Due to copyright restrictions, these works may not be further reproduced, beyond printing out a single copy for personal non-commercial use.

READER'S ORTHROS AND TYPIKA ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2026
(26th Sunday after Pentecost & 13th Sunday of Luke)

The holy Martyr Paramonus of Bithynia and his 370 fellow Martyrs

THE ORTHROS SERVICE

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

Glory to Thee, our God. Glory to Thee!

O heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art everywhere present and fillest all things, the Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come, and abide in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O good One.

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. *(Thrice)*

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

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

Leader: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.
All: Amen.

ORTHROS TROPARIA

Reader: O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

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

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

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

O Champion dread, who cannot be put to confusion, despise not our petitions, O Good and All-praised Theotokos; establish the way of the Orthodox; save those who have been called upon to

govern us, leading us to that victory which is from heaven, for thou art she who gavest birth to God, and alone art blessed.

EKTENIA REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(9 times)*
Senior Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Both now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Choir: Amen.

THE SIX MATINS PSALMS

Reader: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will toward men. *(thrice)*
O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. *(twice)*

PSALM 3

O Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me. Many say unto my soul: There is no salvation for him in his God. But Thou, O Lord, art my helper, my glory, and the lifter up of my head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain. I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for Thou hast smitten all who without cause are mine enemies; the teeth of sinners hast Thou broken. Salvation is of the Lord, and Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

And again: I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

PSALM 37

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath. For Thine arrows are fastened in me, and Thou hast laid Thy hand heavily upon me. There is no healing in my flesh in the face of Thy wrath; and there is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins. For mine iniquities are risen higher than my head; as a heavy burden have they pressed heavily upon me. My bruises are become noisome and corrupt in the face of my folly. I have been wretched and utterly bowed down until the end; all the day long I went with downcast face. For my loins are filled with mocking, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly, I have roared from the groaning of my heart. O Lord, before Thee is all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from Thee. My heart is troubled, my strength hath failed me; and the light of mine eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and my neighbors drew nigh over against me and stood, and my nearest of kin stood afar off. And they that sought after my soul used violence; and they that sought evils for me spake vain things, and craftiness all the day long did they meditate. But as for me, like a deaf man I heard them not, and was as a speechless man that openeth not his mouth. And I became as a man that heareth not, and that hath in his mouth no reproofs. For in Thee have I hoped, O Lord; Thou wilt hearken unto me, O Lord my God. For I said: Let never mine enemies rejoice over me; yea, when my feet were shaken, those men spake boastful words against me. For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity, and I will take heed concerning my sin. But mine enemies live and are made stronger than I, and they that hated me unjustly are multiplied. They that render me evil for good slandered me, because I pursued goodness. Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

And again: Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

PSALM 62

O God, my God, unto Thee I rise early at dawn. My soul hath thirsted for Thee; how often hath my flesh longed after Thee in a land barren and untrodden and unwatered. So in the sanctuary have I appeared before Thee to see Thy power and Thy glory. For Thy mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise Thee. So shall I bless Thee in my life, and in Thy name will I lift up my hands. As with marrow and fatness let my soul be filled, and with lips rejoicing shall my mouth praise Thee. If I remembered Thee on my bed, at the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee; Thy right hand hath been quick to help me. But as for these, in vain have they sought after my soul; they shall go into the nethermost parts of the earth, they shall be surrendered unto the edge of the sword; portions for foxes shall they be. But the king shall be glad in God, everyone shall be praised that sweareth by Him; for the mouth of them is stopped that speak unjust things.

And again: At the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee; Thy right hand hath been quick to help me.

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.

PSALM 87

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

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication, for filled with evils is my soul, and my life unto Hades hath drawn nigh. I am counted with them that go down into the pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead, like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, whom Thou rememberest no more, and they are cut off from Thy hand. They laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness and in the shadow of death. Against me is Thine anger made strong, and all Thy billows hast Thou brought upon me. Thou hast removed my friends afar from me; they have made me an abomination unto themselves. I have been delivered up, and have not come forth; mine eyes are grown weak from poverty. I have cried unto Thee, O Lord, the whole day long; I have stretched out my hands unto Thee. Nay, for the dead wilt Thou work wonders? Or shall physicians raise them up that they may give thanks unto Thee? Nay, shall any in the grave tell of Thy mercy, and of Thy truth in that destruction? Nay, shall Thy wonders be known in that darkness, and Thy righteousness in that land that is forgotten? But as for me, unto Thee, O Lord, have I cried; and in the morning shall my prayer come before Thee. Wherefore, O Lord, dost Thou cast off my soul and turnest Thy face away from me? A poor man am I, and in troubles from my youth; yea, having been exalted, I was humbled and brought to distress. Thy furies have passed upon me, and Thy terrors have sorely troubled me. They came round about me like water, all the day long they compassed me about together. Thou hast removed afar from me friend and neighbor, and mine acquaintances because of my misery.

And again: O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication.

PSALM 102

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that He hath done for thee, Who is gracious unto all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy, and executeth judgment for all them that are wronged. He hath made His ways known unto Moses, unto the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy; not unto the end will He be angered; neither unto eternity will He be wroth. Not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us. Like as a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth. For when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him. And His righteousness is upon sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord in heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

And again: In every place of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul.

PSALM 142

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

And again: O Lord, give ear unto my supplication and enter not into judgment with Thy servant. *(twice)*

Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness.

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.

LITANY OF PEACE REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

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

Choir: Amen.

"GOD IS THE LORD" **IN TONE ONE**

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

Verse 1: *O give thanks unto the Lord and call upon His Holy Name.*

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

Verse 2: *All nations compassed me about: but in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them.*

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

Verse 3: *This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.*

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

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE ONE

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE ONE

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

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

RESURRECTIONAL THEOTOKION IN TONE ONE

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

As Gabriel cried aloud unto thee, "Hail, O Virgin," with that cry did the Lord of all become incarnate in thee, O holy ark, as spake the righteous David; and Thou wast revealed as more spacious than the heavens, in that thou bore thy Creator. Wherefore, glory to Him Who abode in thee; glory to Him Who came from thee; glory to Him, Who through thy birth-giving hath set us free.

LITTLE LITANY REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

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

Choir: Amen.

FIRST TONE RESURRECTIONAL KATHISMATA (**Plain Reading**)

First Kathisma

The soldiers who kept watch over Thy grave, O Savior, became as dead from the shining of the appearing angel who told the good tidings of the Resurrection to the women. Thee, therefore, do

we glorify, O Remover of corruption, and to Thee do we bow, O Thou Who didst rise from the grave, O Thou, our only Lord.

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

Thou was nailed upon the cross willingly, O merciful One; and Thou wast placed in a grave like one who is dead, O Giver of Life, trampling the pride of death, O mighty One; for because of Thee the gatekeepers of Hades did tremble; and Thou didst raise the dead with Thee from eternity; for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

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

We have all known thee as Theotokos, and after giving birth thou didst appear truly virgin. We who eagerly seek refuge in thy goodness, have thus known thee; for we sinners have taken thee as intercessor, and in temptations have possessed thee as our salvation, O thou who alone art blameless.

Second Kathisma

Verily the women did proceed to the grave early, where they beheld an angelic scene, and did tremble. And when the grave shone forth with life they were struck with astonishment. Wherefore, they returned to the disciples and did preach the Resurrection, saying, Verily, Christ hath invaded Hades; for He alone is the powerful and mighty One; and He raised with Him all those who were corrupt, and with the power of His Cross He removed the fear of condemnation.

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

Thou wast verily nailed upon the Cross, O Life of all; and wast numbered among the dead, O deathless Lord. Thou didst rise after three days, O Savior, and didst raise Adam from corruption. Wherefore, the heavenly powers shouted to Thee, O giver of life; Glory to Thy passion, O Christ, Glory to Thy resurrection, Glory to Thy condescension, O Thou alone the Lover of mankind.

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

O Mary, the reverend abode of the Lord, lift us who have fallen in the abyss of evil despair, trespasses and sorrows; for thou didst give salvation to sinners. Thou art a helper and a strong intercessor, and dost save thy servants.

Optional[1]

THE ABRIDGED AMOMOS IN TONE FIVE

PSALM 118:1-11

- Blessed are the blameless in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord.
- Blessed are they that search out His testimonies; with their whole heart shall they seek after Him.
- For they that work iniquity have not walked in His ways.
- Thou hast enjoined Thy commandments, that we should keep them most diligently.
- Would that my ways were directed to keep Thy statutes.
- Then shall I not be ashamed, when I look on all Thy commandments.
- I will confess Thee with uprightness of heart, when I have learned the judgements of Thy righteousness.
- I will keep thy statutes; do not utterly forsake me.
- Wherewithal shall a young man correct his way? By keeping Thy words.

[1] In common North American Antiochian use, the Amomos (Psalm 118) is often omitted in Sunday Orthros, in which case we immediately begin chanting the Evlogetaria, which start with the repetition of the 12th verse of the Amomos.

- With my whole heart have I sought after Thee, cast me not away from Thy commandments.
- In my heart have I hid Thy sayings that I might not sin against Thee.

THE EVLOGETARIA OF THE RESURRECTION IN TONE FIVE

Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes. (Ps.118:12)

The company of the Angels was amazed, when they beheld Thee numbered among the dead, yet Thyself, O Savior, destroyed the power of Death, and with Thee raising up Adam and releasing all men from Hell.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.

Wherefore, O Women Disciples, do ye mingle sweet-smelling spices with your tears of pity? The radiant Angel within the sepulcher cried unto the Myrrh-bearing Women: Behold the grave, and understand; for the Savior is risen from the tomb.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.

Very early in the morning did the Myrrh-bearing Women run lamenting unto Thy tomb; but an Angel came toward them saying: The time for lamentation is passed; weep not; but announce unto the Apostles the Resurrection.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.

The Myrrh-bearing Women mourned as bearing spices they drew near Thy tomb, O Savior. But the Angel spake unto them saying: Why number ye the Living among the dead? In that He is God, He is risen from the grave.

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

We adore the Father, as also His Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity in One Essence; crying with the Seraphim: Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O Lord.

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

In that thou didst bear the Giver of Life, O Virgin, thou didst redeem Adam from sin, and didst give to Eve joy in place of sadness; and He Who was incarnate of thee, both God and man, hath restored to life those who had fallen therefrom.

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.

LITTLE LITANY REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

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

Choir: Amen.

FIRST TONE RESURRECTIONAL HYPAKOE (**Plain Reading**)

The repentance of the thief gained him paradise by stealth, and the sighing of the ointment-bearing women proclaimed the glad tidings that Thou wast risen, O Christ, and hadst bestowed upon the world Thy Great Mercy.

FIRST TONE RESURRECTIONAL ANABATHMOI (**Plain Reading**)

FIRST ANTIPHON

- Lord, to Thee in my sorrows do I cry. Hear Thou my cry of pain.
- Verily, the divine desire shall be without delay upon the people of the wilderness; for that they have come out of the vain world.

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

- Verily, glory and honor become the Holy Spirit, as they become the Father and the Son. Wherefore, do we praise the Triune, One in might.

SECOND ANTIPHON

- God, since Thou hast raised me to the hills of Thy laws, shed brightly Thy light of virtue upon me, that I may praise Thee.
  - Word, hold me fast with Thy right hand; keep me and preserve me, lest the fire of sin consume me.

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

- Verily, all creation together is regenerated by the Holy Spirit, and returns to its former being: for He is co-omnipotent with the Father and the Word.

THIRD ANTIPHON

- My soul did rejoice with those who say: Let us go into the courts of the Lord. My heart was exceedingly glad.
- Great fear shall be in the house of David, where the seats shall be set, and all tribes and tongues of the earth shall be judged.

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

- Verily, it is meet to offer glory, might and power to the Holy Spirit as to the Father and the Son; for the Trinity is one in Substance, not in Person.

THE MATINS GOSPEL

PROKEIMENON, IN TONE ONE

Now will I arise, saith the Lord; I will set Myself for salvation; I will make no tarrying therein. *(twice)*

***Verse**:* The words of the Lord are pure words.

Now will I arise, saith the Lord; I will set Myself for salvation; I will make no tarrying therein.

THE **FOURTH EOTHINON** ORTHROS GOSPEL

Choir: Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. *(twice)*

Praise ye God in His saints; praise Him in the firm foundation of His power.

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

Reader: The reading is from the holy Gospel according Luke §112 (24:1-12).

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Reader: On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women went to the tomb, taking the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they went in, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel; and as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the Living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen. Remember how He told you, while He was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." And they remembered His words, and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told this to the

apostles; but their words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he departed, wondering at what had happened.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Following the Gospel, the Reader says

Reader: In that we have beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us bow down before the Holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. Thy Cross do we adore, O Christ, and Thy Holy Resurrection we praise and glorify: for Thou art our God, and we know none other beside Thee; we call upon Thy Name. O come, all ye faithful, let us adore Christ's Holy Resurrection. For lo, through the Cross is joy come into all the world. Ever blessing the Lord, let us sing His Resurrection: for in that He endured the Cross for us, He hath destroyed Death by death.

PSALM 50

Reader: Lord, have mercy. *(Thrice)*

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

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built up. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

TROPARIA AFTER PSALM 50 IN TONE TWO

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

Through the intercessions of the Apostles, O Thou Who art merciful, blot out all the multitudes of our transgressions.

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

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Who art merciful, blot out all the multitudes of our transgressions.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions, blot out my transgressions.

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, hath given unto us life eternal and Great Mercy.

GREAT INTERCESSION REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*
Leader: Through the prayer of Thy Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy on us.
Choir: Amen.

FIRST TONE RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION (**Plain Reading**)

As God, Thou didst arise from the tomb in glory, and Thou didst raise the world together with Thyself. Mortal nature praised Thee as God, and death was obliterated. Adam danceth for joy, O Master, and Eve, now freed from fetters, rejoiceth as she crieth out: Thou, O Christ, dost grant resurrection to all.

FIRST TONE RESURRECTIONAL OIKOS (**Plain Reading**)

Let us praise as God omnipotent Him that arose on the third day, Who broke the gates of Hades and raised from the grave the dead from ages past, and Who of His own good pleasure appeared to the myrrh-bearing women, giving them first the greeting: Rejoice; and announcing joy to the apostles, as the only Giver of life. Wherefore, with faith the women proclaim to the disciples the glad tidings of the symbols of victory, Hades groaneth, death lamenteth, the world is joyful, and all men rejoice together; for Thou, O Christ, hast granted resurrection to all.

THE SYNAXARION (**Plain Reading**)

On December 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate our father among the saints Ambrose, bishop of Milan.

Verses

Ambrose, having shed his corruptible body, hath fitly partaken of divine ambrosia.
On the seventh Ambrose came upon immortal terrain.

His father was the imperial governor of Gaul and Spain, and a pagan, while his mother was a Christian. On the death of his father, the Emperor made him governor of Liguria, of which province Milan was the chief city. When the bishop of Milan died, there was great dissention about the choice of a new bishop. Ambrose went into the church to keep order. Thereupon, a child at its mother's breast cried out: "Ambrose for bishop!" All the people took this to be the voice of God, and unanimously elected Ambrose as their bishop, although it was against his will. Ambrose was baptized, and passed through all the necessary ranks in one week. As bishop, he strengthened the faith of the Orthodox, restrained heretics, adorned churches, spread the Faith among the pagans, wrote many instructive books and was an example of a true Christian and a true shepherd. Ambrose died peacefully at daybreak on Pascha in 397.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Athenodoros of Mesopotamia; and Venerable Gregory, founder of Gregoriou monastery on Athos.

By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

KATAVASIAE OF THE 1ST CANON OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE ONE

Ode 1

Christ is born, give ye glory. Christ is come from Heaven, receive ye Him. Christ is on earth, be ye exalted. Sing unto the Lord all the earth and sing praises in gladness, O ye peoples; for He hath been glorified.

Ode 3

To the Son Who was begotten of the Father before the ages without change, and in these last days was without seed made flesh of the Virgin, to Christ our God let us cry aloud: Thou Who hast raised up our horn, holy art Thou, O Lord.

Ode 4

Rod of the root of Jesse, and flower that blossomed from his stem, O Christ, Thou hast sprung from the Virgin; from the mountain densely overshadowed hast Thou come, O Praised One, made flesh of her that knew not wedlock. O Thou Who art immateriate and God, glory to Thy power, O Lord.

Ode 5

Since Thou art the God of peace and the Father of mercies, Thou hast sent unto us Thine Angel of Great Counsel, granting us peace. Wherefore, having been guided to the light of divine knowledge, and watching by night, we glorify Thee, O Friend of man.

Ode 6

The sea-monster spat forth Jonah as it had received him like a babe from the womb; while the Word, having dwelt in the Virgin and taken flesh, came forth from her yet kept her incorrupt. For being Himself not subject to corruption, He preserved His Mother free from harm.

Ode 7

Scorning the impious decree, the Children brought up in godliness feared not the threat of fire, but standing in the midst of the flames, they chanted: O God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

Ode 8

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

The furnace moist with dew was the image and figure of a wonder past nature; for it burned not the Youths whom it had received, even as the fire of the Godhead consumed not the Virgin's womb into which it had descended. Wherefore in praise let us sing: Let all creation bless the Lord, and supremely exalt Him unto all the ages.

MAGNIFICATIONS IN **SAME TONE**

Verse: My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee.

Verse: For He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden; for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee.

Verse: For He that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is His Name; and His mercy is on them that fear Him, throughout all generations.

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee.

Verse: He hath showed strength with His arm; He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee.

Verse: He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the empty with good things, and the rich hath He sent empty away.

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee.

Verse: He remembering His mercy hath helped His servant Israel, as He promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee.

Katavasia of the 9th Ode of the Canon

Magnify, O my soul, her that is more honorable and more glorious than the hosts on high.

A strange and marvelous mystery do I behold; the cave is a heaven; the Virgin a cherubic throne; the manger a space wherein Christ God the Uncontainable One hath reclined. Him do we praise and magnify.

LITTLE LITANY REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

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

Choir: Amen.

Holy is the Lord our God. *(thrice)*

Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool, for He is holy.

THE FOURTH EOTHINON EXAPOSTEILARION & THEOTOKION IN TONE TWO

(**Upon that mount in Galilee**)

In flashing light of virtues clad, * let us behold the young men * who, at that tomb that beareth life, * appeared in flashing raiment * unto the myrrh-bearing women * who bowed their faces earthward; * and let us be instructed of * the arising of Heaven's * Master and Lord * and with Peter run to Life in the Lord's tomb; * and wond'ring at that which was wrought, * let us remain to see Christ.

Same tone and melody

When Thou, O Lord, didst say: Rejoice,* Thou didst transform the sorrow * of our forefathers, in its stead * bringing the world the gladness * of Thine Arising in glory. * Wherefore, through her that bare Thee, * send forth to us the light thereof, * that bright light of Thy mercies, * lighting our hearts, * so that we, O Life-giving Lord, might cry out: * O Friend of man, both God and man, * glory to Thine Arising.

AINOI (PRAISES) IN TONE **ONE**

Choir: Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord from the heavens: praise Him in the heights. To Thee, O God, is due our song.

Praise ye Him, all His angels: praise ye Him, all His hosts. To Thee, O God, is due our song.

For the Resurrection in Tone One

Verse 1. *This glory shall be to all His saints.*

We praise, O Christ, Thy saving Passion and glorify Thy Resurrection.

Verse 2. *Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of His power.*

O Thou Who didst endure the Cross and abolish Death and didst rise again from the dead: give peace to our life, O Lord, for Thou only art almighty.

Verse 3. *Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to His excellent greatness.*

O Thou Who didst despoil Hell and raise man again from the dead by Thy Resurrection, O Christ, make us worthy with pure hearts to praise and glorify Thee.

Verse 4. *Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; praise Him with the psaltery and harp.*

Glorifying Thy divine condescension, we praise Thee, O Christ, for Thou wast born of a Virgin yet wast not separated from the Father. Thou didst suffer as man and of Thine own free will endured the Cross, and Thou didst rise again from the tomb going forth as from a bridal chamber that Thou mightest save the world. O Lord, glory to Thee.

Verse 5. *Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise Him with stringed instruments and organs.*

When Thou wast nailed upon the tree of the Cross, then was the power of the enemy slain; then creation shook with fear of Thee, and Hell was despoiled by Thy might. Thou didst raise the dead from their graves and Thou didst open the gate of Paradise to the thief. O Christ our God, glory to Thee.

Verse 6. *Praise Him upon the loud cymbals: praise Him upon the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.*

With great lamentations the honored women came to thy tomb but found the grave opened. And learning from the angel of the new and most glorious miracle, they informed the Apostles that the Lord had risen, granting unto the world His Great Mercy.

Verse 7. *Arise, O my God, lift up Thy hand, and forget not the humble.*

We worship the wounds of Thy divine Passion, O Christ our God, the noble sacrifice in Zion that became the manifestation of God unto the end of the ages. The Sun of Righteousness hath shined upon these that were sitting in darkness, leading them unto that never-setting light. O Lord, glory to Thee.

Verse 8. *I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will show all Thy marvelous works.*

O ye lovers of trouble begotten of the Jewish race: Where are they who came unto Pilate? Let the guardian soldiers tell: Where are the seals of the tombs? Whither was the Buried One moved? Where was the Priceless One sold? How was the Treasure stolen? Why do ye deny the Resurrection of the Crucified One? O ye lawless Jews, He is risen from the dead, free, bestowing upon the world His Great Mercy.

THE FOURTH EOTHINON DOXASTICON IN TONE FOUR

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

Verily, the women came at early dawn to Thy tomb, O Christ, but they found not Thy body, precious to them. And as they were perplexed, behold there stood among them those who were in shining clothes who said to them: Why seek ye the living among the dead? He hath risen as He foretold. Why have ye forgotten His words? And when they were assured by their saying, they preached to the Disciples the things seen. But their glad tidings were received with ridicule; for they were still without understanding. But Peter hastened to behold, and glorified Thy wonders in himself.

THEOTOKION IN SAME TONE[2]

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

Most blessed art thou, O Virgin Theotokos, for through Him that was incarnate of thee is Hades despoiled, Adam is recalled from the dead, the curse is made void, Eve is set free, death is slain,

[2] Same text on all Sundays, except that it is sung in the tone of the Doxasticon.

and we are endowed with life. Wherefore, in hymns of praise, we cry aloud: Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who is thus well pleased, glory to Thee.

THE GREAT DOXOLOGY IN **TONE FOUR**

Choir: Glory to thee, who hast shown us the Light. Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will among men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory.

O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son oft he Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, thou that takest away the sins of the world.

Receive our prayer, thou that sittest at the right hand oft he Father, and have mercy on us.

For thou only art holy thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day will I bless thee, and I will praise thy Name forever; yea, forever and ever.

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

Blessed art thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified be thy name forever. Amen.

Let thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, as we have set our hope in thee.

Blessed art thou, O Lord, teach me thy statutes. *(thrice)*

Lord, thou hast been our refuge in all generations. I said: Lord, be merciful unto me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against thee.

Lord, I have fled unto thee, teach me to do thy will, for thou art my God.

For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

O continue thy loving-kindness unto them that know thee.

Holy God, Holy Mighty Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. *(thrice)*

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

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

Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

THE END-OF-MATINS TROPARION[3] IN TONE FOUR

Today is Salvation come into the world. Let us sing praises to Him Who arose from the grave, the Author of our life; for having by Death destroyed death, He hath given us victory and Great Mercy.

[3] This Troparion is appointed for Sundays with tones 1--4.

THE TYPIKA SERVICE

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

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. *(Thrice)*

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

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

Leader: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.
All: Amen.
Reader: Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

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

O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

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

THE FIRST ANTIPHON: PSALM 102

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that He hath done for thee, Who is gracious unto all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy, and executeth judgement for all them that are wronged. He hath made His ways known unto Moses, unto the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy; not unto the end will He be angered, neither unto eternity will He be wroth. Not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us. Like as a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth. For when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him. And His righteousness is upon sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord in heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of

His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion.

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

And again: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy Name; blessed art Thou, O Lord.

THE SECOND ANTIPHON: PSALM 145

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

Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord in my life, I will chant unto my God for as long as I have my being. Trust ye not in princes, in the sons of men, in whom there is no salvation. His spirit shall go forth, and he shall return unto his earth. In that day all his thoughts shall perish. Blessed is he of whom the God of Jacob is his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God, Who hath made heaven and the earth, the sea and all that is therein, Who keepeth truth unto eternity, Who executeth judgement for the wronged, Who giveth food unto the hungry. The Lord looseth the fettered; the Lord maketh wise the blind; the Lord setteth aright the fallen; the Lord loveth the righteous; the Lord preserveth the proselytes. He shall adopt for His own the orphan and widow, and the way of sinners shall He destroy. The Lord shall be king unto eternity; thy God, O Sion, unto generation and generation.

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

THE HYMN OF JUSTINIAN

Choir: Only-begotten Son and Word of God, who art im-mortal, who for our salvation willed to be incarnate of the Holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, and without change became man; and wast crucified, O Christ our God, and trampled down death by death; who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified together with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us.

THE BEATITUDES IN TONE **ONE**

In Thy kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

- Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.
- Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
- Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

For the Resurrection in Tone One

Verse 8: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

By means of food, the enemy drave Adam out of Paradise; but by the Cross, Christ hath led therein the thief who cried: Remember me, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

Verse 7: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

I worship Thy Passion and I glorify Thy Resurrection; with Adam and the Thief I cry unto Thee with a clear voice: Remember me, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

Verse 6: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

Thou wast crucified, O Sinless One, and willingly laid in a tomb; but as God, Thou didst arise, raising up Adam with Thyself, as he cried: Remember me, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

Verse 5: Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

When Thou didst raise up the temple of Thy body on the third day of burial, Thou didst raise up, together with Adam, them that came from Adam, as they cried, O Christ God: Remember me, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

Verse 4: Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Weeping, the myrrh-bearers came unto Thy tomb early in the morning, O Christ God, and they found an Angel sitting clothed in white rainment, and he cried to them: What seek ye? Christ is risen. Wherefore, lament not.

Verse 3: Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in the heavens.

When Thine Apostles, O Lord, came unto the mount which Thou hadst appointed them, they worshipped Thee when they beheld Thee, O Saviour, and Thou didst send them unto the nations to teach and baptize them.

Verse 2: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Let us worship the Father, and let us glorify the Son, and with one accord let us all praise the All-holy Spirit, whilst crying and saying: O All-holy Trinity, save us all.

Verse 1: Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Thy Mother do Thy people bring before Thee in intercession, O Christ. By her supplications, grant us Thy compassions, O Good One, that we may glorify Thee, Who for our sake hast shone forth from the grave.

THE SUNDAY EISODIKON

Verse: O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.

Choir: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Apolytikia:

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE ONE

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE IN TONE ONE

*(**The soldiers standing guard**)*

When Christ God had been born for our sakes from the Virgin, thou faith-fully didst follow Him, keeping His statutes and heeding His sacred laws, O august Mary Magdalene. Hence, as we today observe thy holy remembrance, we receive the loosing of our sins and transgressions through thy holy prayer(s) for us.

THE TRISAGION HYMN

Holy God, Holy mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us. *(thrice)*

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

Holy Immortal have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us.

THE APOSTOLOS & THE GOSPEL

PROKEIMENON, TONE 1

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee. *(Ps.32:22) {twice}*

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright. *(Ps.32:1)*

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee. *(Ps.32:22)*

APOSTOLOS OF THE 26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Reader: The reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians §229 (5:8-19).

Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

ALLELUIA, TONE 1

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 1: O God Who givest avengement unto me and hast subdued peoples under me. *(Ps.17:48)*

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 2: It is He that magnifieth the salvation of His king and worketh mercy for His anointed, for David, and for his seed unto eternity. *(Ps.17:51)*

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL FOR THE 13TH SUNDAY OF LUKE:

Reader: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke §91 (18:18-27).

Choir: Glory the Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee.

Reader: At that time, a man came testing Jesus and asking, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery. Do not kill. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.'" And the man said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the man heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus, seeing him sad, said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

Choir: Glory the Thee O Lord, Glory to Thee.

Then we sing the following, in tone 6

Choir: Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

- Remember us, O Master, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.
- Remember us, O Holy One, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

The heavenly choir praiseth Thee and saith: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Verse: Come unto Him, and be enlightened and your faces shall not be ashamed.

The heavenly choir praiseth Thee and saith: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

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

The choir of Holy angels and archangels, with all the heavenly hosts praiseth Thee and saith: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

THE SYMBOL OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, Begotten of the Father before all worlds, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made; 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 the Virgin Mary, and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets;

And I believe in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

Leader: Remit, pardon, forgive, O God, our offenses, both voluntary and involuntary, in deed and word, in knowledge and ignorance, by day and by night, in mind and thought; forgive us all things, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

All: Amen

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

Leader: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

All: Amen.

Kontakia:

KONTAKION OF THE RESURRECTION IN TONE ONE

As God, Thou didst arise from the tomb in glory, and Thou didst raise the world together with Thyself. And mortal nature praised Thee as God, and death was obliterated. And Adam danceth for joy, O Master, and Eve, now freed from fetters, rejoiceth as she crieth out: Thou, O Christ, dost grant resurrection unto all.

KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE

(****The original melody****)[4]

Today the Virgin comes to the cave to ineffably give birth to the pre-eternal Word. Hear the glad tidings and rejoice, all the ends of the earth; with the angels and shepherds glorify Him. He comes a young child, He Who is from eternity God.

[4] This translation matches the melody the St. Mary Magdalene choir is most familiar with.

Leader: Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

O All-Holy Trinity, the consubstantial dominion, the indivisible Kingdom, and cause of every Good: Show Thy good will even unto me a sinner; make steadfast my heart and grant it understanding, and take away mine every defilement; enlighten my mind that I may glorify, hymn, worship, and say:

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

PSALM 33

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

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 remembrance 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.

THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

It is truly meet and right to bless thee, O Theotokos, who art ever blessed and all-blameless, and the Mother of our God. More honourable than the cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim, thou who without corruption bearest God the Word and art truly Theotokos: We magnify thee.

READING(S)

THE HOLY MARTYR PARAMONUS OF BITHYNIA AND HIS 370 FELLOW MARTYRS

The Holy Martyr Paramon and the 370 Martyrs with him suffered for their faith in Christ in the year 250 during the rule of the emperor Decius (249-251). The governor of the Eastern regions, Aquianus, had locked up 370 Christians in prison, urging them to abjure Christ and instead offer sacrifice to idols.

They subjected the captives to beatings, hoping by torture and the threat of death to persuade them to renounce Christ and worship the pagan gods. One of the local inhabitants, Paramon by name, openly denounced the cruel governor and confessed his faith in the One True God, the

Lord Jesus Christ. They beheaded Saint Paramon after fierce tortures, together with the other 370 martyrs. [From oca.org]

* * *

The holy Martyr Philumenus of Ancyra

The Holy Martyr Philoumenus suffered for Christ in the year 274, during the persecution against Christians by the emperor Aurelian (270-275). Saint Philoumenus was a bread merchant in Ancyra. Envious persons reported to the governor Felix that Philoumenus was a Christian, and so he came before a judge.

Saint Philoumenus did not renounce Christ. For this they hammered nails into his hands, feet and head, and they forced him to walk. The holy martyr bravely endured the torments and he died from loss of blood, giving up his soul to God. [From oca.org]

* * *

Venerable Akakios of Sinai, who is mentioned in the Ladder

Saint Akakios of Sinai lived during the sixth century and was a novice at a certain monastery in Asia. The humble monk distinguished himself by his patient and unquestioning obedience to his Elder, a harsh and dissolute man. He forced his disciple to toil excessively, starved him with hunger, and beat him without mercy. Despite such treatment, Saint Akakios meekly endured the affliction and thanked God for everything. Saint Akakios died after suffering these torments for nine years.

Five days after Akakios was buried, his Elder told another Elder about the death of his disciple. The second Elder did not believe that the young monk was dead. They went to the grave of Akakios and the second Elder called out: “Brother Akakios, are you dead?” From the grave a voice replied, “No, Father, how is it possible for an obedient man to die?” The startled Elder of Saint Akakios fell down with tears before the grave, asking forgiveness of his disciple.

After this he repented, constantly saying to the Fathers, “I have committed murder.” He lived in a cell near the grave of Saint Akakios, and he ended his life in prayer and in meekness. Saint John Climacus (March 30) mentions Saint Akakios in *The Ladder* (Step 4:110) as an example of endurance and obedience, and of the rewards for these virtues.

Saint Akakios is also commemorated on July 7. [From oca.org]

* * *

The holy Hieromartyr Dionysius, Bishop of Corinth

Saint Jerome wrote the following about Saint Dionysios, information of which he took from Eusebius, who placed him as being Bishop in the eleventh year of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, which was 171.

"Dionysios, Bishop of the Church of Corinth, was of so great eloquence and industry that he taught not only the people of his own city and province but also those of other provinces and cities by his letters. Of these one is *To the Lacedaemonians*, another *To the Athenians*, a third *To the Nicomedians*, a fourth *To the Cretans*, a fifth *To the Church at Amastrina and to the Other Churches of Pontus*, a sixth *To the Gnosians* and to Pinytus the bishop of the same city, a seventh To the Romans, addressed to Soter their bishop, an eighth To Chrysophora a holy woman. He flourished in the reign of Marcus Antoninus Verus and Lucius Aurelius Commodus."

Eusebius knew a collection of seven of the Catholic Letters to the Churches of Dionysios, together with a letter to him from Pinytus, Bishop of Knossus, and a private letter of spiritual advice to a lady named Chrysophora.

Eusebius mentions (1) a letter to the Lacedaemonians, teaching orthodoxy, and enjoining peace and union. (2) Another letter was to the Athenians, stirring up their faith exhorting them to live according to the Gospel, since they were not far from apostasy. Dionysios spoke of the recent martyrdom of their bishop, Publius (in the persecution of Marcus Aurelius), and says that Dionysios the Areopagite was the first Bishop of Athens. (3) To the Nicomedians he wrote against Marcionism. (4) Writing to Gortyna and the other dioceses of Crete, he praised their bishop, Philip, for efforts on behalf of the Church then warned him of the distortions of heretics. (5) To the Church of Amastris in Pontus he wrote at the instance of Bacchylides and Elpistus (otherwise unknown), mentioning the bishop's name as Palmas; he wrote in this letter of marriage and celibacy, and recommended the charitable treatment of those who had fallen away into sin or heresy. (6) In a letter to Pinytus, Bishop of Knossus, he recommended that he should not lay the yoke of celibacy too heavily on his brethren, but consider the weakness most of them have. Pinytus replied, after polite words, that he hoped Dionysios would send strong meat next time so his people might not grow up on the milk of babes.

But the most important letter is the seventh one, addressed to the Romans, and the only one from which extracts have been preserved. Pope Soter had sent alms and a letter to the Corinthians, and in response Dionysios wrote:

"For this has been your custom from the beginning, to do good to all the brethren in many ways, and to send alms to many Churches in different cities, now relieving the poverty of those who asked aid, now assisting the brethren in the mines by the alms you send, Romans keeping up the traditional custom of Romans, which your blessed bishop, Soter, has not only maintained, but has even increased, by affording to the brethren the abundance which he has supplied, and by comforting with blessed words the brethren who came to him, as a father his children."

Again:

"You also by this instruction have mingled together the Romans and Corinthians who are the planting of Peter and Paul. For they both came to our Corinth and planted us, and taught alike; and alike going to Italy and teaching there, were martyred at the same time."

Again:

"Today we have kept the holy Lord's day, on which we have read your letter, which we shall ever possess to read and to be admonished, even as the former one written to us through Clement."

The witness to the martyrdom of the Apostles Peter and Paul, kata ton auton kairon, is of importance, and so is the mention of the Epistle of Clement and the public reading of it. The letter of the Pope was written "as a father to his children". Dionysios's own letters were evidently much prized, for in the last extract from this letter he writes that he wrote them by request, and that they have been falsified "by the apostles of the devil". "Small wonder then", he observes, "if some have dared to tamper even with the word of the Lord himself, when they have conspired to mutilate my own humble efforts."

It is believed he probably was Bishop until around 180, and after faithfully serving his flock he died a martyr's death by beheading, though there are no historical sources to confirm this. The Abbey of Saint Denis in France claimed to be in possession of the body of Dionysios of Corinth, alleged to have been brought from Greece to Rome, and given them in 1215 by Pope Innocent III. [From Mystagoy]

* * *

Saint Urban, Bishop of Macedonia

Saint Urban, Bishop of Macedonia, met his end in peace.

The first Bishop of Macedonia was Saint Urban, who was ordained by the Apostle Andrew and is numbered as one of the Seventy Apostles. He is commemorated on October 31st. It is not likely they are the same person, since he is said to have been martyred, while the Saint Urban commemorated today is said to have reposed in peace. [From Mystagogy]

* * *

Our righteous Father Nicholas, Archbishop of Thessalonica

Venerable Nicholas, Archbishop of Thessaloniki, met his end in peace.

He is listed in the Synaxarion of Constantinople and the Menaion to be commemorated on November 29th. According to scant evidence provided by Metropolitan Anthimos Alexoudes of Amasia, the only Nicholas to serve as Archbishop of Thessaloniki besides Nicholas Cabasilas (+ 1391) was one that served in the year 160. We have no further information about him. [From Mystagogy]

THE DISMISSAL

The Leader bows toward the icon of Christ on the iconostasis, saying:

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

All: 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. O Lord, bless.

Leader: O Thou Who rose again from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; of the Holy Myrrh-Bearer and Equal to the Apostles Mary Magdalene, protector of this community; *of the holy Martyr Paramonos and the 370 Martyrs in Bithynia; Martyr Philoumenos of Ancyra; Venerable Akakios of Sinai; Hieromartyr Dionysios, bishop of Corinth; Urban, bishop of Macedonia; and Nicholas, archbishop of Thessalonica, whose memory we celebrate today,* and of all the saints: have mercy on us, and save us, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

Then, facing the icon of Christ, on the iconostasis, the Leader says:

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

All: Amen.