

Supplicatory Canon

*to our Father among the Saints
Nektarios of Pentapolis, the Wonderworker*

*Original Poem in Greek by Monk Gerasimos Mikragiannanites
Translated and adapted by Fr. Seraphim Dedes*

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

PEOPLE: Amen.

Psalm 142

O Lord, hear my prayer; give ear to my supplication in Your truth; answer me in Your righteousness; Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for no one living shall become righteous in Your sight. For the enemy persecuted my soul: he humbled my life to the ground; he caused me to dwell in dark places as one long dead, And my spirit was in anguish within me; my heart was troubled within me. I remembered the days of old, and I meditated on all Your works; I meditated on the works of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a waterless land. Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit faints within me; turn not Your face from me, lest I become like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your mercy in the morning, for I hope in You; make me know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Deliver me from my enemies, O

Lord, for to You I flee for refuge, Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. For Your name's sake, O Lord, give me life; in Your righteousness You shall bring my soul out of affliction. In Your mercy You shall destroy my enemies; You shall utterly destroy all who afflict my soul, for I am Your servant. (SAAS)

CHOIR:

Mode 4.

God is the Lord and He revealed himself to us. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. (4x)

Mode 4. *You who were lifted.*

To Saint Nektarios, the Lord's holy Bishop, *whom Christ has glorified with bounties from heaven, * let us believers run, and from the depths of our souls * cry to him, "Deliver us * from distress and affliction, * from disease and suffering, * and temptation, O Father. * We come to you for comfort and for help, * as the protector * of Orthodox Christians all."

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

Same Melody.

Since you received from God the grace
and the power * to cure the serious and
painful diseases * of those who come with
faith before your relics, we entreat: * Cure
those who are suffering * and are harshly
afflicted * with tormenting pain, O Saint, *
and disorders of all kinds. * Preserve the
world and all of us in peace, * by your
entreaties, O Father Nektarios.

Both now and ever
and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion.

We the unworthy shall not ever be
silent, * O Theotokos, from pro-
claiming your powers. * For were you not
concerned to intercede for us, * who would
have delivered us * from such manifold
dangers, * and who else would up to now *
have preserved us in freedom? * O Lady,
we shall not depart from you, * for you ever
save your servants * from evils of every
kind.

PEOPLE:

Psalms 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to
Your great mercy; and according to
the abundance of Your compassion, blot out
my transgression. Wash me thoroughly
from my lawlessness and cleanse me from
my sin. For I know my lawlessness, and my
sin is always before me. Against You only
have I sinned and done evil in Your sight;
that You may be justified in Your words,
and overcome when You are judged. For

behold, I was conceived in transgressions,
and in sins my mother bore me. Behold,
You love truth; You showed me the un-
known and secret things of Your wisdom.
You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I
will be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I
will be made whiter than snow. You shall
make me hear joy and gladness; my bones
that were humbled shall greatly rejoice.
Turn Your face from my sins, and blot out
all my transgressions. Create in me a clean
heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with-
in me. Do not cast me away from Your
presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit
from me. Restore to me the joy of Your sal-
vation, and uphold me with Your guiding
Spirit. I will teach transgressors Your ways,
and the ungodly shall turn back to You.
Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
the God of my salvation, and my tongue
shall greatly rejoice in Your righteousness.
O Lord, You shall open my lips, and my
mouth will declare Your praise. For if You
desired sacrifice, I would give it; You will
not be pleased with whole burnt offerings.
A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a brok-
en and humbled heart God will not despise.
Do good, O Lord, in Your good pleasure to
Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be
built; then you will be pleased with a sacri-
fice of righteousness, with offerings and
whole burnt offerings; then shall they offer
young bulls on Your altar. (SAAS)

The Canon,

*Which has the following acrostic:
"Nektarios, end our suffering. Seraphim."*

CHOIR:

Ode i.

Mode pl. 4. *Of old when the Israelite.*

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Now wounded by darts of the wicked fiend, * I run to the haven of your help and I cry aloud, * "Give peace to my life, O holy Father; * and to my soul and my body grant health again."

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Effectively leading a holy life, * you now sanctify us who approach your all-holy bones, * and free us from every kind of evil, * O holy God-bearing Father Nektarios.

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

Kindhearted Nektarios, since you are * a miracle-worker and a Hierarch of the Lord, * to all who are seeking your assistance, * grant cures and healing of serious illnesses.

Both now and ever
and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The softhearted Mother of God are you. * Benevolent Lady, show compassion on me, I pray; * and free me from every harm and danger * of the invisible serpent and enemy.

Ode iii. *O divine Master Builder.*

Saint of God, intercede for us.

As a sensitive father and as a bishop who cares, * rescue us from grave

tribulations and merciless assaults * of the archenemy; * and as we daily extol you, * keep us free of all disease and painful suffering.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Rinse our souls with your sweetness, * and wash away bitterness * of the sinful passions, O Father Nektarios; for God * has given you divine * and immaterial nectar * of His grace, and every day it issues from your bones.

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

I have come to you, Father, * for I am passing the days * of my life in sickness, distress and excruciating pain. * Therefore I humbly pray * that you will not overlook me, * but instead alleviate my grievous suffering.

Both now and ever
and to the ages of ages. Amen.

O immaculate Virgin, * shelter and guard and protect * from the devil's various scandals, all those who run to you * for safety and for help * beneath your holy protection, * for you are the refuge and support of all the world.

Deliver us * from every harm, holy Hierarch, and affliction, * as we run to your intercessions with hope and faith, * God-bearing Father Nektarios, and extol you.

Look graciously * upon your servant, all-praiseworthy Theotokos, * and upon my painful physical suffering, * and remedy my anguish of spirit.

PRIEST:

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great love, we pray You, hearken, and have mercy.

Lord have mercy (3).

Again we pray for our Archbishop (name), and all the clergy and the laity in Christ.

Lord have mercy (3).

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all pious and Orthodox Christians, those who reside and visit in this city, the members, council members, contributors, and benefactors of this holy church.

Lord have mercy (3).

Again we pray for the servants of God (*names of the living*)

Lord have mercy (3).

For You are a merciful and loving God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

Amen.

CHOIR:

Kathisma.

Mode 2. *In seeking the heights.*

The case that contains your relics has been shown to be * a plentiful source of healing by the grace of God. * It cures those who are suffering, * and restores their well-being and healthiness * to those approaching with wholehearted faith, * O Hierarch Father Nektarios.

Ode iv.

Mode pl. 4. *I have heard the report.*

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Safe from every adversity * and from the assaults of the devil who wars with us * keep your parish, which is named for you, * wise and holy Hierarch Nektarios.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Every day, to your sacred shrine * people, sick and suffering, come from everywhere. * Holy Father, give them health again, * and relieve their sorrow, by the grace of God.

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

Now we pray you, Nektarios, * to restore to health our bodies and souls alike; * and absolve us of our trespasses, * as we are wholeheartedly extolling you.

Both now and ever
and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Do direct me, O virgin Maid, * on the saving road of repentance, all-blameless one; * also deaden and remove from me * every insurrection that my passions bring.

Ode v. Sovereign Lord our God.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

All-blessed Saint, * Charlotte shares you now with Aegina * as her patron and protector, and she prays * you will always be her helper in adversity.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Undisturbed, we pray, * be our peaceful life, and unperturbed * by the enemy's assaults of any kind, * through your intercession, Hierarch Nektarios.

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

Radiant with joy * is the parish that
acquired you * as its guardian and as
its Patron Saint, * for it knows that it enjoys
your speedy help in need.

Both now and ever
and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Save us, for we hope * in your shelter, O
Immaculate * and unwedded Theotokos
and all-pure, * and protect us from all harm,
and keep us safe and sound.

Ode vi. My prayer.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Unwell now, * we run to you to relieve
us * from distress of soul and body, O
Father, * for we are sure of your strong inter-
cession. * And fill our hearts with the heav-
enly joy of God, * and drive away the murky
fog * of destructive depression, Nektarios.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

From every * ordeal and poisonous scan-
dal * that the devil hurls against us, O
Father, * and from distress and necessity,
save us, * by your entreaties to Christ the
all-merciful; * and pray that He deliver us, *
who with faith run to you, Saint Nektarios.

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

From heaven, * look down on us with
compassion, * and unceasingly take
care of the parish * that bears your name,
holy God-bearing Father, * and wonder-
worker Nektarios, and obtained * your holy
relics as a great * and immeasurable treas-
ure of grace divine.

Both now and ever
and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Enlive * my humble soul to make pro-
gress * in the higher way of life, holy
Virgin; * and also save me, immaculate
Maiden, * from baser passions that rule me
with tyranny, * for you gave birth to God the
Word, * the benevolent Savior of humankind.

Deliver us * from every harm, holy
Hierarch, and affliction, * as we run to
your intercessions with hope and faith, *
God-bearing Father Nektarios, and extol
you.

Spotless Maid, * since you gave birth
inexplicably to the Logos, * through a
word in the latter days, intercede for us *
since you indeed * speak with motherly
freedom.

The priest commemorates as before.

CHOIR:

Kontakion.

Mode 2. O Protection of Christians.

You restore those who fall, O Nektarios,
* and support those who have been
shaken and are wavering. * O holy Father,
the Lord has glorified you in our days. *
Ever keep us safe and unperturbed by the
temptations of life, * we entreat you, O
Hierarch. * Pray that the Lord will grant us
* forgiveness of our offenses, * and that He
bless us with good health; * and beseech
Him to save our souls.

Prokeimenon.

Your priests shall clothe themselves in righteousness; Your saints shall greatly rejoice. (2)

Verse: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His holy one.

Your priests shall clothe themselves in righteousness; Your saints shall greatly rejoice. (SAAS)

PRIEST:

Let us pray to the Lord, our God, that we may be deemed worthy to hear the Holy Gospel,

Lord have mercy (3).

Wisdom! Arise! Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with all.

And with your spirit.

The reading of the Holy Gospel according to John. Let us be attentive.

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Gospel Reading

(RSV John 10:9-16)

The Lord said, "I am the door; if any one enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hireling and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hireling and cares nothing for the sheep. I

am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd."

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

CHOIR:

Glory.

At the intercession of the holy Bishop, O Lord of mercy, blot out my many offences.

Both now.

At the intercession of the Theotokos, O Lord of mercy, blot out my many offences.

Verse: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy; and according to the abundance of Your compassion, blot out my transgression.

Mode pl. 2. *When the Saints deposited.*

Recently you shone upon the Church of Christ as a new star, * O devout Nektarios, * glowing with the purity of your holy life. * Spiritual radiance * of the grace within you * shines upon our souls and brightens them. * And by the dazzling gift * that you have from God, you can heal and cure * the darkness that the demons bring * and the gloom of sickness and suffering. * Therefore we entreat you: O Father, never cease to rescue us * from the assaults of the evil one, * and from all adversity.

PRIEST:

O God, save Your People, and bless Your inheritance; look upon Your world with mercy and compassion; raise the Orthodox Christians to glory, and shower us with your abundant mercies, through the intercessions of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, through the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the protection of the honorable, heavenly bodiless powers; of the honorable, glorious prophet, the Forerunner John the Baptist; of the holy glorious and all-praised Apostles; of our holy fathers the great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; Athanasios and Cyril, John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria; Nicholas of Myra, Spyridon bishop of Trimythous, the wonder-workers; of the holy glorious great martyrs George the triumphant, Demetrios the myrrhflowing, Theodore Tyro and Theodore the Commander; of the holy-martyrs Charalambos and Eleutherios; of the holy glorious triumphant Martyrs; of our pious and God-bearing Fathers; of our Father among the Saints Nektarios of Pentapolis, the Wonderworker; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all Your Saints, we beseech You Lord, Who alone are all merciful; hear the prayers of us sinners and have mercy upon us.

PEOPLE:

Lord, have mercy (12).

PRIEST:

By the mercy and compassion, and love of Your only begotten Son, with whom You

are blessed, together with Your all-holy and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

CHOIR:

Ode vii. *The Children from Judea.*

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Rescue us who extol you, * blessed Father Nektarios, from adversities: * from every kind of illness, * from danger and temptations, * from disasters and terrorists, * and keep us safe from the plots * of bad and hateful people.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

In our own days, O Father, * for us Orthodox Christians you are a ready help, * continually healing * the serious diseases * of the ones who with faith in God * and with devotion for you * revere your holy relics.

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

Now your new sanctuary, * holy Father Nektarios, is a sacred crown * adorning the Queen City, * whose faithful Christians know you * as their Patron who prays to God; * and taking refuge in you, * they get divine assistance.

Both now and ever
and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Guide my steps, holy Maiden, * on the path to obey the commandments of your Son. * Direct my heart's attention * away from the attractions * and the doorways that lead to sin, * so being saved by your grace, * I might extol you, Virgin.

Ode viii. *O praise and bless Him.*

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Save me, O Father, * by your divine
intercessions. * For my heart is being
flooded by the river * of the sinful passions.
* So, dry it up completely.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Eminent Father, * you cure diseases; and
therefore * we take refuge in your
graced and holy relics, * praying to be freed
from * tormenting pain and sorrow.

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

Recieve us, Father, * beneath your
mighty protection, * holy Hierarchy;
and by your intercession, * to your holy
Parish * dispense paternal blessings.

Both now and ever
and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Virgin, * my soul is sick from
venom * of the serpent. So I pray that
you will cure me, * and illuminate me *
with light of true dispassion.

Ode ix. *You are the Theotokos.*

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Protect us, holy Father, * from the
wicked madness * of our invisible foe,
and deliver us, * who run to you for
protection, * from all adversity.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Heal me, O holy Father. * Take away
my soul's pain. * I pray, alleviate
physical suffering, * by the abundant divine
grace * that God has given you.

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

Intently pray the Savior * Christ, the
Friend of mankind, * to save your Parish,
the Queen City, and all us * in the
American Nation, * Father Nektarios.

Both now and ever
and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Maternally protecting, * nourishing and
caring * for us each day, you
unceasingly pray for us. * We sing in praise
of your blessings, * O Lady full of grace.

It is truly right, and Megalynaria.

It is truly right to call you blest, O Theo-
tokos, the ever-blessed and all-blameless
one, and the Mother of our God. Greater in
honor than the Cherubim, and in glory
greater beyond compare than the Seraphim,
you without corruption gave birth to God
the Word and are truly Theotokos. You do
we magnify.

To the shining star of the Church of
Christ, * and the blazing torchlight of
the Orthodox way of life, * let us sing and
honor the Patron Saint of Charlotte * and
Aegina, our holy * Father Nektarios.

Newly flowing river fed by divine *
showers from the heavens, coursing
into the Church of Christ * with the streams
of God's gifts and graces, sweet as nectar, *
rejoice, O truly blessed * Father Nektarios.

As a sacred lamp that was lit by God, *
in the height of virtue you shone
brightly in recent times. * Through your
holy life, you noetically enlighten * the
minds of the believers, * Father Nektarios.

Help of the afflicted are you. Rejoice! *
And the speedy healer of the demon-
possessed, rejoice! * You relieve the pain
and the anguish of the faithful * who
venerate your relics, * Father Nektarios.

Blessed Saint Nektarios, O rejoice! *
You are the assistance of believers
throughout the world, * Aegina's true treas-
ure and Greece's great adornment, * and
now for us in Charlotte, * helper and Patron
Saint.

Keept the sacred places that bear your
name * under your protection, holy
Father, and free of harm. * Fulfill the
petitions of those who hold in honor * your
memory and pray you, * blessed Nektarios.

With the Theotokos, all you arrays * of
angelic powers and the Forerunner of
the Lord, * holy twelve Apostles * and all
the Saints together, * we pray you intercede
now * for the salvation of all.

PEOPLE:

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,
have mercy upon us (3).

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

Most holy Trinity, have mercy upon us;
Lord, pardon our sins; Master, forgive our
transgressions; Holy One, visit and heal our
infirmities, for Your name's sake.

Lord have mercy (3).

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

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

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

Amen.

CHOIR:

Apolytikion.

Mode 1. *As Citizen of the Desert.*

The son of Silybria, the guardian of Aegina,
* and the ardent lover of virtue * who in
recent years has appeared, * the God-inspired
servant of Christ * Nektarios, O faithful, let us
praise. * For he gushes forth healings of every
kind * to those who cry out reverently: * Glory
to Christ who glorified you; * glory to Him for
your miracles; * glory to Him who through
you effects cures for all.

PRIEST:

Have mercy on us, O God, according to
Your great love, we pray You, hearken, and
have mercy.

Lord have mercy (3).

Again we pray for our Archbishop
(name), and all the clergy and the laity in
Christ.

Lord have mercy (3).

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace,
health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness and
remission of the sins of the servants of God,

all pious and Orthodox Christians, those who reside and visit in this city, the members, council members, contributors, and benefactors of this holy church.

Lord have mercy (3).

Again we pray for the servants of God
(*names of the living*)

Lord have mercy (3).

Again we pray for the safekeeping of this holy church and this city, and of all cities and towns from pestilence, famine, earthquake, flood, fire and the sword, from invasion of enemies, civil war, and unforeseen death; for His mercy, that He will be kind to entreat as our good God, Who loves all people and that He may turn away and scatter all wrath and disease that moves against us, and deliver us from His impending, justified chastisement, and have mercy on us.

Lord have mercy (3).

Again we pray that the Lord God will hear the voices of the petitions of us sinners and have mercy on us.

Lord have mercy (3).

Hear us, O God, our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of those who are far off upon the sea; and show compassion on us, O Master, on our many sins, and have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy (3).

For you are a merciful and loving God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of the ages.

Amen.

Glory to You, O God, our hope, glory to You.

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of Your all-pure and blameless holy Mother; of the holy glorious and praise-worthy Apostles; of the holy glorious and triumphant martyrs; of (the Saint of the Church); of the holy righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna; of Saint (name) whose memory we celebrate today; and of all the Saints, have mercy and save us, as a good and loving God.

The faithful may reverence the icon of the Saint, while the following troparia are chanted.

CHOIR:

Mode 2. *When he took You.*

Be our mighty helper and defense, * and the staunch defender and shelter, * O Saint Nektarios, * for us all who come to you with ardent faith in God, * and who lovingly venerate * your all-holy relics, * which the Lord has glorified with grace and miracles. * Through them Christ relieves our afflictions; * He forgives our sins and transgressions; * from on high He blesses us with peace of mind.

Lady, receive the supplications of your servants, and rescue us from all necessity and affliction.

Mother of God, I have committed my every hope entirely to you. Keep me under your shelter.

PRIEST: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy and save us.

Amen.

Couplet

*Nektarios, grant me freedom from passions,
for, angelic in name only, I seek your assistance.*

