

Vespers of Holy Saturday

The *Apokathelosis* Service
on Holy Friday Afternoon

Text and Music prepared by
Fr. Seraphim Dedes

Western Notation

2012

Vespers. Mode 1. *Pa=D.*

Diatonic D

8 Lord, I have cried to You; hear me. Hear me,

8 O Lord. Lord, I have cried to You; hear me. Give

U D

8 heed to the voice of my sup - pli - ca-

F D

8 - tion when I cry ³ to You. Hear me,

8 hear me, O Lord.

D U D

8 Let my prayer be set forth be-

U D

8 - fore You as in - cense, the lift - ing

F

8 up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri-

D

8 - fice. Hear me, hear me, O Lord.

Idiomelon 1 & 2. Mode 1. $Pa=D$.


Diatonic



8 If You, O Lord, should mark transgression, O Lord, who would stand? For

8 there is for - give - ness with You. All creation... *(see below)*

Diatonic



8

Because of Your law, O Lord, I waited for You; my soul waited for Your word.

8 My soul hopes in the Lord. All cre - a - tion was

8 al - tered in awe, as it saw You hang-ing on a cross,

8 of the earth shook. All things

8 **U** **D**

suf - fered with You who cre - at - ed all things. O


8 Lord, who will-ing-ly en - dured it for us, glo-

8 - ry to You!

Idiomelon 3. Mode 2. $Di=G$.

Soft Chromatic

Soft Chromatic



8 From the previous note, still right, from the previous note, still right, let

From the morning watch until night; from the morning watch until night, let

Is - ra - el hope in the Lord. Why do the im - pi-ous and un-

8 - law - ful peo - ple med - i - tate on vain

law - ful peo - ple med - i - tate on vain

8 things? Why did they con - demn to death the One who is the

8 things? Why did they condemn to death the One who is the

8 life of all? Great is the mar-

life of all? Great is the mar-

8
vel! The Cre - a - tor of the world is de - liv - ered in - to the

vell! The Cre - a - tor of the world is de - liv - ered in - to the

8 hands of law - less men, and the Friend of hu - man - i-

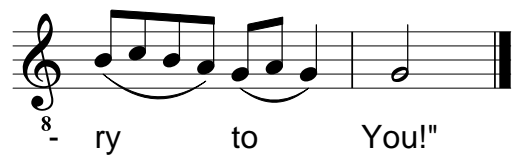
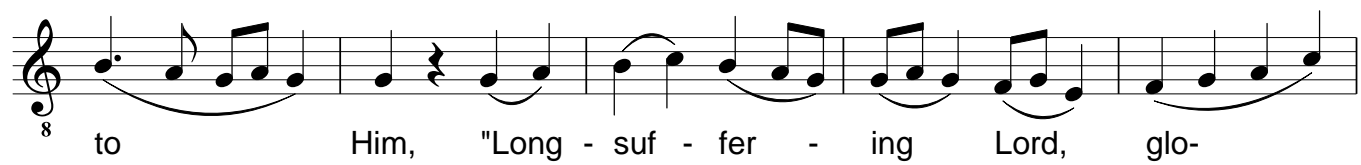
hands of law - less men, and the Friend of hu - man - i -

8 - ty is lift - ed up on a

ty is lift - ed up on a

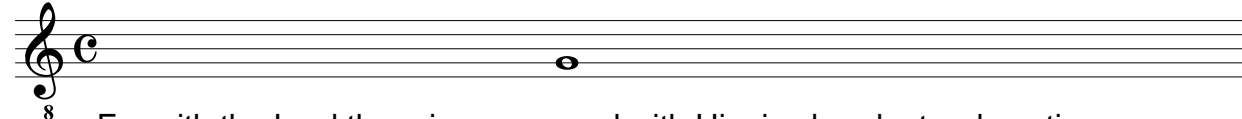
8 cross, in or-der to free the pris-on-ers in Ha - des, who cry

cross, in or-der to free the pris-on-ers in Ha - des, who cry

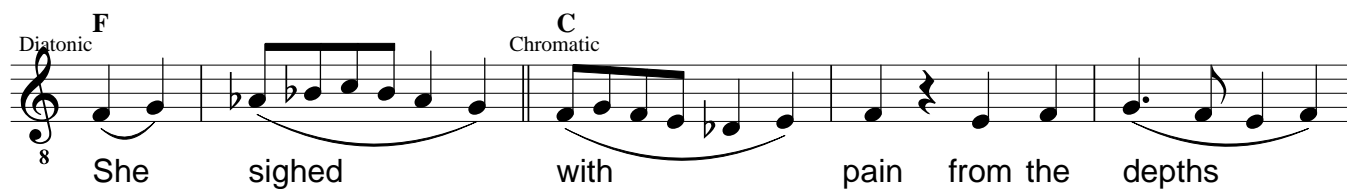
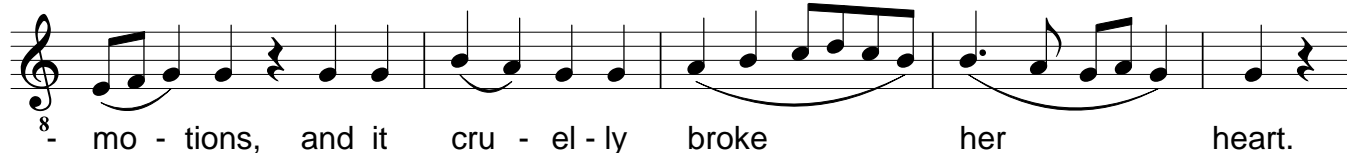
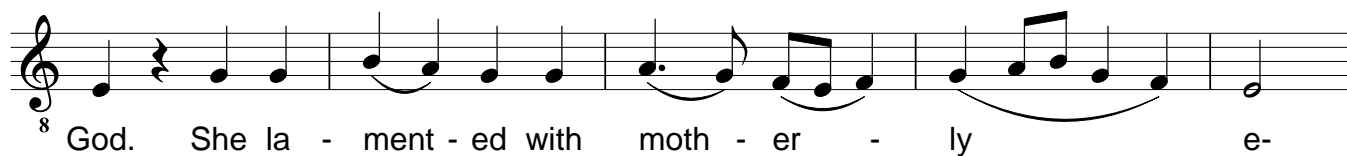
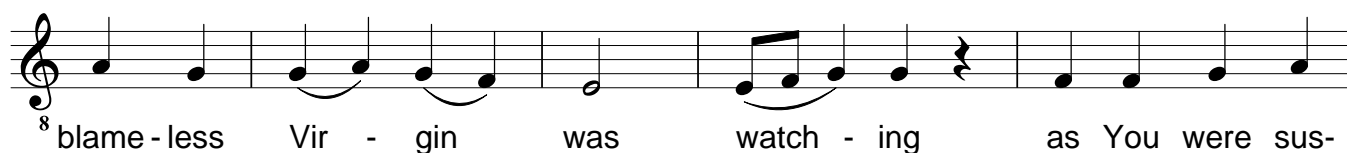
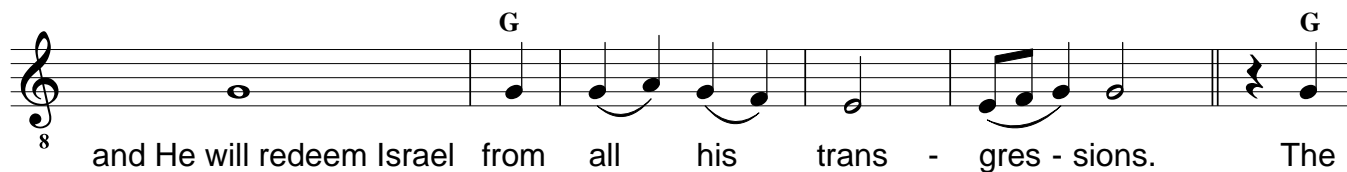


Idiomelon 4. Mode 2. *Di=G.*

Soft Chromatic



8 For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption;



8 and it wore her out. Then, beat-

8 ing her breasts, she mourn - ful - ly

8 cried a - loud, "Woe is me, my³ di-

8 vine Child! A - las, the Light of the

8 world! Why did you sink from be - fore my eyes, O Lamb

8 of God?" Then the hosts of bod - i - less An - gels were

8 o - ver - come by trem - bling and they said, "In - com - pre-

8 hen - si - ble Lord, glo - ry to You!"

Idiomelon 5. Mode 2. *Di=G.*

Soft Chromatic

G

8 Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; praise Him, all you

8 peo - ples. O Christ God, the Cre - a - tor of

8 all, Your Moth-er, who with - out seed gave birth to You, saw You

8 hang-ing on the Cross, and she cried out in an-

8 guish, "O my Son, where has the

8 hand - som sight of You set? I

8 can-not bear to see You un - just - ly cru-

8 ci - fied. So, hur - ry and rise a-

8 gain, so that I may see Your res-ur - rec - tion from the

8 dead on the third day."

Idiomelon 6. Mode pl. 2. *Pa=D*.

Chromatic D

8 For His mercy rules over us; and the truth of the Lord en - dures for-

D A

8 - ev - er. To - day the Mas-ter of cre - a - tion stands

D

8 be - fore Pi - late; the Cre - a - tor of

8 all is de - liv-ered to be cru - ci - fied; like a

8 lamb, He is brought of His own will to the

8 Cross. He is fixed with the nails, He is pierced

Diatonic G

8 in the side, and He sips from the

Chromatic D

8 sponge, He who caused the man - na to rain

8  down of old. The Re - deem-er of the world is smit - ten

8  on the cheek. The Mak - er of all is

8  mocked by His own ser - vants. Such is the

8  Mas-ter's love for hu - man - i - ty!

8  He prayed to His Fa - ther for those who cru - ci-

8  - fied Him, and He said, "For - give them this

8  sin, for the law - less do not know

8  what they are un - just - ly do - ing."

Glory. Mode pl. 2. Pa=D.

Chromatic D

8 Ne Glo - ry to the Fa - ther

8 and the Son and the Ho - ly Spir - it.

D G Diatonic

8 Oh! How could that un - law - ful syn-

Chromatic D

8 - a - gogue con-demn to death the King of

A

8 all cre - a - tion, with no re - gard for the

D

8 good things that He had done for them! In His

A G Diatonic

8 own de - fense, He re - mind - ed

Chromatic D

8 them of all these, and said to

8 them, "My peo - ple, what did I do for

8 you? Did I not fill Ju - de - a with mir-

8 - a - cles? Did I not raise the dead with

8 but a word? Did I not cure ev-ery sick - ness

8 and dis - ease? And what do you give Me


8 in re - turn? Why do you not re - mem - ber


8 Me? In - stead of heal - ings, you in - flict

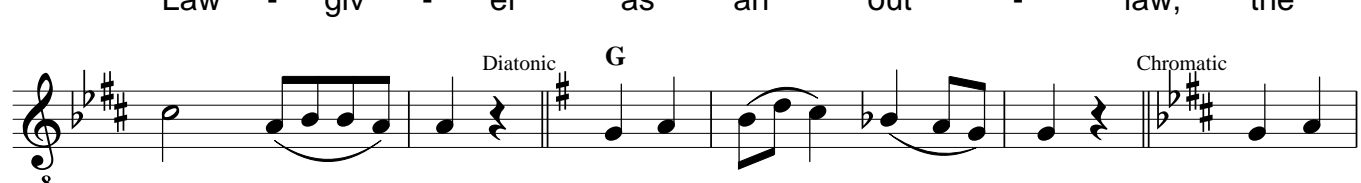
8 wounds on Me; in - stead of life, you

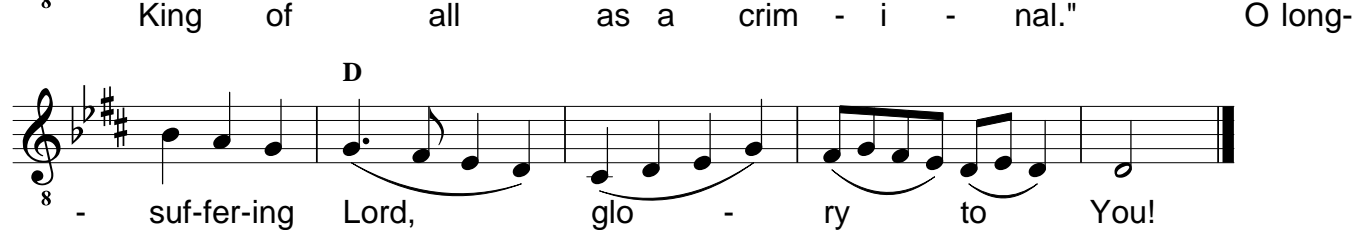
8 kill Me. You hang your Ben - e - fac - tor on

Chord Annotations: A, D, G, Diatonic, Chromatic, Soft Chromatic, U

8  the Cross as a mal - e - fac - tor, the

8  Law - giv - er as an out - law, the

8  King of all as a crim - i - nal." O long-

8  - suf-fer-ing Lord, glo - ry to You!

Both now. **Mode pl. 2.** *Pa=D.*

Chromatic **D**

8 Both now and ev - er and to the a-

8 - ges of a - ges. A - men. Awe - some and

A **D** **C**

8 par - a - dox - i - cal is the mys - ter - y

D

8 that we see un - fold - ing to - day. He who is un-

8 - touch - a - ble is now ar - rest - ed. He who re - leas - es

8 Ad - am from the curse is tak - en pris - on -

8 - er. He who search - es and tries the hearts and

Soft Chromatic **U**

8 minds is un - just - ly put on tri - al, and

8 He who shut the Abyss is

8 locked up in a prison. Be - fore

8 Pi - late now stands He, be - fore whom the hosts of

8 heav - en stand and trem - ble. The

8 Fash-ion-er is struck by the hand of one He

8 fash - ioned. Con - demned to a

8 cross is He who judg - es the liv - ing and the dead.

Soft Chromatic 8 En - closed in a tomb is the De-

Chromatic 8 - stroy - er of Ha - des. O

Chromatic D

A

D A

D

U Chromatic D

8 Lord, You en - dure it all sym - pa - thet - ic' - ly, and You

8 saved us all from the curse. O long -

8 - suf - fer - ing Lord, glo - ry to

8 You!

G

Diatonic

Chromatic D

Gladsome Light. Mode 2.

Soft Chromatic. A is slightly flat.

G

8 Glad - some light of ho - ly glo - ry of the

8 ho - ly bless - ed heav - en - ly im - mor - tal Fa - ther

8 O Je - sus Christ ar - riv - ing at the

8 hour of sun - set and hav - ing seen the eve - ning light we

8 praise the Fa - ther Son and Ho - ly

8 Spir - it God. It is wor - thy for

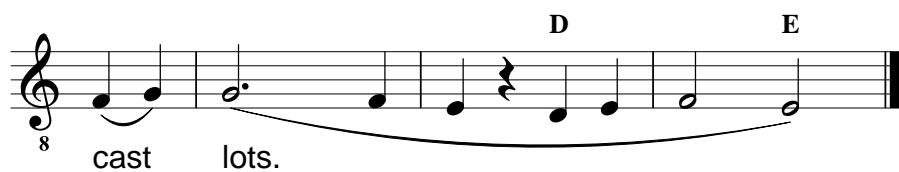
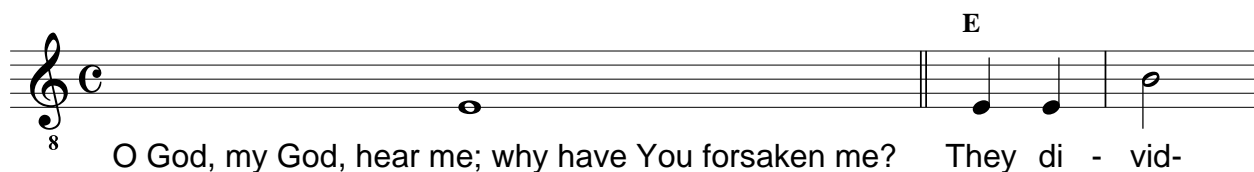
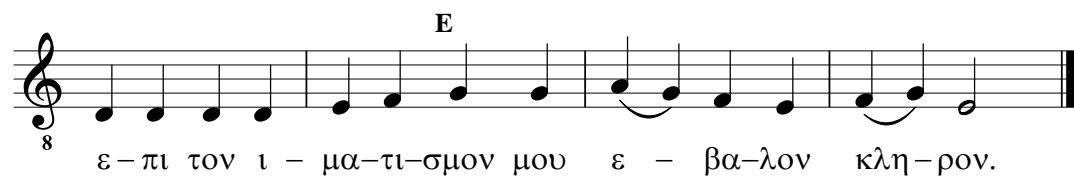
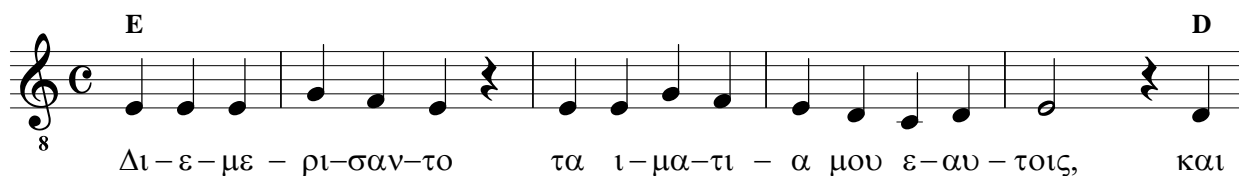
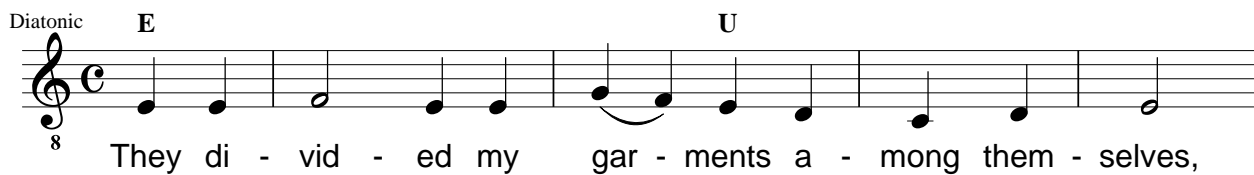
8 You to be praised at all times with hap - py voic -

8 es O Son of God and Giv -

8 er of life and there - fore the world

8 glo - ri - fies You.

Prokeimenon. Mode 4. $Vu=E$.



Aposticha. Mode 2. *Di=G*. Original Melody.

Soft Chromatic G

8 Jo - seph took You down from the Cross

8 af - ter You had died, and pre - pared You, O Christ, for bur - i-

8 al. Us-ing myrrh, he wrapped you in a shroud, O Life of

8 all. And con - strained by his ar - dent love, he longed to em-

8 brace You, press-ing to Your spot-less bod-y his own heart and

8 lips. But re - strained by fear and by rev' - rence, joy-ous-ly he

8 cried to You, "Glo - ry to Your con-de - scen-sion, Lord who love man-

8 kind."

Soft Chromatic

The Lord reigns; He clothed Himself with majesty. The Lord clothed and
gird - ed Him - self with pow - er. When You, the Re-
- deem-er of the world, lay in-side a new rock-hewn sep - ul-cher, for the
sake of all, Ha-des, now hu - mil - i - at-ed, cow-ered see - ing
You. Then its bars and the pris-on gates were shat-tered and
bro - ken; tombs were o-pened, and the bod-ies of the dead a-
- rose. Then did first-formed Ad-am, re - joic - ing, grate-ful - ly cry
out to You, "Glo - ry to Your con-de - scen-sion, Lord who love man-
- kind!"

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, often beamed together. Chord symbols (G, F) are placed above the staff at various points. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Soft Chromatic

8 And He established the world, which shall not be moved.

8 When You had been phys-i - cally en - closed in the tomb of

8 Your own vo - li - tion, re - main-ing un - de - fined in the na-ture

8 of Your God-head and un - cir - cum - scribed, then You closed down the

8 pris-on - house of death, and You emp - tied all the roy-al treas-ur-ies of

8 Ha-des, O my Christ. Thus did You be - stow on this

8 Sab - bath the di - vine bless-ing and glo - ry, and You

8 hon-ored it with Your own ra - di-ance.

Soft Chromatic

8 Holiness is proper to Your house, O Lord, un - to length of days.

8 When the hosts of an-gels had be - held You be-ing ma-

8 -ligned by the law - less as a de - ceiv - er, O Christ, and the tomb-stone

8 be-ing sealed by the hands that had pierced Your im - mac - u - late

8 side, O Lord, they shud-dered and mar-veled at Your great and in-de-

8 scrib-a - ble long - suf - fer - ing. Yet, for our sal - va-tion re-

8 - joic - ing, they cried out to You, say-ing, "Glo - ry to Your con-de-

8 - scen-sion, Lord who love man - kind!"

Glory; both now. **Mode pl. 1.** *Pa=D.*

Diatonic

8

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther

8

and the Son and the Ho - ly Spir - it.

8

Both now and ev - er and to the a - ges of

8

a - ges. A - men.

8

You, who cov - er Your - self with

8

light as with a gar - ment, were tak - en

8

G D

down from the Cross by Jo - seph, with the help of

8

U

Nic - o - de - mus. When he saw You dead,

8 D

na - ked, and un - bur - ied, he took up a

8 mov - ing la - men - ta - tion; and strick -

8 - en with grief he said, "A -

8 A G A

las, a - las, O sweet - est

8 G

Je - sus! When the sun saw You hang - ing

8 D Chromatic

on the Cross just a lit - tle while a - go, it

8 Diatonic U

wrapped it - self in dark - ness; and

8 Chromatic D

out of fear the earth was quak - ing;

8 Diatonic G D

and the cur - tain of the Tem - ple was

8 torn in two. And now I see You

8 vol-un - tar - i - ly un-der - go - ing death for

C D
8 me. How am I to bur - y You, my

C D
8 God? Or how can I wrap You in a

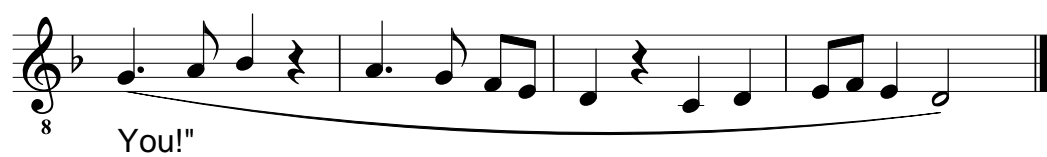
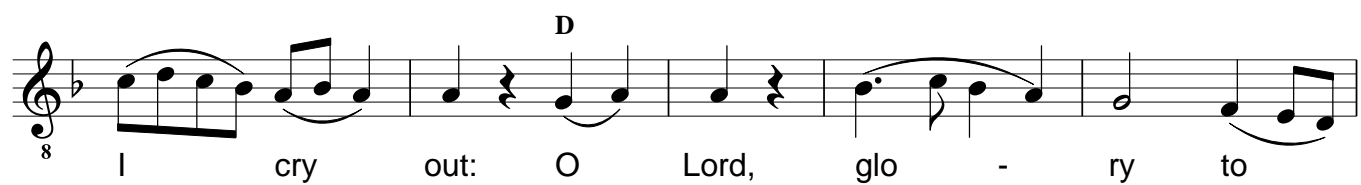
8 shroud? With what hands shall I touch Your im-

A
8 - mac - u - late bod - y, or what songs should

8 I be sing - ing at Your de - par - ture, ten - der-

8 - lov - ing Lord? I mag - ni-

D
8 - fy Your Pas - sion, and I ex - tol Your



Apolytikia. Mode 2. *Di=G.*

Soft Chromatic G

8 When he took down Your im - mac - u - late Bod - y from the
 8 Cross, the hon - or - a - ble Jo - seph wrapped it in a clean lin - en
 8 shroud with spic - es, and laid it for bur - i - al in a new
 8 tomb.

Soft Chromatic G

8 The An - gel stand - ing at the sep - ul - cher cried out and
 8 said to the oint - ment - bear - ing wo - men, "The oint - ments are ap -
 8 pro - pri - ate for mor - tal men; but Christ has been shown to be a
 8 stran - ger to de - cay."