 22    Page 52      Psalm 42    Page 63

Psalm 29    Page 57

*Then the following Psalms from Sext are said:*

Psalm 56    Page 77      Psalm 90    Page 90

Psalm 85    Page 87

*Then the following Psalms from None are said:*

Psalm 96    Page 104      Psalm 114   Page 115

Psalm 109   Page 110      Psalm 115   Page 116

*Then the following Psalms from Vespers are said:*

Psalm 120   Page 130      Psalm 128   Page 136

*Then the following Psalms from Compline are said:*

Psalm 129   Page 143      Psalm 131   Page 145

Psalm 130   Page 144      Psalm 132   Page 147

Psalm 133	Page 147	Psalm 140	Page 150
Psalm 136	Page 148	Psalm 145	Page 153

*Then the following Psalms from the Midnight Hour are said:*

Psalm 118 part 20	Page 199
Psalm 118 part 21	Page 200
Psalm 118 part 22	Page 201

## **THE GOSPEL FROM SAINT JOHN 6:16-23**

But when it was evening, His Disciples came down to the sea, and when they had gone up into the ship, they were coming to the opposite shore of the sea to Capernaum. And it was already dusk, and Jesus had not yet come to them. But the sea was rising, (because) a great wind (was) blowing. So when they were about twenty five or thirty

furlongs away, they saw Jesus walking upon the sea, and approaching the ship: and they feared. But he said to them, It is I; fear not. Then they willingly took Him into the ship with them: and immediately the ship came to the shore, to the land to which they were to go.

But in the morning, the multitude which was standing on the other side of the sea saw that there was not another ship there, except one, and that Jesus went not into the ship with his Disciples, but that his Disciples were gone away alone. Other ships came from Tiberias unto the place where they have eaten the bread, on which the Lord had given thanks. *Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall these Troparia be said,*



**You, O Lord** know the awakening of my enemies and the feebleness of my nature You understand, O my Creator. Behold, I will commit my spirit into Your hands. Overshadow me with the wings of Your goodness, lest I sleep unto death.

Enlighten my eyes with the greatness of Your words, raise me up at all times unto glorifying You, for You alone are good and a Lover of mankind.

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***  
(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

Fearful is Your judgement seat: O Lord, men are gathered together: the angels stand, and the books are opened; the works will be revealed, and the thoughts will make a defence. What judgement will be my judgement? I, who am bound in sins. Who

will quench away from me the flame of fire? Who shall enlighten my darkness, if You do not have mercy on me, O Lord? For You are compassionate towards men.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

O Mother of God, since we have confidence in you, we shall not be ashamed, but shall be saved; and, since we have obtained your help and your mediation, O holy, pure and perfect (one), we shall not be afraid, but we shall pursue our enemies and shall scatter them, having obtained the protection of your powerful help in every thing like a shield. And we ask and entreat, crying aloud unto you, O Mother of God, that you may deliver us through your supplications, and that you may raise us up

from the sleep in which there is darkness, to offer a doxology through the power of God Who was incarnate of you.

*Then shall be said: The Tris-Agion, the Creed, Lord bear us, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 41 times, Holy, Holy, Holy, (Page 43), the Lord's Prayer and this absolution:*

Master, Lord, Jesus Christ our God, give us rest in our sleep: a rest for our bodies and purity in our souls. And keep us from the darkness, which is the darkness of sin. Let the movement of the passions be stilled; let the fire of the body be quenched. Bring to nought the uprising of the flesh, and grant to us a watchful mind and humble thoughts, and a conduct full of virtue, a sleeping mat undefiled and a pure bed. And raise us up

for the hymn of the night and of the morning, being sustained by Your commandments and strengthened continually by the remembrance of Your judgement. Grant us a doxology for all the night, that we may praise Your Holy Name which is full of glory and splendour, with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, now, and at all times and unto the age of ages. Amen.

*Then shall be said "The Prayer of the hours" (Page 48).*

## THE MIDNIGHT PRAYER

*The worshipper prays the introductory prayers,*

The Lord's Prayer Page 1

The Prayer of Thanksgiving Page 2

Psalm 50 Page 4

## FIRST WATCH

*Then shall be said,*

Rise up, O children of the Light, that we may praise the Lord of the powers, that He may grant us the salvation of our souls. When we stand before You in the body, take away from our minds the sleep of negligence. Grant us sobriety<sup>1</sup>, O Lord, that we may understand how to stand before You at time

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<sup>1</sup>Literally, *expectancy of the Bridegroom*

of prayer, and send up unto You a befitting doxology, and win the forgiveness of our many sins.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

Behold, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. In the nights, lift up your hands to the sanctuary, and bless the Lord. The Lord will bless you out of Zion, Who has created the heaven and the earth.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

Let my supplication come near before You, O Lord: give me understanding according to Your word. My petition shall come in before You: revive me according to

Your word. My lips shall pour forth blessing, if You teach me Your truths. My tongue shall respond with Your words: for all Your commandments are righteous. Let Your hand be delivering me; for I have desired Your commandments. I have longed for Your salvation, Lord; and Your Law is my meditation. My soul shall live, and it shall praise You; and Your judgements shall help me. I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek after Your servant; for I have not forgotten Your commandments.

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

Glory be to the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, from now and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

Glory to You, O Good One, the Lover of mankind. Hail to Your Mother, the Virgin, and all Your saints.

Glory to You, O Only-Begotten. O Holy Trinity, have mercy upon us.

Let God arise and let all His enemies be scattered, and let all that hate His Holy Name flee before His face.

But let Your people be in blessing, thousands of thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousands, doing Your will.

Lord, You shall open my lips, and my mouth shall utter Your praise. Amen. Alleluia.

*Then shall be said,*

The hymn of the middle of the blessed night: I offer to Christ, my King and my



God: I will hope in Him that He may forgive me my sins.

*Then the following Psalms are said:*

Psalm 3	Page 12	Psalm 85	Page 87
Psalm 6	Page 15	Psalm 90	Page 90
Psalm 12	Page 19	Psalm 116	Page 125
Psalm 69	Page 31	Psalm 117	Page 126

## **PSALM 118**

1. Blessed (are) the blameless in the way, who walk in the Law of the Lord. Blessed (are) they who search out His testimonies, who seek Him with all their heart. For those who work iniquity have not desired to walk in His ways. You have commanded Your ordinances to be kept diligently. O that my ways were upright to keep Your truths! Then

I shall not be ashamed, when I look upon all Your commandments. I will confess You, O Lord, with uprightness of my heart, on knowing the judgements of Your justice. And Your truths I will keep: forsake me not utterly.

*Doxa Si Philanethropé* (Glory to You O Lover of mankind)

2. By what shall a youth straighten his way? By keeping Your words. I have sought after You with all my heart: cast me not away from Your commandments. I have hidden Your words in my heart, that I might not sin against You. Blessed are You, Lord: teach me Your truths. With my lips I have confessed all the judgements of Your mouth. I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, as over all riches. I will speak of Your commandments, and I will understand

Your ways. I will meditate upon Your truths: and I will not forget Your words.

*Doxa Si Philanethropé* (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

3. Repay Your servant, (and) I shall live, and I shall keep Your word. Open my eyes, and I shall behold Your wonders out of Your Law. I, myself, am a sojourner upon the earth: hide not Your commandments from me. My soul has yearned after longing for Your judgements at all times. You have rebuked the proud: cursed are those who have turned away from Your commandments. Remove from me reproach and shame; for I have sought after Your testimonies. For rulers also were sitting, they were speaking against me: but Your servant meditated in Your truths. For Your

testimonies also are my study, and Your truths are my counsels.

*Doxa Si Philanethropé* (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

4. My soul has cleaved to the earth: revive me according to Your word. I have declared Your ways, and You have heard me: teach me Your truths. And make me to understand the way of Your justice: and I will meditate on Your wonders. My soul has slumbered from grief: strengthen me by Your words. Cast away from me the way of unrighteousness: and by Your Law have mercy on me. I have chosen the way of truth: and I have not forgotten Your judgements. I have cleaved to Your testimonies: Lord, put me not to shame. I was running in the way of Your commandments, when You enlarged my heart.

*Doxa Si Philanethropé* (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

5. Set before me a Law, O Lord, in the way of Your truths, and I will seek after it at all times. Give me understanding, and I shall search Your Law; and I shall keep it with all my heart. Lead me to the way of Your commandments; for those I have desired. Incline my heart to Your testimonies, and not to covetousness. Turn away my eyes that they behold not vanities; and revive me in Your way. Establish Your word with Your servant unto Your fear. Turn away my reproach which I suspected: for Your judgements are sweet. Behold, I have desired Your commandments: revive me in Your righteousness.

*Doxa Si Philanethropé* (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

6. Let Your mercy come upon me, O Lord, and Your salvation, according to Your word. And I shall answer a word to those who scorn me: for I have hoped in Your words. And take not away from my mouth the word of truth utterly; for I have hoped in Your judgements. And I will keep Your Law at all times for ever and ever. I was walking at large: for I have sought after Your commandments. I was speaking of Your testimonies before kings, and I was not ashamed. And I was meditating on Your commandments, which I have loved exceedingly. I have lifted up my hands unto Your commandments, which I have loved exceedingly; and I was meditating on Your truths.

*Doxa Si Philanethropé* (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

7. Remember Your word to Your servant, upon which You have caused me to hope. That which has comforted me in my humiliation: for Your word has revived me. The proud have transgressed the Law utterly: but I have not turned away from Your Law. I have remembered Your judgements of old, O Lord; and I was comforted. Grief has taken hold upon me because of the sinners who have forsaken Your Law. Your truths have been psalms unto me in the place of my dwelling. I have remembered Your Name, O Lord, in the night, and I have kept Your Law. This happened to me, because I have sought after Your truths.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

8. You are my portion, O Lord: I have said that I would keep Your commandments. I have entreated Your face with all my heart: have mercy upon me according to Your word. I have thought on Your ways, and I have turned my feet unto Your testimonies. I am prepared and I have not been troubled: That I may keep Your commandments. The bonds of sinners have wrapped me round: but I have not forgotten Your Law. At midnight I used to rise to confess You because of the judgements of Your righteousness. I am a companion to every one who fears You, and those who keep Your commandments. The earth, is filled of Your mercy O Lord, teach me Your truths.

*Doxa Si Philanethropé* (Glory to You O Lover of mankind)



9. You have made goodness with Your servant, O Lord, according to Your word. Teach me sweetness and discipline and knowledge: for I have believed Your commandments. Before I was humbled I was neglectful: therefore I have kept Your words. You are sweet, Lord, and in Your goodness teach me Your truths. The injustice of the proud has been multiplied against me: but I will search Your commandments with my whole heart. Their heart is curdled like milk; but I have meditated on Your Law. It is good for me that I have been humbled; that I might learn Your truths. The Law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver.

*Doxa Si Philanethropé* (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**10.** Your hands have formed me and created me: give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments. Those who fear You shall see me, and they shall be glad; because I have hoped in Your words. I have known, O Lord, that Your judgements are righteous, and in truth You have humbled me. Let Your mercy come upon me to comfort me, according to Your word unto Your servant. Let Your compassion come to me, that I may live: for Your Law is my meditation. Let the proud be ashamed; for they have unjustly transgressed against me: but I will be continuing in Your commandments. Let those who fear You and those who know Your wonders turn unto me, let my heart be pure in Your truth; that I be not ashamed.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**11.** My soul has fainted for Your salvation: and I have hoped in Your word. My eyes have failed for Your words, saying, “When will You comfort me?” I have become like a wineskin in the frost; but I have not forgotten Your truths. How many are the days of Your servant? When will You execute judgment on those who persecute me? The lawless have spoken to me idle words, but not as Your Law, O Lord. For all Your commandments are truth: they persecute me unjustly; help me. They had almost destroyed me upon the earth; but I did not forsake Your commandments. According to Your mercy revive me; and I shall keep the testimonies of Your mouth.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**12.** Your word, O Lord, endures for ever in the heavens. And Your truth abides from generation to generation: You have founded the earth, and it abides. By Your ordinance the day exists: for all things serve You. Unless Your Law had been my meditation, I should have perished in my humiliation. I will never forget Your truths: for by them You have revived me, O Lord. I am Yours, O Lord, save me; for I have sought after Your truths. The sinners have waited for me to destroy me: but I have understood Your testimonies. I have seen an end of all perfection: but Your commandments are exceedingly broad.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**13.** O how loveable is Your Name, O Lord! It is my meditation all the day. You have

instructed me in Your commandments more than my enemies: for they abide with me forever. I have understood more than all those who instruct me: for Your testimonies are my meditation. I have understood more than the elders, for I have sought after Your commandments. I have restrained my feet from every evil way, that I may keep Your words. I have not turned away from Your judgements: for You have set me a Law. How sweet are Your words to my palate! Better than honey and honeycomb to my mouth! I have been instructed by Your commandments: therefore I have hated every way of injustice, for You have set a Law for me.

*Doxa Si Philanethropé* (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**14.** Your Law is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my ways. I have sworn, and I have confirmed it, that I will keep the judgements of Your truth. I have been humbled exceedingly: revive me, Lord, according to Your word. The vows of my mouth You will bless, O Lord, and teach me Your judgements. My soul is in Your hands at all times: and I have not forgotten Your Law. The sinners have concealed a snare for me: and I have not strayed from Your commandments. Your testimonies have I taken as a heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart. I have inclined my heart to perform Your righteousness, for the sake of an eternal reward.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**15.** Transgressors have I hated: but Your Law I have loved. For You are my helper and my protector: I have hoped in Your words. Depart from me, you evildoers: and I shall search out the commandments of my God. Receive me according to Your word, and I shall live: and let me not be ashamed of my expectation. Help me, and I shall be saved: and I shall meditate on Your truths at all times. You have despised all who have turned away from Your truths: for their thought is iniquity. All the sinners of the earth I have counted as transgressors: therefore I have loved Your testimonies at all times. Nail Your fear into my flesh; for I am afraid of Your judgements.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**16.** I have done judgement and justice: leave me not to those who oppress me. Be surety for Your servant unto good: let not the proud slander me. My eyes have failed for Your salvation, and for the word of Your righteousness. Deal with Your servant according to Your mercy, and teach me Your truths. I am Your servant; give me understanding, and I shall know Your testimonies. It is time for the Lord to work: for they have made void Your Law. Therefore I have loved Your commandments above gold and precious stone. Therefore I have stood by all Your commandments; all ways of iniquity have I hated.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**17.** Wonderful are Your testimonies: therefore my soul has examined them. The



revelation of Your words enlightens me; and shall give understanding unto the little children. I have opened my mouth, and I have drawn unto me a Spirit: for I have longed for Your commandments. Look upon me, and have mercy upon me, according to the judgement of those who love Your Name. You shall make straight my footsteps according to Your word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me. Deliver me from the falsehood of men: and I will keep Your commandments. Let Your face shine upon Your servant; and teach me Your truths. My eyes have cast down streams of waters, because they have not kept Your Law.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**18.** Righteous are You, O Lord, and upright are Your judgements. You have exceedingly commanded justice and truth, which are Your testimonies. The zeal of Your house has consumed me, because my enemies have forgotten Your commandments. Your word is exceedingly refined: and Your servant has loved it. I am a youth and despised: but I have not forgotten Your truths. Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Your word is truth. Trouble and distress have overtaken me: yet Your commandments are my meditation. Righteous are Your testimonies unto the age: give me understanding, and I shall live.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**19.** I have cried out with all my heart; hear me, O Lord: Your truths will I seek after. I

cried unto You; save me, and I will keep Your testimonies. I anticipated a time not yet: I cried and I hoped in Your word. My eyes have anticipated the hour of the morning to meditate on Your words. Hear my voice O Lord, according to Your mercy: and revive me according to Your judgements. They that persecute me have drawn near to iniquity: they are far from Your Law. You are near, O Lord; and all Your commandments are truth. From the beginning I have known concerning Your testimonies, that You have founded them for ever.

*Doxa Si Philanethropé* (Glory to You O Lover of mankind)

**20.** Behold my lowliness, and deliver me: for I have not forgotten Your Law. Judge my cause, and redeem me: revive me for the sake

of Your word. Salvation is far from the sinners: for they have not sought after Your truths. Exceedingly abundant are Your compassions, O Lord: revive me according to Your judgements. Many are those who persecute me and trouble me; I have not turned away from Your testimonies. I have seen the ignorant, and I was grieved; because they kept not Your words. Behold, Lord, how I have loved Your commandments: revive me, O Lord, in Your mercy. The beginning of Your words is truth: and all the judgements of Your righteousness endure for ever.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**21.** Rulers have persecuted me without a cause: and my heart has been in awe of Your words. I will rejoice at Your words, as one

who finds a multitude of spoils. I have hated injustice and have abhorred it: but Your Law have I loved. Seven times a day have I praised You because of the judgements of Your righteousness. Let there be great peace to those who love Your Name: and let there be no stumbling block for them. I was looking for Your salvation, Lord, and Your commandments have I kept. My soul has kept Your testimonies; and loved them exceedingly. I have kept Your commandments and Your testimonies: for all my ways are before You, O Lord.

***Doxa Si Philanethropé*** (Glory to You  
O Lover of mankind)

**22.** Let my supplication come near before You, O Lord: give me understanding according to Your word. My petition shall come in before You: revive me according to

Your word. My lips shall pour forth blessing, if You teach me Your truths. My tongue shall respond with Your words: for all Your commandments are righteous. Let Your hand be unto delivering me; for I have desired Your commandments. I have longed for Your salvation, Lord; and Your Law is my meditation. My soul shall live, and it shall praise You; and Your judgements shall help me. I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek after Your servant; for I have not forgotten Your commandments. *Alleluia*

**THE GOSPEL FROM  
SAINT MATTHEW 25:1-13**

Then the kingdom of the heavens is likened to ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the

bridegroom. But there were five foolish among them, and five wise. For the foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

When the bridegroom delayed, they all slumbered and they slept. When it was midnight there was a cry, “Behold, the bridegroom has come; arise, come forth before Him.” Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. But the foolish said to the wise, “Give us of your oil; for our lamps will be extinguished. But the wise answered, saying, “Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go you rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.” But when they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they who were prepared went in with Him into the marriage feast: and the door was shut.

And, at last, the rest of the virgins came, saying, “Our Lord, Our Lord, open to us.” But He answered and said, “Verily I say unto you, I know you not.” Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man comes. *Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall these Troparia be said,*

**Behold** the Bridegroom is coming at midnight. Blessed is that servant whom He shall find watching. But he whom He shall find neglectful, is unworthy to go with Him. See, O my soul, that you grow not heavy with sleep, lest you be found outside the kingdom. But be watchful and cry aloud, saying, “Holy, Holy, Holy are You O God. For the sake of the Mother of God, have mercy upon us.”



***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***

(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

O my soul, consider that awesome day and be sober, and light your lamp with the oil of gladness, because you know not at what hour will come upon you the voice saying, “Behold the Bridegroom!” See, O my soul, that you slumber not, lest you stand outside, knocking like the five foolish virgins. But watch unto prayer, that you may meet Christ the Lord with sweet oil and that He may grant unto you the true marriage feast of His Divinity.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

O Virgin Mother of God, the invincible fortress<sup>1</sup>. Bring to nought the counsel of our adversaries, and turn the affliction of your servants into joy. Fortify our city and fight for our kings and intercede for the peace of the world. For you are our hope, O Mother of God.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

**O Heavenly King**, the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth, Who are in every place and Who fills all; the Treasure of the good and the Giver of Life, graciously come and be in us, and cleanse us from every blemish, O Good One, and save our souls.

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<sup>1</sup>Literally, unbroken fence

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***

(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

As You were with Your Disciples, O Saviour, and gave them peace, come also and be with us; save us and deliver our souls.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

If we stand in Your holy temple, we count ourselves as those who stand in heaven. O Mother of God, you are the gate of heaven; open to us the door of mercy.

*Then shall be said: Lord hear us, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 41 times, Holy, Holy, Holy, (Page 45), the Lord's Prayer.*

## SECOND WATCH

*The Psalms of Vespers (page 125) are recited, except for Psalms 116 and 117.*

### **THE GOSPEL FROM SAINT LUKE 7:36-50**

Then, one of the Pharisees asked Him that He would eat with him. And when He had entered into the Pharisee's house, He reclined. And, behold, a woman who was a sinner in the city, when she knew that He reclined in the Pharisee's house, she took an alabaster box of ointment, and she stood behind at His feet, weeping, and began to wet His feet with her tears, and she wiped them with the hairs of her head, and she kissed His feet, and anointed them with the ointment.

But when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw, he spoke within himself, saying, If this was a prophet, he would have known what and of what sort is this woman who has touched him, for she is a sinner.

And Jesus answering said unto him, “Simon, I have a word to say unto you.” And he said, “Teacher, say it.” He said to him, “There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. But when they had nothing to pay, he graciously forgave them both. Which therefore, will love him more?”

Simon answered and said, “I think he, to whom he forgave the most.” And He said to him, “You have judged rightly.” And when He had turned to the woman, He said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house, you gave no water for My feet: but she has washed My feet with her tears,

and she has wiped them with her hair. You gave no kiss to My mouth: but this (woman) since the time I came in has not ceased kissing My feet. My head with oil you did not anoint: but this (woman) has anointed My feet with ointment. Therefore I say to you, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven her; for she has loved exceedingly: but to whom little is forgiven, he loves little.”

And He said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

And those who reclined began to say within themselves, “Who is this that forgives sins also?” But He said to the woman, “Go in peace, your faith has saved you.” *Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall these Troparia be said,*

**Give me,** O Lord, fountains of many tears like that which You did first give unto the woman that was a sinner, and make me worthy to wash Your feet which have set me free from the path of error, that I may bring unto You precious ointment, and gain through repentance a pure life, and hear that voice full of joy, “Your faith has saved you.”

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***  
(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

When I consider the multitude of my wicked deeds, and the remembrance of that awesome judgement comes into my heart, trembling takes hold upon me. I will flee unto You, O God, the Lover of mankind. Turn not away Your face away from me, I entreat You, Who alone are sinless. Grant

unto my wretched soul a compunction, before the end comes, and save me.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

The heavens praise you, O full of grace, the unwedded Bride. And we also glorify your unspeakable bringing forth<sup>1</sup>. O Mother of God intercede for the salvation of our souls.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

**O Heavenly King**, the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth, Who are in every place and Who fills all; the Treasure of the good and

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<sup>1</sup>This refers to the bringing forth of Christ.



the Giver of Life, graciously come and be in us, and cleanse us from every blemish, O Good One, and save our souls.

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***

(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

As You were with Your Disciples, O Saviour, and gave them peace, come also and be with us; save us and deliver our souls.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

If we stand in Your holy temple, we count ourselves as those who stand in heaven. O Mother of God, you are the gate of heaven; open to us the door of mercy.

*Then shall be said: Lord bear us, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 41 times, Holy, Holy, Holy, (Page 45), the Lord's Prayer.*

## THIRD WATCH

*The Psalms of Compline (page 143)  
shall be recited.*

### THE GOSPEL FROM SAINT LUKE 12:32-46

Fear not, little flock; for your Father has been well pleased to give to you the Kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give them for charity; make for yourselves purses which do not become old, an unfailing treasure in the heavens, the place where no thief approaches, nor moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Let your loins be girded, and your lights burning; and you also like men that are awaiting their Lord, when He will return from the wedding feast; so that if He should

come and knock, they may immediately open to Him. Blessed are those servants, whom if their Lord should come, He shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that He shall gird Himself, and make them to recline, and will stand and serve them. And if He should come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them doing thus, blessed are those servants.

But know this, that if the master of the house knew in what hour the thief comes, he would have watched, and not have left his house to be broken through. And be you also prepared: for in the hour that you know not, the Son of Man comes.

But Peter said, “Lord, have You said this parable to us, or have You said it to every one?” And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and wise steward, whom his Lord shall set over His servants, that he may give

them their food at the given time? Blessed is that servant, whom if his Lord should come, He may find doing thus. Truly, I say to you, that He will set him over all His possessions.”

But if that evil servant should say in his heart, “My Lord will delay His coming; and begin to beat the servants and the handmaids, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; the Lord of that servant will come in the day which he expects Him not, and in the hour which he knows not, and will cut him asunder, and his portion He will set with the unbelievers.” *Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall these Troparia be said,*

**With a merciful** eye, Lord, look upon my weakness, for yet a little, (and) my life will cease, and from my deeds I have no

salvation. Therefore, I ask (You), Lord, look with a merciful eye upon my poverty and save me.

***Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.***

(Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

As though the Judge were present, be watchful and sober, O my soul, and understand that hour of terror; for there shall be no mercy at the judgment for him who showed not mercy. Therefore spare me, O Saviour, for You alone are the Lover of mankind.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

O rational Gate of Life, honoured Mother of God, save them who in faith have

fled unto you from distress. That in all things we may glorify your holy bringing forth for the salvation of our souls.

*Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.* (Both now and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

**O Heavenly King**, the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth, Who are in every place and Who fills all; the Treasure of the good and the Giver of Life, graciously come and be in us, and cleanse us from every blemish, O Good One, and save our souls.

*Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati.* (Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.)

As You were with Your Disciples, O Saviour, and gave them peace, come also and be with us; save us and deliver our souls.

***Ke nyn ke a-ee ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon. Amen.*** (Both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.)

If we stand in Your holy temple, we count ourselves as those who stand in heaven. O Mother of God, you are the gate of heaven; open to us the door of mercy.

*Then shall be said: Lord hear us, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 41 times, Holy, Holy, Holy, (Page 45), the Lord's Prayer.*

## **THE GOSPEL FROM SAINT LUKE 21:29-32**

Now, O my Master, You shall let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word: for my eyes have seen Your salvation,



Which You have prepared before the face of all the people; a light for a revelation to the nations, and the glory of Your people Israel. *Glory be to God forever.*

*Then shall be said this absolution,*

Master, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, Who abides forever, enlighten our minds that we may understand Your life-giving sayings. Raise us up from the darkness of sin that slays the soul. Make us worthy to be upright in well doing, and at Your Coming to judge the world, may we be worthy to hear that voice full of joy saying, “Come to Me, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” Yes, Lord, straighten us, that we may be in that hour fearless, and unwavering, and unmoved.

And make us not ashamed on account of the multitude of our iniquities. For You alone are the Compassionate, the Long-suffering and plenteous in mercy. Through the intercession of the Lady of us all, the Mother of God, Saint Mary, and of all the choir of Your saints. Amen.

*Then shall be said “The Prayer of the hours” (Page 48*

## **THE ABSOLUTION FOR PRIESTS**

We ask You and give thanks unto You, O Master, Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, Who abides forever. Who dwells in the Light before all ages, Light of Light. Enlighten, O Lord, our minds and our hearts: enlighten our understanding, that we may understand Your life-giving words. And raise us from the darkness of sin which kills the soul.

And make us worthy to be upright in well doing and goodness. And at Your second Parousia, which is fearsome, to judge the world: May we be worthy to hear that voice which is full of joy and rejoicing and comfort and pleasure and bounty, out of Your divine mouth saying: "Come to me, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the

world.” Yes, Lord, our God, straighten us, that we may be in that day and that hour without fear, and without spot, and without trembling, and without falling, and unmoved. O Lord, take us not according to the multitude of our iniquities: forgive, O Lord, all of our sins, and our trespasses, and our errors, and our stumbles.

And take away from us, O Lord, and from all the world the death, scarcity, the destruction, the perdition, and the captivity, and the sword of the enemies, and the counsels of satans, and the evil of burning and drowning, and the crookedness of the wicked, the injustice of the authorities, and the power of those who oppose us, do You abolish.

O God, You are our Lord and our God, have compassion on us and cast us not into the seas of infirmities and the paths of

affliction: rather straighten our ways, and cover us and raise us from groaning and weariness, carelessness and laziness. And let not the enemy and Satan encourage us by too much hope: rather raise our minds and awaken our hearts from the sleep of slumber and the wasting<sup>1</sup> of the life in vain.

O God, forgive our iniquities and forgive us our transgressions: Remember not our sins nor our errors. Be not angry with us, and let not Your anger be forever

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, and have mercy upon us: for we are weak and needy, and we are drowning in the seas of sins. Behold, we cry unto You, and worship You, and confess to You, and desire You. Cut not our hope in Your mercy, and shut not the door of Your mercy in our faces: rather, by

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<sup>1</sup> Literally, Destruction.

Your grace save us: straighten our ways according to Your mercy: and Your royal voice announce to us.

God, purify us and our hearts from the malicious evil, and defiled counsels: O Lord, abolish from us the dreams, the phantasms, and the demonic thoughts. Raise us, O God, from every stumble and calamity: Confirm in us, O God, patience, hope, love, and the orthodox faith: count us among the right hand sheep. Seat us with those who recline in Your heavenly banquet, forgive us every iniquity, every sin, and every stumble.

Surround us by the encampment of Your luminous angels: for we have no salvation except in Your mercy, in our trust in You, our faith in You, and our hope in You.

Receive from us, O Lord, our petition at this present time and at all times: and all of those who have bidden us to remember them

in our supplications, our services, our prayers, and our commemorations (the living among them and the dead), remember us, O Lord, and them with good things in the heavenly Jerusalem, in the kingdom of heaven, and (on) earth.

Wipe out, O God, our sins, and those who sinned against us, forgive them with us according to Your command.

O Lord save all our souls: O Lord save Your people: bless Your inheritance: shepherd them and be with them forever. Deliver those who are in trouble, affliction, and distress. Loose those who are bound by the bonds of demons. Satisfy the hungry with good (things): comfort those who are small in heart and soul. Raise those who are fallen: confirm those who are upright: return those who are astray. Feed the widows and

the orphans: Care for the rescue of the needy.

Give blessing to the fruits of the earth, good temper to the air, growth unto the trees: the waters of the rivers raise them. Bless the dews and the rains: give sufficiency unto the needy: the debtors pay for them. Gather the scattering of the separated.

Receive unto You the repentance of those who repent: receive unto You the confession of the Confessors<sup>1</sup>: Give understanding to the catechumens.

Execute judgement, O Lord, to those (suffering) injustice. Fill our hearts with joy and rejoicing and comfort and gladness and abundance, that, having sufficiency in every thing, we may abound in good and pleasing deeds.

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<sup>1</sup> Those persecuted for the faith.



Bless, O Lord the corn by the graces of heaven: bless the crown of this year with Your goodness. Bless, O Lord, the sower and the grower (of plants) and the reaper, even as You have blessed the corn of the children of Israel in the sixth year.

Bless, O Lord, this, our congregation and all the congregations of the orthodox people. And keep for us and unto us the life and the standing of our father, (and) master, the Patriarch Abba \_\_\_\_\_, the high priest of this time: save him, O Lord, and save his people from (all) evil, temptations and sorrows. And also his partners in the apostolic service; our fathers the priests and our brethren the deacons, and our fathers the hegumens, and our fathers the metropolitans, and our fathers the bishops and our fathers the monks and our brethren the lay people. And those who have come and participated with

us in this prayer- and all the prayers of the Orthodox- now, entreating for the forgiveness of their sins and (for) mercy for their souls: bless us and bless them, make us and them absolved: forgive our sins and their sins; the past and the present: those that are their own and those that are not: those of the night and those of the day: the hidden and the manifest.

O Lord, edify the congregations continually, and the holy churches: the orthodox wildernesses and the elders who dwell therein: their deacons, their overseers, and those who are in them. May hope, peace, love and agreement be among them. Humiliate the evil enemy under our feet and their feet. Let him not have a share in us or in them; neither by a left (hand) blow nor by a right (hand) blow). Keep them by Your exalted hand and Your strong arm.

Deliver us, O our Master, from the evil temptations and the snares laid up; those that are seen and those that are unseen.

Remember, O Lord, our fathers and our mothers: our brothers and our sisters, our families, and our neighbours and our teachers and our children in the spirit and in the flesh, and all the children of Baptism.

Remember, O Lord, those who have laboured in fellowship with us. Remember O Lord, those of whose labour and toil we have eaten and drunk, and have housed us in their dwellings, (and) have given to us. Repay them, O Lord, for the temporal, the eternal and for the earthly the heavenly. Their houses and their stores fill them with every good thing. Repay them, O Lord, instead of one, thirty and sixty and one hundred: and the forgiveness of their sins in the kingdom of the heavens.

Remember, O Lord, those who have done good to us and to our brethren the poor in all forms of good (things) out of love towards You and honour concerning Your holy Name, bless them.

Remember, O Lord, those who have care for the sacrifices, oblations, the wine, the oil, the firstfruits, the incense, the coverings, the gifts, reading books, and all the vessels of the altar. Repay them, O Lord, for their gifts by the forgiveness of their sins. Give them, in this age, the happy life and in the age to come eternal life.

Remember, O Lord, our fathers and our brethren, who have already fallen asleep, and departed, and reposed in the upright faith in Christ. O Lord, repose all their souls in the bosom of our holy fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob: in the region of the living forever; in the Paradise of Joy. But we, the living,

help us with the salvation of our souls, and manage our lives according to Your good will.

Graciously, O Lord, remember my weakness and my lowliness and my smallness, I, the sinner, who is suffering and unworthy to stand between Your hands. Because of the multitude of my sins and my stains, despise me not.

Raise, O Lord, the horn of salvation of Your people by the sign of Your life-giving Cross. Your salvation, O Lord in trouble, and Your help in grief and humiliation. Save us, O Lord, and save every one in trouble: and the sick of Your people heal them.

And make Your people, the Christians who are with us and who are not with us be blessed and forgiven by Your divine mouth, from the east to the west and from the north to the south. Accept us unto You like You

have accepted the right hand thief upon the wood of the Cross, and granted him the Paradise of Joy.

Remember, O Lord, the orphans and the widows, those who are laid down, the sick, and those who have no one to remember them. Remember us, O Lord, with them in the heavenly Jerusalem.

Remember, O Lord, those who are standing, and those who are paralysed: those who are bedridden and those who are cast away. Those who are travelling by land, sea, the cliff, the desert, the valleys, the roads, the heads of the mountains, the hills and the caves.

And those who are in dungeons and prisons, and those who are in captivity and exile, those who are bound and those who are tied by the bonds of the authorities and the demons. Return them and bring them all

back to the haven, safe, victorious, profitable and gainful, healthy in soul, body and spirit.

My Lord Jesus Christ, make this, our prayer to be acceptable before You without hypocrisy, without boasting, without haughtiness of heart, without pride and without shame.

Help us, O God, to please You: help us to do Your commandments: help us over the drunkenness of death, and (what is) before death and what is after death. For You are a Good God, patient, and plenteous in mercy and compassion.

God, make the door of Your church open before us across the ages and the times and to the end of all times. Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Your great mercy, through the intercessions of her (to whom) belongs intercessions, the jewel of purity and blessings (who is) full of honour,

our Lady of us all, and the pride of our race, the Virgin of virgins, the pure Mary.

And the honoured martyr, the evangelist, Mark, the Apostle, the preacher of the land<sup>1</sup> of Egypt. And all the angels, the fathers, the prophets, the martyrs, the saints, the righteous, the ascetics, the struggle bearers, the athletes, and (those) who pleased the Lord by their good deeds, since Adam and to the end of the ages.

We worship You, O Holy Trinity: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit: Now and at all times and unto the age of ages. Amen.

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<sup>1</sup> Literally monasteries of Egypt



**A PRAYER BEFORE  
COMMUNION  
(Of St. John Chrysostom)**

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that You are truly Christ, the Son of the Living God, Who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. And I believe that this is truly Your own immaculate Body and that this is truly Your own precious Blood. Wherefore I pray You, have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, of knowledge and of ignorance; and make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Your immaculate Mysteries, unto remission of my sins and unto life everlasting. Amen.

## **A PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** **(Of Saint Basil the Great)**

O Lord, Christ our God, King of the ages, and Creator of all, I thank You for all the good things which You have bestowed upon me, and for this communion of Your immaculate and life-giving Mysteries. Therefore I entreat You, O Good One Who loves mankind: keep me in Your tabernacle and under the shadow of Your wings; and grant that, with a pure conscience, even unto my last breath, I may worthily partake of Your holy Things, unto the remission of my sins and unto life eternal. For You are the Bread of Life, the Fountain of all holiness, the Giver of good things; and unto You we ascribe glory, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the age of ages. Amen.