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THE DIVINE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

(2nd Thursday in Great Lent)

The holy Great Forty Martyrs of Sebastia

Priest: Blessed is the kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Reader: O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King. (*metania*)

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God. (*metania*)

O come, let us worship and fall down before the Very Christ, our King and our God. (*metania*)

PSALM 103

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire, Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back for ever and ever. The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand. At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid. The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them. Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth. He sendeth forth springs in the

valleys; between the mountains will the waters run. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst. Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice. He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, To bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man. To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart. The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted. There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them. The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares. He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad. Young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens. But man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labour until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea, therein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the

great. There go the ships; there this dragon, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it. When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled. Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return. Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth. Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works. Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being. May my words be sweet unto Him, and I will rejoice in the Lord. O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul. The sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Twice*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God our Hope, O Lord, glory be to Thee.

THE LITANY OF PEACE

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace from above and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God and the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this holy house and those who with faith, reverence and fear of God enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our (*metropolitan or archbishop or bishop*), *N.*, the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our president (*or appropriate head of state*), civil authorities and armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this city, and every city and countryside, and the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For healthful seasons, abundance of the fruits of the earth and peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For travelers by sea, by land and by air, the sick, the suffering, captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: (Quietly) O Lord, compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy, give ear to our prayer, and attend to the voice of our supplication. Work upon us a sign for good. Lead us in thy way, that we may walk in thy truth. Make glad our hearts, that we may fear thy holy name. For thou art great and doest wonders. Thou alone art God, and among all the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord, mighty in mercy, gracious in strength, to aid and to comfort and to save all those who put their trust in thy holy name.

(Aloud): For unto thee are due all glory, honor and worship to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

FIRST STASIS OF KATHISMA XVIII

Psalm 119

Unto the Lord in mine affliction have I cried, and He heard me. O Lord, deliver my soul from unrighteous lips and from a crafty tongue. What shall be given unto thee and what shall be added unto thee for thy crafty tongue? The arrows of the mighty one, sharpened with coals of the desert. Woe is me, for my sojourning is prolonged; I have tented with the tentings of Kedar, my soul hath long been a sojourner. With them that hate peace I was peaceable; when I spake unto them, they warred against me without a cause.

Psalm 120

I have lifted up mine eyes to the mountains, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, Who hath made heaven and the earth. Give not thy foot unto moving, and may He not slumber that keepeth thee. Behold, He shall not slumber nor shall He sleep, He that keepeth Israel. The Lord shall keep thee; the Lord is thy shelter at thy right hand. The sun shall not burn thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord

shall keep thee from all evil, the Lord shall guard thy soul. The Lord shall keep thy coming in and thy going out, from henceforth and for evermore.

Psalm 121

I was glad because of them that said unto me: Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet have stood in thy courts, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city which its dwellers share in concord. For there the tribes went up, the tribes of the Lord, as a testimony for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. For there are set thrones unto judgement, thrones over the house of David. Ask now for the things which are for the peace of Jerusalem, and for the prosperity of them that love thee. Let peace be now in thy strength, and prosperity in thy palaces. For the sake of my brethren and my neighbours, I spake peace concerning thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I have sought good things for thee.

Psalm 122

Unto Thee have I lifted up mine eyes, unto Thee that dwellest in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the handmaid look unto the hands of her mistress, so do our eyes look unto the Lord our God, until He take pity on us. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for greatly are we filled with abasement. Greatly hath our soul been filled therewith; let reproach come upon them that prosper, and abasement on the proud.

Psalm 123

Had it not been that the Lord was with us, let Israel now say, had it not been that the Lord was with us, When men rose up against us, then had they swallowed us up alive. When their wrath raged against us, then had the water overwhelmed us. Our soul hath passed through a torrent; then had

our soul passed through the water that is irresistible. Blessed be the Lord Who hath not given us to be a prey to their teeth. Our soul like a sparrow was delivered out of the snare of the hunters. The snare is broken, and we are delivered. Our help is in the name of the Lord, Who hath made heaven and the earth.

Stasis

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

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

THE LITTLE LITANY

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: (*Quietly*) O Lord, rebuke us not in thy displeasure, neither chasten us in thy wrath, but deal with us according to thy mercy, O Physician and Healer of our souls. Guide us unto the haven of thy will. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts to the knowledge of thy truth, and vouchsafe that the remainder of this day and our whole life may be peaceful and without sin, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints.

(*Aloud*): For thine is the might, and thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

SECOND STASIS OF KATHISMA XVIII

Both now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Amen.

Psalm 124

They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Sion; he that dwelleth at Jerusalem, nevermore shall he be shaken. Mountains are round about her, and the Lord is round about His people from henceforth and for evermore. For the Lord will not permit the rod of sinners to be upon the lot of the righteous, lest the righteous stretch forth their hands unto iniquities. Do good, O Lord, unto them that are good and unto the upright of heart. But them that turn aside unto crooked ways shall the Lord lead away with the workers of iniquity; peace be upon Israel.

Psalm 125

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion, we became as men that are comforted. Then was our mouth filled with joy, and our tongue with rejoicing. Then shall they say among the nations: The Lord hath done great things unto them. The Lord hath done great things among us, and we are become glad. Turn again, O Lord, our captivity, like streams in the south. They that sow with tears shall reap with rejoicing. In their going they went, and they wept as they cast their seeds. But in their coming shall they come with rejoicing, bearing their sheaves.

Psalm 126

Except the Lord build the house, in vain do they labour that build it. Except the Lord guard the city, in vain doth he watch that guardeth her; it is vain for you to rise at dawn. Ye that eat the bread of sorrow, rouse yourselves after resting, when He hath given sleep to His beloved. Lo, sons are the heritage of the Lord, the reward of the fruit of the womb. Like arrows in the hand of a mighty man, so are the sons of them that

were outcasts. Blessed is he that shall fulfil his desires with them; they shall not be put to shame when they speak to their enemies in the gates.

Psalm 127

Blessed are all they that fear the Lord, that walk in His ways. Thou shalt eat the fruit of thy labours; blessed art thou, and well shall it be with thee. Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine on the sides of thy house, Thy sons like young olive trees round about thy table. Behold, so shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord. The Lord bless thee out of Sion, and mayest thou see the good things of Jerusalem all the days of thy life. And mayest thou see thy children's children; peace be upon Israel.

Psalm 128

Many a time have they warred against me from my youth, let Israel now say, Many a time have they warred against me from my youth, and yet they have not prevailed against me. The sinners wrought upon my back, they lengthened out their iniquity. The Lord is righteous; He hath cut asunder the necks of sinners. Let them be put to shame and turned back, all they that hate Sion. Let them be as the grass upon the housetops, which before it is plucked up is withered away. Wherefore the reaper filleth not his hand, nor he that gathereth sheaves his bosom. Nor have they that passed by said: The blessing of the Lord come upon you; we have blessed you in the name of the Lord.

Stasis

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

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

THE LITTLE LITANY

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: (Quietly) O Lord our God, remember us sinners and thine unprofitable servants when we call upon thy holy name, and put us not to shame in our expectation of thy mercy; but grant us, O Lord, all of our petitions which are unto salvation, and vouchsafe that we may love and fear thee with all our hearts and do thy will in all things.

(Aloud) For thou art a good God and lovest mankind, and unto thee we ascribe glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THIRD STASIS OF KATHISMA XVIII

Both now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Amen.

Psalm 129

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness. For Thy name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope in the Lord. For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous

redemption; and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

Psalm 130

O Lord, my heart is not exalted, nor are mine eyes become lofty. Nor have I walked in things too great or too marvelous for me. If I were not humble-minded but exalted my soul, as one weaned from his mother, so wouldst Thou requite my soul. Let Israel hope in the Lord, from henceforth and for evermore.

Psalm 131

Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness. How he made an oath unto the Lord, and vowed unto the God of Jacob: I shall not go into the dwelling of my house, I shall not ascend upon the bed of my couch, I shall not give sleep to mine eyes, nor slumber to mine eyelids, nor rest to my temples, Until I find a place for the Lord, a habitation for the God of Jacob. Lo, we have heard of it in Ephratha, we have found it in the plains of the wood. Let us go forth into His tabernacles, let us worship at the place where His feet have stood. † **Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness.**

The reader stops and all kneel. The priest takes up the diskos upon which rests the Lamb, and the deacon, holding the candle in his left hand, censes the Lamb as it is carried by the priest to the prothesis, passing the high place. After the diskos has been placed on the prothesis, all rise and the reader continues the third stasis.

Thy priests shall be clothed with righteousness, and Thy righteous shall rejoice. For the sake of David Thy servant, turn not Thy face away from Thine anointed one. The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David, and He will not annul it: Of the fruit of thy loins will I set upon thy throne. If thy sons keep My covenant and these testimonies which I will teach them, Their sons also shall sit for ever on thy throne. For the Lord hath elected Sion, He hath chosen her to be a habitation for Himself. This is My rest for ever and ever; here will I dwell, for I have chosen her.

Blessing, I will bless her pursuit; her beggars will I satisfy with bread. Her priests will I clothe with salvation, and her saints with rejoicing shall rejoice. There will I make to spring forth a horn for David, I have prepared a lamp for My Christ. His enemies will I clothe with shame, but upon Him shall My sanctification flourish.

Psalm 132

Behold now, what is so good or so joyous as for brethren to dwell together in unity? It is like the oil of myrrh upon the head, which runneth down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, which runneth down to the fringe of his raiment. It is like the dew of Aermom, which cometh down upon the mountains of Sion. For there the Lord commanded the blessing, life for evermore.

Psalm 133

Behold now, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord. Ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God, In the nights lift up your hands unto the holies, and bless the Lord. The Lord bless thee out of Sion, He that made heaven and the earth.

Final Stasis

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Twice*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God our Hope, O Lord, glory be to Thee.

THE LITTLE LITANY

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious

Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: (Quietly) O thou who, with never-silent hymns and never-ceasing songs of praise to thy glory, art hymned by the holy powers: Fill our mouths with thy praise, that we may magnify thy holy name. And grant unto us a part and inheritance with all those who fear thee in truth and keep thy commandments, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all thy saints.

(Aloud) For thou art our God, the God of mercy and salvation, and unto thee we ascribe glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

“LORD, I HAVE CRIED” IN TONE FIVE

Choir: O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; hear Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me. Give ear to the voice of my supplication when I cry out unto Thee: hear Thou me, O Lord.

Choir: Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as the incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice; hear Thou me, O Lord.

- Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth and a protecting door about my lips.
- Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- The just man shall correct me in mercy, and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.

- They shall hear my words for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of Hell.
- But to Thee, O Lord, are my eyes; in Thee have I put my trust; take not away my soul.
- Keep me from the snare(s) which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- Let the wicked fall into their own nets, while I alone escape.
- I cried unto the Lord with my voice; with my voice unto the Lord did I make my supplication.
- I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- I looked on my right hand and beheld, but there was no one that would know me.
- Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said, Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- Deliver me from my persecutors; for they are stronger than I.

For the Second Thursday in Tone Five
Verse 10. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.

Our first parents did not fast from the Tree of Knowledge, as the Creator had commanded them; and because of their disobedience they harvested the fruit of death, being banished from the Tree of Life and the delight of Paradise. Therefore, O ye faithful, let us fast from the food that perishes and

from the passions that destroy us, that we may reap life from the divine Cross, returning with the Good Thief to our ancient fatherland and receiving Great Mercy from Christ our God.

Verse 9. The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.

Our first parents did not fast from the Tree of Knowledge, as the Creator had commanded them; and because of their disobedience they harvested the fruit of death, being banished from the Tree of Life and the delight of Paradise. Therefore, O ye faithful, let us fast from the food that perishes and from the passions that destroy us, that we may reap life from the divine Cross, returning with the Good Thief to our ancient fatherland and receiving Great Mercy from Christ our God.

Verse 8. Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.

Despising every earthly thing, bravely withstanding torture, ye attained the blessedness for which ye hoped, and were made heirs to the Kingdom of Heaven, O martyrs worthy of all praise. Since ye have boldness before God Who loves mankind, pray that peace be given to the world, and to our souls Great Mercy.

Also for the Second Thursday in Tone Four
Verse 7. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

Pierced in Thy side and hung upon the Tree, Thou hast poured out life upon me, who was slain by the malice of the serpent by eating from the Tree. Therefore I glorify Thee, O Christ, and entreat Thy loving-kindness; grant me with compunction to complete the Fast, and to venerate Thy Passion and Thy rising.

Verse 6. If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

The fruit of the Tree brought sorrow to the first-formed man, for Thou hast banished him from Paradise. But, nailed upon the Tree as man, O Savior, thou hast called him back to Paradise again. Therefore I cry out to Thee, Deliverer: Set me free from all my sorrow, cleansing me by fasting, tears and penitence, O most loving Jesus, the Savior of our souls.

Also for the Second Thursday in Tone Five
Verse 5. Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

We sing the praises of Thy life-giving Cross, O Lord, for it has slain death and caused life to blossom in the world. And now we offer this Thy Cross to Thee in intercession: in these holy days fortify us as we fast, and in the multitude of Thy mercies grant us strength against the passions and the victory of peace, for Thou lovest mankind.

For the Forty Holy Martyrs in Tone Two
Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.

Nobly enduring things present, and rejoicing in things hoped for, the holy martyrs said one to another: Shall we not indeed strip off this garment? Yea rather, let us cast off the old man. Bitter is winter, but sweet is Paradise; painful is this freezing, but pleasant shall be that enjoyment. Let us not waver, O fellow soldiers. Let us endure for a little while, that we may put on the crowns of victory given by Christ God, the Savior of our souls.

Verse 3. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Nobly enduring things present, and rejoicing in things hoped for, the holy martyrs said one to another: Shall we not indeed strip off this garment? Yea rather, let us cast off the old man. Bitter is winter, but sweet is Para-

dise; painful is this freezing, but pleasant shall be that enjoyment. Let us not waver, O fellow soldiers. Let us endure for a little while, that we may put on the crowns of victory given by Christ God, the Savior of our souls.

Verse 2. Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.

Casting off all their garments and stepping fearlessly onto the lake, the holy martyrs said one to another: For the sake of Paradise, which we lost, let us not cleave to a corruptible garment today. Because of the serpent, we once put on a garment that worketh corruption; let us now put it off for the sake of the resurrection of all. Let us all despise the destroying cold and let us hate the flesh, that we may put on the crowns of victory given by Christ God, the Savior of our souls.

Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Looking upon the torments as delights, and running to the frozen lake as unto a warm embrace, the holy martyrs said: Let us not fear the wintry season, that we may escape the dread Gehenna of fire. Let our foot burn, that it may dance eternally. Let our hand contract, that it may be raised unto the Lord; and let us not spare our mortal nature. Let us choose death, that we may put on the crowns of victory given by Christ God, the Savior of our souls.

DOXASTICON FOR THE FORTY HOLY MARTYRS IN TONE SIX

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

With songs and canticles, O ye faithful, let us acclaim the prizewinning Forty Martyrs, and let us cry unto them melodiously, saying: Rejoice, O prizewinners of Christ, Euty-chius, Meliton, Heraclius, Smaragdus and Domnus, Eunocius, Valens and Vivianus, Claudius and Priscus. Rejoice, O Theodulus,

Euty-chius and John, Xanthias, Helianus, Sis-inius, Cyrion, Angus, Aetius, and Flavius. Rejoice, O Acacius, Ecdicius, Lysimachus, Alexander, Elias and Candidus, Theophilus, Dometian, and divine Gaius and Gorgonius. Rejoice, O Eutyches and Athanasius, Cyril and Sacerdon, Nicholas and Valerius, Philoctemon, Severian, Chudion, and Aglaius. Since ye have boldness with Christ our God, O all-celebrated Martyrs, fervently intercede with Him that those who keep your all-venerable memory with faith may be saved.

STAVRO-THEOTOKION FROM THE MENAION IN TONE SIX

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Amen.

The all-pure Virgin gazed on Thee as Thou didst hang upon the Cross; and she mourned Thee with maternal cries of grief: O most sweet Child, my Jesus, my Son and God, how is it that Thou dost bear this Passion full of shame?

Deacon: Wisdom. Stand upright.

THE HYMN OF THANKSGIVING AT THE LIGHTING OF THE LAMPS

(Read, not sung!)

All: Gladsome light of the Holy glory that shines from the immortal Father in Heaven, the Holy, the Blessed, O Jesus Christ! Lo now that we come to sunset, now that we see the evening light, we sing the praise of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God. Worthy art Thou to be praised at all times with voices meet for holy song. Son of God, Thou Giver of Life, wherefore the world glorifieth thee.

THE PARAMIA

The First Reading

Deacon: The evening prokeimenon.

Reader: (Tone 4) O Lord, Thy mercy is in heaven, and Thy truth reacheth unto the clouds. (Ps.35:5)

Verse: Thy righteousness is as the mountains of God, Thy judgements are a great abyss. (Ps.35:6)

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis (5:1-24).

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created. When Adam had lived a hundred and thirty years, he became the father of a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth. The days of Adam after he became the father of Seth were eight hundred years; and he had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died. When Seth had lived a hundred and five years, he became the father of Enosh. Seth lived after the birth of Enosh eight hundred and seven years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years; and he died. When Enosh had lived ninety years, he became the father of Kenan. Enosh lived after the birth of Kenan eight hundred and fifteen years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Enosh were nine hundred and five years; and he died. When Kenan had lived seventy years, he became the father of Mahalalel. Kenan lived after the birth of Mahalalel eight hundred and forty years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Kenan were nine hundred and ten years; and he died. When Mahalalel had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of Jared. Mahalalel lived after the birth of Jared eight hundred and thirty years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Mahalalel were eight hundred and ninety-five

years; and he died. When Jared had lived a hundred and sixty-two years he became the father of Enoch. Jared lived after the birth of Enoch eight hundred years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years; and he died. When Enoch had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of Methuselah. Enoch walked with God after the birth of Methuselah three hundred years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

While the reader says the first reading, the priest holds in his right hand both a lighted candle and the censer. When the first reading is completed the deacon says:

The Second Reading

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: (Tone 4) Wait on the Lord and keep His way, and He shall exalt thee to inherit the earth. (Ps.36:35a)

Verse: Fret not thyself because of evil-doers, nor envy them that work iniquity. (Ps.36:1)

After he has intoned the prokeimenon and stichos, the reader says in a loud voice:

Reader: Command.

The people kneel. The priest, standing before the holy table facing east, makes the sign of the cross with the candle and censer, saying:

Priest: Wisdom. Stand upright.

Then standing in the holy doors, he bows to the icon of Christ on the iconostasis and says:

Priest: The light of Christ

He then blesses the people, making the sign of the cross with the candle and censer, saying:

Priest: Illumineth all.

The people stand. The priest returns to the holy table and gives away the candle and censer as the deacon says:

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from the Book of Proverbs (6:3-20).

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: Do this, my son, and save yourself, for you have come into your neighbor's power: go, hasten, and importune your neighbor. Give your eyes no sleep and your eyelids no slumber; save yourself like a gazelle from the hunter, like a bird from the hand of the fowler. Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer or ruler, she prepares her food in summer, and gathers her sustenance in harvest. How long will you lie there, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a vagabond, and want like an armed man. A worthless person, a wicked man, goes about with crooked speech, winks with his eyes, scrapes with his feet, points with his finger, with perverted heart devises evil, continually sowing discord; therefore calamity will come upon him suddenly; in a moment he will be broken beyond healing. There are six things which the Lord hates, seven which are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and a man who sows discord among brothers. My son, keep your father's commandment, and forsake not your mother's teaching.

Deacon: Wisdom.

“LET MY PRAYER ARISE”

Priest: Let my prayer arise in thy sight as incense; and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Priest: (Verse 1) Lord, I have cried unto thee, hear me; attend to the voice of my supplication when I cry unto thee.

Choir: Let my prayer arise in thy sight as incense; and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Priest: (Verse 2) Set, O Lord, a watch before my mouth and a protecting door about my lips.

Choir: Let my prayer arise in thy sight as incense; and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Priest: (Verse 3) Incline not my heart to evil words; to make excuse in sins.

Choir: Let my prayer arise in thy sight as incense; and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Priest: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Choir: Let my prayer arise in thy sight as incense; and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Priest: Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Choir: Let my prayer arise in thy sight as incense; and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Priest: Let my prayer arise in thy sight as incense; ...

Choir: ...; and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

THE PRAYER OF SAINT EPHREM THE SYRIAN

Priest & People: O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, meddling, lust of power and idle talk, (*prostration*)

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to thy servant, (*prostration*)

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother, for thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen. (*prostration*)

THE APOSTOLOS & THE GOSPEL

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: Prokeimenon in the 5th tone.

Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and shalt preserve us from this generation, and for evermore. (*Ps.11:7*) {twice}

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for a righteous man there is no more; for truths have diminished from the sons of men. (*Ps.11:1*)

Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and shalt preserve us from this generation, and for evermore.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews §331 (12:1-10).

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: Brethren, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely; and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus: the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith, Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him Who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation which addresses you as sons? "My son: do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor lose courage when you are punished by Him; for the Lord disciplines him whom He loves, and chastises every son whom He receives." It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers to disci-

pline us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time at their pleasure, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share in His holiness.

Priest: Peace be to thee that readest.

In Tone 4

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 1: Shout with jubilation unto the Lord all the earth; chant ye unto His name, give glory in praise of Him. (*Ps.65:1*)

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 2: For Thou hast proved us, O God, and by fire hast Thou tried us even as silver is tried by fire. (*Ps.65:10*)

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Deacon: Wisdom. Stand upright. Let us hear the holy gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: The reading from the holy gospel according to St. Matthew §80 (20:1-16).

Choir: Glory to thee, O Lord. Glory to thee.

Priest: Let us attend.

Deacon: The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of Heaven is like a householder who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing; and he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' And

when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the householder, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you, and go; I choose to give to this last as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or is your eye evil because I am good?' So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few are chosen."

Choir: Glory to thee, O Lord. Glory to thee.

THE EKTENIA OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us all say with our whole soul and with our whole mind, let us say.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: O Lord almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to thy great mercy, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for our (*metropolitan or archbishop or bishop*), *N.*

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, hiero-monks, deacons, hiero-deacons

and monastics and all our brotherhood in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and forgiveness of sins for (*the servants of God, NN. and*) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church (*the servants of God, NN.*) and all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world He asleep in the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple, those who serve and those who sing and all the people here present, who await thy great and rich mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: (Quietly) O Lord our God, receive this fervent supplication of thy servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of thy mercy, and send down thy compassions upon us and upon all thy people, who await thy great and rich mercy.

(Aloud) For thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto thee we ascribe glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE LITANY FOR THE CATECHUMENS

Deacon: Pray to the Lord, ye catechumens.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Let us the faithful, pray for the catechumens, that the Lord will have mercy on them.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That he will teach them the word of truth.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That he will reveal to them the gospel of righteousness.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That he will unite them to his holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Save them; have mercy on them; help them; and keep them, O God, by thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord, ye catechumens.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: (Quietly) O God, our God, the Creator and Maker of all things, who willest that all men should be saved and should come unto the knowledge of the truth: Look down upon thy servants the catechumens, and deliver them from the ancient delusion and from the wiles of the adversary. And call them unto life eternal, illumining their souls and bodies and numbering them with thy rational flock, which is called by thy holy name.

(Aloud) That with us they may glorify thine all-honorable and majestic name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: As many as are catechumens, depart. Depart, catechumens.

THE FIRST LITANY OF THE FAITHFUL

Deacon: As many as are of the faithful, again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Priest: (Quietly) O God, great and worthy to be praised, who through the life-giving death of thy Christ hast translated us from corruption to incorruption: Deliver thou all our senses from death-dealing, carnal desires, setting over them as a good ruler the understanding that is in us. Let our eye have no part in any evil sight. Let our hearing be inaccessible to all idle words; and let our tongue be purged from unseemly speech. Purify our lips which praise thee, O Lord. Make our hands to abstain from evil deeds and to work only such things as are acceptable unto thee, establishing all our members and our minds by thy grace.

(Aloud) For unto thee are due all glory, honor and worship to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE SECOND LITANY OF THE FAITHFUL

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy

Deacon: Wisdom.

Priest: (quietly) O holy Master, exceeding good, we beseech thee, who art rich in mercy, that thou wilt be gracious to us sinners and make us worthy to receive thine only-begotten Son and our God, the King of glory. For behold, his immaculate Body and his life-giving Blood, entering at this present hour, are about to be set forth upon this mystical table, invisibly escorted by a multitude of the heavenly hosts. Grant us to partake of them without condemnation, that, the eyes of our understanding being enlightened thereby, we may become sons of the light and of the day.

(Aloud) Through the gift of thy Christ, with whom thou art blessed, together with thine all-holy and good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

“NOW THE POWERS OF HEAVEN”¹

Choir: Now the powers of heaven invisibly with us do serve. Lo, the King of glory enters in. Lo, the mystical sacrifice is upborne, fulfilled. (*Repeated as necessary*)

THE ENTRANCE

When the choir has concluded, the priest exits the sanctuary through the north door, preceded by the deacon who censes the gifts and carries a lighted candle. All in the church prostrate themselves during the entrance. The priest, saying softly (and repeatedly) “Through the prayers of our holy fathers...,” makes the entrance from the north door, across the solea and directly into the sanctuary through the holy doors. When the priest re-enters the sanctuary, the choir concludes the hymn:

Choir: Let us draw near in faith and love and become communicants of life eternal. Alleluia.

THE PRAYER OF
SAINT EPHREM THE SYRIAN

Priest & People: O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, meddling, lust of power and idle talk, (*prostration*)

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to thy servant, (*prostration*)

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother, for thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen. (*prostration*)

THE EKTENIA BEFORE LORD’S PRAYER

Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the precious gifts set forth and presanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That our God, who loveth mankind, receiving them upon his holy, most heavenly, and ideal altar as a savour of spiritual sweetness, will send down upon us in return his divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this holy house, and those who with faith, reverence and fear of God enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

¹ This is chanted in a manner similar to the Cherubic Hymn. Likewise, the Priest-Deacon exchanges, the recitation of Psalm 50 and the censing, are done in the same manner as during the usual Cherubic Hymn, (See Liturgikon.)

Deacon: Asking for the unity of the faith, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: (quietly) O God of ineffable and unseen mysteries, with whom are hidden treasures of wisdom and knowledge, who hast revealed unto us the ministry of this service and hast appointed unto us sinners through thy great love toward mankind, to offer unto thee gifts and sacrifices for our sins and for the ignorance of the people: Do thou the same invisible King, who doeth things great and inscrutable, glorious and marvelous, which cannot be numbered, look upon us, thine unworthy servants who stand at this holy altar as at thy cherubic throne, upon which lieth thine only-begotten Son and our God, in the dread mysteries spread forth thereon; and having delivered us and all thy faithful people from every impurity, sanctify all our souls and bodies with the sanctification which cannot be taken away. That partaking with a pure conscience, with face unashamed, with heart illumined of these divine, hallowed things and, being enlivened through them, we may be united unto Christ himself, our true God, who hath said: Whosoever eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood abideth in me, and I in him; that, thy Word, O Lord, making an abode in us and sojourning among us, we may become a temple of thine all-holy and adorable Spirit, redeemed from every wile of the devil, wrought either by deed or word or thought, and may obtain the good things promised unto us with all thy saints who in all ages have been well-pleasing unto thee.

(Aloud) And vouchsafe, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation we may dare to call upon thee, the heavenly God, as Father, and to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father and of the

Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE PEACE

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: (Quietly) O God, who alone art good and compassionate, who dwellest in the heights and regardest the humble: Look with the eyes of thy tenderness upon all thy people, and preserve them. And make us all worthy to partake without condemnation of these thy life-giving mysteries; for unto thee have we bowed our heads in the hope of thy rich mercy.

(Aloud) Through the grace and compassions and love toward mankind of thine only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, together with thine all-holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The priest quietly prays:

Priest: Hear us, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, from thy holy dwelling-place and from the throne of glory of thy kingdom; and come to sanctify us, O thou who sittest on high with the Father and art here invisibly present with us; and vouchsafe by thy mighty hand to impart unto us thine immaculate Body and precious Blood, and through us unto all the people.

The priest and deacon make three metanias, saying each time:

Priest: O God, be gracious unto me a sinner, and have mercy on me.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: The presanctified Holy Things are for the holy.

Choir: One is Holy, One is Lord: Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE PRE-COMMUNION PRAYER

Priest & People: I believe, O Lord, and I confess that thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who didst come into the

world to save sinners, of whom I am first. And I believe that this is truly thine own immaculate Body and that this is truly thine own precious Blood. Wherefore, I pray thee, have mercy on me, and pardon 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 thine immaculate mysteries unto forgiveness of sins and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of thy mystic supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of thy mystery to thine enemies, neither will I give thee a kiss as did Judas; but like the thief will I confess thee: Remember me, O Lord, in thy kingdom.

Not unto judgment nor unto condemnation be my partaking of thy holy mysteries, O Lord, but unto the healing of soul and body.

THE KOINONIKON FOR THE FORTY MARTYRS² IN TONE 8

Choir: The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not fear evil tidings. (Ps.111:6; as verses use Ps.111:7, 8, 9, ...). Alleluia.

After the Priest and the Deacon have communed, standing in the sanctuary facing west, the deacon elevates the chalice to the people, saying:

Deacon: With fear of God and faith and love, draw near.

The priest and deacon exit the sanctuary through the holy doors and the choir chants:

Choir: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. God is the Lord and hath appeared unto us.

THE HYMN DURING THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Choir: O taste and see that the Lord is good. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (The choir repeats this as often as necessary.)

The deacon gives the chalice and spoon to the priest, himself holding the kalima. The priest then communicates those who are prepared to receive the holy mysteries, while the choir chants the above hymn. The priest says to each communicant:

Priest: The servant of God, N., partakes of the precious and all-holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ, unto the forgiveness of sins and unto life everlasting.

When all have been communed, the priest covers the chalice with the kalima and hands the chalice to the deacon. The priest blesses the people with his hand, saying:

Priest: O God, save thy people and bless thine inheritance.

THE LENTEN POST-COMMUNION HYMN

Choir: I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth. Taste ye the heavenly Bread, and the Cup of life, and see how good the Lord is. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

As the choir chants the post-communion hymn "I will bless the Lord at all times..." the priest and deacon enter the sanctuary through the holy doors, and the priest places the chalice on the antimission. The priest removes the kalima from the chalice, covers the chalice with its veil and places the folded aer, the veil of the diskos, the kalima and the star on the diskos.

Deacon: Exalt, master.

The priest censes the chalice thrice, saying:

Priest: Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens and thy glory above all the earth.

The priest gives up the censer and then gives the diskos to the deacon, who lifts it above his head and, passing the front of the holy table, carries it to and places it upon the prothesis. The priest lifts the chalice, saying:

Priest: Blessed is our God,

And turning to face the people, he continues:

Priest: Always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Let our mouths be filled with thy praise, O Lord, that we may sing of thy glory For thou hast made us worthy to partake of thy Holy Divine, Immortal, and Life-creating Mysteries. Keep us in thy holiness, that all the day we may meditate upon thy righteousness. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

² This is the standard Tuesday Koinonikon.

THE LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Deacon: Stand upright. Having partaken of the divine, holy, immaculate, immortal, heavenly, life-giving and dread mysteries of Christ, let us worthily give thanks unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy, (*or* “Glory to thee, O Lord. Glory to thee.”)

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Asking that the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

THE THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Priest: We give thanks unto thee, O God, the Saviour of all, for all the good things which thou hast granted unto us and for the communion of the holy Body and Blood of thy Christ. And we beseech thee, O Master, who lovest mankind, to keep us under the shelter of thy wings. And grant that, even unto our last breath, we may worthily partake of thy holy things unto the illumination of soul and body and unto the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven.

Priest: For thou art our Sanctification, and unto thee we ascribe glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Let us depart in peace.

Choir: In the name of the Lord.

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

THE PRAYER BEHIND THE AMVON

Priest: O almighty Master, who hast made all creation and by thine inexpressible providence and great goodness hast brought us to these all-revered days, for the purification of

soul and body, for the controlling of passions and for hope of resurrection, who, during the forty days didst give into the hands of thy servant Moses the tablets of the Law in characters divinely traced by thee: Enable us also, O good One, to fight the good fight, to complete the course of the fast, to preserve inviolate the faith, to crush under foot the heads of invisible serpents, to be accounted victors over sin; and, uncondemned, to attain unto and worship the holy resurrection. For blessed and glorified is thine all-honorable and majestic name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, henceforth and forevermore. (*thrice*)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord and his mercy come upon you through his divine grace and love toward mankind, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Glory to thee, O Christ our God and our Hope, glory to thee.

Reader: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Father, bless.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the precious and lifegiving cross; by the protection of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven; at the supplications of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the

saints, Gregory the Dialogist; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers; of *the Holy Equal to the Apostles and Myrrh-Bearer Mary Magdalene, protector of this community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; *of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Forty Martyrs of Sebastia*, whose memory we celebrate and of all the saints: have mercy on us, and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

Reader: Amen.

PSALM 33

Reader: I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall continually be in my mouth. In the Lord shall my soul be praised; let the meek hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my tribulations. Come unto Him, and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be ashamed. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his tribulations. The angel of the Lord will encamp round about them that fear Him, and will deliver them. O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that hopeth in Him. O fear the Lord, all ye His saints; for there is no want to them that fear Him. Rich men have turned poor and gone hungry; but they that seek the Lord shall not be deprived of any good thing. Come ye children, hearken unto me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. What man is there that desireth life, who loveth to see good days? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Turn away from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are opened unto their supplication. The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, utterly to destroy the re-

membrance of them from the earth. The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them out of all their tribulations. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart, and He will save the humble of spirit. Many are the tribulations of the righteous, and the Lord shall deliver them out of them all. The Lord keepeth all their bones, not one of them shall be broken. The death of sinners is evil, and they that hate the righteous shall do wrong. The Lord will redeem the souls of His servants, and none of them will do wrong that hope in Him.

PSALM 144

I will exalt Thee, O my God, my king, and I will bless Thy name for ever, yea, for ever and ever. Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name for ever, yea, for ever and ever. Great is the Lord and exceedingly to be praised, and of His greatness there is no end. Generation and generation shall praise Thy works, and Thy power shall they declare. Of the majesty of the glory of Thy holiness shall they speak, and they shall tell of Thy wonders. And the power of Thine awesome deeds shall they relate, and they shall tell of Thy majesty. The memory of the multitude of Thy goodness shall they pour forth, and in Thy righteousness shall they rejoice. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy. The Lord is good to all, and His compassions are over all His works. Let all Thy works, O Lord, give praise to Thee, and let Thy righteous ones bless Thee. Of the glory of Thy kingdom shall they speak, and shall tell of Thy dominion, To make Thy dominion known to the sons of men, and the glory of the majesty of Thy kingdom. Thy kingdom is the kingdom of all the ages, and Thy sovereignty is in every generation and generation. Faithful is the Lord in all His words,

and holy in all His works. The Lord upholdeth all that are falling, and setteth up all that are broken down. The eyes of all look to Thee with hope, and Thou gavest them their food in due season. Thou openest Thy hand and fillest every living thing with Thy favour. Righteous is the Lord in all His ways, and holy in all His works. The Lord is nigh unto all that call upon Him, to all that call on Him in truth. The will of them that fear Him shall He do, and their supplication shall He hear, and He shall save them. The Lord preserveth all that love Him, but all the sinners shall He utterly destroy. My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord, and let all flesh bless His holy name, forever, yea, forever and ever.

As the reader says Psalms 33 and 144, the people come forward to receive the antidoron, kissing the right hand of the priest.

When the reader has completed the psalms, the priest says:

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

Reader: Amen.

At the Post-Communion Prayers:

APOLYTIKION OF THE
FORTY MARTYRS OF SEBASTIA
IN TONE ONE

Be Thou entreated for the sake of the sufferings of Thy Saints which they endured for Thee, O Lord, and do Thou heal all our pains, we pray, O Lover of mankind.