

Molieben for Various Needs

The Priest and the Deacon proceed to the center of the Temple.

The Deacon lifts his Orarion and says:

Deacon: Arise! Bless, Master!

Priest: + Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. Glory to You, our God; glory to You!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, You are everywhere and fulfill all things. Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life, come and abide in us and cleanse us from every impurity and save our souls, O Good One!

The Trisagion Prayers

Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us!

O Lord, cleanse us from our sins!

O Master, pardon our transgressions!

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your name's sake!

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

All: Our Father, Who are in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your 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.

Priest: For Yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12x)

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

Come, let us worship God our King!

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God!

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God!

Psalm 142 (143)

Lord, listen¹ to my prayer,
give ear to my need in Your truth.
Answer me in Your righteousness.²

And do not enter into judgment with Your servant,³
for in Your sight no one living is righteous.⁴

For the enemy has persecuted my soul,
he has humbled my life to the ground.
He has made me sit in darkness⁵
like the dead of long ago.

¹ Gk. *eisakouein* = 1) listen, 2) answer.

² 1 Jn. 1:9.

³ or “slave”. Job 15:14-16; Ps. 13:1-3; 52:2-4; Ro. 3:10-12; 23-38.

⁴ Lit., “will be justified”.

⁵ Lam. 3:6 LXX, Gk. verbatim (these 2 lines only).

And my spirit desponded over me,
my heart within me was troubled.⁶

I remember the days of old,
I meditate on all Your works,
I meditate on the works of Your hands.

I stretch out my hands to You,
my soul like parched earth thirsts for You.

Answer me quickly, O Lord, my spirit grows faint.
Do not turn away Your face from me,
or I shall be like those who go down to the pit.

Let me hear Your mercy in the morning,
for on You I have set my hope.
Make known to me the way I should go, O Lord,
For I lift up my soul to You.

Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord,
for I come running to You.

Teach me to do Your will,
for You are my God;
Your good Spirit will guide me in the straight land.⁷

Revive me, O Lord, for Your name's sake.
In Your justice You will bring my soul out of trouble,

and in Your mercy You will put an end to my enemies
and destroy all who afflict my soul,
for I am Your slave.

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

⁶ Jn. 14:1, 27.

⁷ Cp. Slav. Cp. Ps. 124:4-5 & 144:15; 145:8.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to You, O God. (3x)

⁸The Deacon lifts his Orarion and says:

God is the Lord

Deacon: God is the Lord, and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His mercy endures forever!

People: God is the Lord, and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Deacon: All nations surrounded me; but in the name of the Lord I destroyed them.

People: God is the Lord, and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Deacon: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

People: God is the Lord, and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Deacon: The stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

People: God is the Lord, and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

⁸ There is generally no Great Litany.

Troparion

If the service is to the Savior:

Tone 2

People: We bow before Your most pure image, O Good One, imploring You to forgive us our sins, O Christ our God. You willingly ascended the Cross in the flesh, to free us from Satan's snare. For this we thank You, Lord, and we cry to You: You have filled all things with joy, O Savior, when you came to save the world!

If the service is to the Theotokos:

Tone 4

People: Let us, who are sinful and unworthy, run fervently to the Mother of God. Let us fall down in repentance, crying from the depths of our souls: Help us! Have mercy on us, O Lady! We are perishing in our many sins! Do not despise your poor servants, for you are our only hope!

If the service is to a Saint:

People: (*Sing the appropriate Troparion*)

Psalm 50 (51)

Reader: Have mercy on me, O God,
in Your great mercy,
and in Your abundant compassion
blot out my transgression.

Wash me thoroughly from my lawlessness⁹
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my sinfulness
and my sin is before me continually.

⁹ "Sin is lawlessness" (1 Jn. 3:4). The one summarizing law is Gal. 5:14.

Against You only have I sinned
and done what is evil in Your sight,
that You may be justified in Your words
and win when You are judged.¹⁰

For I was conceived in iniquities¹¹
and in sins my mother gave me birth.¹²

But You love truth;
the hidden and secret things of Your wisdom
You have made known to me.

You will sprinkle me with hyssop¹³ and I shall be clean.
You will wash me
and I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear joy and gladness.
The bones that have been humbled will rejoice.

Turn Your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,¹⁴
and renew a right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from Your presence¹⁵
or take Your Holy Spirit from me.

¹⁰ People accuse God. So God is viewed as under trial. But when we admit our guilt, God is acquitted and wins the case and our hearts.

¹¹ Lit. “lawlessnesses”.

¹² As Slavonic.

¹³ hyssop = sprinkler for blood.

¹⁴ Ezek. 36:26-27 tallies with Ps. 50:10-12.

¹⁵ or “face”.

Restore to me the joy of Your salvation
and strengthen me with Your ruling Spirit.¹⁶

I will teach Your ways to the lawless,
and sinners will return to You.

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
O God of my salvation.

My tongue will rejoice in Your righteousness.¹⁷

O Lord, You will open my lips
and my mouth will declare Your praise.

For if You desired sacrifice,
I would have given it.
You take no delight in whole burnt offerings.

A sacrifice for God is a broken spirit;
a broken and humbled heart God will not despise.

Gladden Zion, O Lord, with Your goodwill,
and let the walls of Jerusalem be built.

Then You will delight in the sacrifice of righteousness,
in offering and whole burnt offerings.
Then they will offer young bulls on Your altar.

The appropriate Canon is then sung, followed by proper refrains - sung first by the Celebrants, then by the People:

For a Canon to the Savior:

Glory to You, our God; glory to You!

For a Canon to the Theotokos:

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

¹⁶ Gen. 1:26,28 LXX, NAS; Ps. 8:7-10 LXX; Ps. 8:6 NAS; Rev. 5:10; Rom. 5:17.

For a Canon to a Saint:

O Holy Saint _____ pray unto God for us!

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

People: ...now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

After the third Ode, the following hymn is sung:

For a Canon to the Savior:

People: Deliver us from the evil one, O Merciful One, for we run to You in our afflictions. O Lord Jesus Christ, save our souls.

For a Canon to the Theotokos:

People: Rescue us from danger, O Mother of God, for we run to your intercession. O Lady, surround us with the wall of your prayer.

O all-praised Theotokos, see the affliction of my body and heal the sickness of my soul.

For a Canon to a Saint:

People: Pray to God for us, Holy _____, for we run to your protection. Hasten to help us and to pray for our souls.

First Litany of Fervent Supplication

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great goodness, we implore You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Deacon: Again we pray for [His Beatitude] Metropolitan _____, for [His Grace] our Bishop _____, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy, and for all our brethren in Christ.

¹⁷ As Slavonic.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Deacon: Again we implore You, O Lord, to hear our prayer, and have mercy on Your servant(s) _____. In Your grace and bounty, fulfill (*his, her, their*) petitions, and forgive all (*his, her, their*) sins, whether voluntary or involuntary. Accept (*his, her, their*) sacrifice of praise upon Your heavenly altar; protect (*him, her, them*) from all misery, sickness, and affliction; grant (*him, her, them*) health and length of days, we implore You, O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Deacon: O merciful Master and Lover of Mankind, look down upon Your servant(s) _____, and hear our prayers which we offer in faith. You Yourself have said, “Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you receive it, and you will.” Because of this, though we are unworthy, we trust in Your mercy. Grant Your blessings to Your servant(s) _____, fulfill (*his, her, their*) good intentions, preserve (*him, her, them*) for the rest of (*his, her, their*) days in peace, health, and long life; hasten to hear us, and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Deacon: Again we pray for all the people here present, who await Your great and rich mercy; for all our brethren and for all Orthodox Christians.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Priest: For You are a merciful God, and You love mankind, and unto You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Following the sixth Ode of the Canon, the refrains are repeated. The Akathist - if served - then follows immediately.

For a Canon to the Savior:

Glory to You, our God; glory to You!

For a Canon to the Theotokos:

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

For a Canon to a Saint:

O Holy Saint _____ pray unto God for us!

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

People: ...now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Prokeimenon

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: + Peace be unto all.

Deacon: Wisdom!

If the service is to the Savior:

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone.

Lord, we will walk in the light of Your countenance and exult in Your name forever.

People: Lord, we will walk in the light of Your countenance and exult in Your name forever.

Reader: I will sing of Your mercy, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your faithfulness to all generations.

People: Lord, we will walk in the light of Your countenance and exult in Your name forever.

Reader: Lord, we will walk in the light of Your countenance...

People: ...and exult in Your name forever.

If the service is to the Theotokos:

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone.

I will remember your name in every generation.

People: I will remember your name in every generation.

Reader: My heart overflows with the good theme as I sing my ode to the King:
my tongue is nimble as the pen of a skillful scribe.

People: I will remember your name in every generation.

Reader: I will remember you name...

People: ...in every generation.

If the service is to a Saint:

Reader: (Chants the appropriate Prokeimenon)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For You are holy, O our God, Who rest in the sanctuary, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Another Prokeimenon

Deacon: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

People: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

Deacon: Praise God in His sanctuary, praise him in His mighty firmament.

People: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

Deacon: Let everything that breathes...

People: ...praise the Lord.

The Gospel

Deacon: And that we may be accounted worthy of hearing the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: + Peace be unto all.

People: And to your spirit.

If the service is to the Savior:

Priest: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, Glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Luke 18:1-8¹⁸

Priest: At that time, Jesus spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying: “There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’” Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. And

¹⁸ Or Mt. 12:27-30.

shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

If the service is to the Theotokos:

Priest: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, Glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Luke 1:39-49, 56

Priest: In those days, Mary arose and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord." And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. For He Who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name." And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her house.

If the service is to a Saint:

(The proper Gospel reading for the Saint is read.)

People: Glory to You, O Lord, Glory to You.

The seventh, eighth and ninth Odes of the Canon follow immediately, with the proper refrains:

For a Canon to the Savior:

Glory to You, our God; glory to You!

For a Canon to the Theotokos:

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

For a Canon to a Saint:

O Holy Saint _____ pray unto God for us!

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

People: ...now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Hymn to the Theotokos

It is truly right to bless you, O Theotokos, ever-blessed and most pure, and the mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without corruption you gave birth to God the Word: True Theotokos we magnify you.

The Trisagion Prayers

Reader: Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us!

O Lord, cleanse us from our sins!

O Master, pardon our transgressions!

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your name's sake!

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

All: Our Father, Who are in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your 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.

Priest: For Yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Second Litany of Fervent Supplication

The First Litany is repeated (see pg. 8-9)

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, ...

etc.

Priest: 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 mercy, show mercy, O Master, upon us sinners, and be merciful to us.

For You are a merciful God and You love mankind, and unto You we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord!

Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ our God, the God of all mercies and bounties Whose mercy is immeasurable, and Whose love for mankind is an unfathomable deep: falling down in adoration before Your majesty, with fear and trembling, as unprofitable servants, and now humbly rendering thanks unto Your loving-kindness for Your benefits bestowed upon Your Servant(s) _____, we glorify You, we praise You, we sing to You and we magnify you as our Lord, and Master, and Benefactor; and again falling down before You, we humbly thank You, supplicating Your boundless and inexpressible mercy. And in that You have graciously granted to accept the petitions of Your servants and to fulfill them, so also grant that henceforth your Holy Church and this city may be delivered from every hostile assault, and may be granted peace and tranquillity, and that increasing in true love of You, and in all virtues, all Your faithful people may receive Your benefits; and that we may ever offer thanksgiving unto You, together with Your Father, Who is without beginning, and Your all holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, God glorified in one person; and that we may say exceeding good things and sing:

(loudly)

Glory to You, O God our Benefactor, unto the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

The Dismissal

The Deacon lifts his Orarion and says:

Deacon: Wisdom.

People: Father, bless.

Standing in front of the Altar Table, the Priest says:

Priest: + Christ our God, The Existing One, is blessed, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Confirm, O God, the holy Orthodox faith and Orthodox Christians unto ages of ages.

Priest: Most holy Theotokos, save us.

People: More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim: without corruption you gave birth to God the Word: True Theotokos, we magnify you.

Priest: Glory to You, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory to You.

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

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Father, bless.

Facing the congregation, the Priest says:

Priest: May [_____] Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles; of St. (of the temple).....; of (of the day), whom we commemorate today; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us for He is good and loves mankind.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Grant, O Lord, a prosperous and peaceful life, health, salvation, and furtherance in all things, to Your servant(s) _____, and preserve (*him, her, them*) for many years.

People: God grant you many years! (3x)