

December 22

Horologion - Midnight Office

For Sunday

Octoechos - Mode 2.

On Sunday Morning

Menaion - December 18-24

Sunday Before Christmas

MIDNIGHT OFFICE

PRIEST

Blessed is our God always, now and ever,
and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,
present in all places and filling all things,
treasury of good things and giver of life: come;
take Your abode in us; cleanse us of every
stain, and save our souls, O Good one. [HC]

READER

Trisagion Prayers.

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us.
Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our
transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our
infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the
Holy Spirit. Both now and ever 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. [GOA]

PRIEST

For Thine is the Kingdom and the power
and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and
of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the
ages of ages.

READER

Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

Come, let us worship and bow down
before God our King.

Come, let us worship and bow down
before Christ God our King.

Come, let us worship and bow down
before Him, Christ our King and God.

Psalm 50 (51).

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 unknown 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 within 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 salvation, 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 broken 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 sacrifice of righteousness, with offerings and whole burnt offerings; then shall they offer young bulls on Your altar. [SAAS]

From Octoechos - - -

CHOIR

Canon for the Trinity.

Ode i.

Mode 2. N/M (In the deep.)

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Let us praise in song the Godhead sovereign nature Three in One saying: as Thou

hast a sea of mercies never dry, guard those who venerate Thee and save them s Thou lovest mankind. [vol]

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Do Thou, O Father as Fount and Root, as Author of the naturally united Godhead in the Son and Thy Holy Spirit, pour light by a participation in Thy divinely acting radiance.

[vol]

Glory.

O thrice-radiant divinely sovereign One, disperse all the darkness of my sins and passions by the enjoyment, O most Sweet, of Thine illuminating rays, and make me a temple of Thy glory that no man can approach and an undefiled tabernacle. [vol]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

The flow of our nature badly suffered in former days, and slipped towards corruption. After taking flesh from Thy womb, O Virgin, undefiled, God the Word, in His love shone forth for mankind and led us to knowledge of the mystery of the divine Sovereignty in three Lights. [vol]

Ode iii.

Mode 2. N/M (On the rock of faith.)

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

O divine Sovereignty, I glorify Thee in Person of like honour and equality of nature. For Thou, being life coming from Life, hast appeared without change. Our God is one and there is none holy save Thee, O Lord. [vol]

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Thou hast founded the immaterial and heavenly hosts as a glass for Thine excellencies to praise Thee without ceasing, O Trinity, undivided Monarchy. And now, do Thou also accept praise from our mouths of clay. [vol]

Glory.

Confirm the hearts and understandings of Thy servants on the rock of faith and open them wide by the sea of Thy love, O Unity in Three Suns. For Thou art our God: putting our hope in Thee, we shall not be confounded. [vol]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

He, Who before all was, brought the creation into being and has, by infinite goodness, taken substance in Thy womb, O Theotokos, and He has shone forth to all the Light in three-fold sun of the Godhead and Lordship. [vol]

Kathisma.

Mode 2.

When in the beginning Thou, O Lord, wast fashioning Adam, then to Thy word in Person, O Compassionate, hast Thou cried out 'Let us make him after our own likeness'. And the Holy Spirit, the Creator was present. Therefore we cry aloud to Thee: Glory to Thee, our Maker and our God. [vol]

Glory. Both now. **Theotokion.**

Mode 2.

When God thought fit to come to us, then did He go and dwell in Thy most pure womb. And through Thee, He saved the human lump, by giving the Kingdom of Heaven to all.

Therefore we cry aloud to Thee, O Theotokos undefiled: Hail! O Lady. [vol]

Ode iv.

Mode 2. N/M ()

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

None of the immaterial hierarchies of angels is able to understand Thee, O Trinity in One without beginning. But we, with tongues of clay, praise with faith and glorify Thine essential goodness. [vol]

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

As Thou, O Almighty, art the Fashioner of the nature of man, Thou Who dost see all things dost now behold my utter powerlessness. Therefore Thou hast taken pity on Thy servant and led him back to a more excellent life. [vol]

Glory.

We sing the praises of the sovereign One in Three Persons unconfused each One having His own separate being, yet united and undivided in counsel and glory and Godhead.

[vol]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

O ever-virgin Theotokos, the Almighty plainly found Thee alone of this age to be a pure and undefiled temple in whom He went to dwell: and He transformed the nature of man because He loves mankind. [vol]

Ode v.

Mode 2. N/M ()

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

As Thou, O Prince of Peace, dost spread out over every and all things of Thy dispensation that exist the rays of Thy peaceful and redeeming gifts, guard me in Thy peace. For Thou art the Life and Peace of all. [vol]

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

As Thou hast appeared in the Bush to Moses in a vision of fire, so hast Thou, Word of the Father, been called "Angel", disclosing beforehand to us Thy coming and thereby hast Thou clearly proclaimed to all the power in Three Persons of the One sovereign Godhead. [vol]

Glory.

O holy Trinity, ruling sole and supreme, Who putteth forth the natural co-eternal glory, do Thou make those who sing Thy praises in the Orthodox faith worthy to see the one bright light without beginning, threefold sun of Thine own glory. [vol]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

God, the Word, being by essence, maintained by Himself alone for all ages, was ineffably held in Thy womb, O Virgin Mother, calling back men to the unity of the One Dominion. [vol]

Ode vi.

Mode 2. N/M (In the sea now.)

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Do Thou Who delightest in mercy, have mercy upon those who believe in Thee, O God, threefold Sun. And deliver Thy servants from faults and passions and perils. [vol]

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Do Thou Who delightest in mercy, have mercy upon those who believe in Thee, O God, threefold Sun. And deliver Thy servants from faults and passions and perils. [vol]

Glory.

In the ineffable sea of Thy goodness, give me as prize the brightness of Thine own radiance past mind, and the light-giving and thrice-shining radiance of the Godhead. [vol]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

O Virgin, the Most High was made man, past speech, from Thee, and put on the whole frame of man and illumined me with the Light that shines threefold. [vol]

Kathisma.

Mode 2. N/M (Since you are the source.)

Do Thou Who are merciful, having stretched out towards us the sea of Thy compassion, accept us. Look upon the people glorifying Thee; receive the song of those beseeching Thee, O Three in One Who hast no beginning. For we have put our hope in Thee, the God of all, to give us forgiveness of our offences. [vol]

Glory. Both now. **Theotokion.**

Mode 2. *N/M (Since you are the source.)*

O Theotokos who are good, and dost feel for us, Thou hast conceived the Fount of Compassion. For Thou only art the defense of the faithful: Thou are the comfort of those who sorrow. Therefore we whose only riches are Thy succour now all fall before Thee in faith, so as to find deliverance from sufferings. [vol]

Ode vii.

Mode 2. *N/M (The image of gold.)*

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Thou Who art One Lord unchanged in Three Persons, dost ever array the armies of angels without turning; show then also at all times my heart to be without turning and ready to glorify Thee warmly and to sing Thy praises with reverence. [vol]

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Thou Who art One Lord unchanged in Three Persons, dost ever array the armies of angels without turning; show then also at all times my heart to be without turning and ready to glorify Thee warmly and to sing Thy praises with reverence. [vol]

Glory.

The intelligent choirs of the immaterial beings, made bright by Thy beams, O God, Ruler sole and Supreme, threefold Sun, become by their position reflected lights; do Thou also as threefold shining Creator of Light show me also, by illumination and participation, their light. [vol]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

In order to direct us and lift us towards the heavens, forsake us not that love Thee, Who through love of mankind past words became man in the womb of the Virgin and hast made man like God and seated him with the Father on the throne of glory. [vol]

Ode viii.

Mode 2. *N/M ()*

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

O Trinity no man can approach, co-eternal, rule of God that has no beginning, precisely similar in all things, save the light-bearing properties, set every evil counsel of the opponents and every vexation of the devils at naught, ever keeping me unharmed, O Lord of all. [vol]

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

O Trinity no man can approach, co-eternal, rule of God that has no beginning, precisely similar in all things, save the light-bearing properties, set every evil counsel of the opponents and every vexation of the devils at naught, ever keeping me unharmed, O Lord of all. [vol]

Glory.

O incomprehensible sole and supreme Sovereignty, threefold Sun, Who hast wisely and with all strength set up the world and preserved it at all times by a hierarchy without blemish, dwell in my heart for me to praise and glorify Thee with the choirs of angels unto all ages. [vol]

Both now.

O Wisdom of the Father, Thou incomprehensible Word of God beyond words, without changing THine unchangeable nature Thou has completely taken upon Thyself the nature of man, and hast taught all to honour the one and only Trinity as supreme Sovereign of all the ages. [vol]

Ode ix.

Mode 2. *N/M (Lady, from your virginal belly.)*

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

From the Light without beginning, the Son, co-eternal light, has shone and the Spirit, Light same in nature, has proceeded, ineffably, in divine majesty, the birth without change together with the procession past words having been assured. [vol]

Holy Trinity, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Enlighten with Thy threefold Light O Godhead, threefold Sun, the hearts of those who sing Thy praises and give them mind to understand all things and to do Thy good and perfect will and to glorify and magnify Thee.

[vol]

Glory.

Being boundless by nature as God, and having a boundless sea of mercies, Thou, O Trinity hast taken pity in former times; do Thou now as then take pity on Thy servants and deliver them from faults, and temptations and adverse circumstances. [vol]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

Save me, O my God, from all manner of abuse and evil, O Thou Almighty praised in

Three Person, ineffably One, and guard Thy flock by the prayers of the Theotokos. [vol]

If the Lity was not sung at Vespers, sing the following:

Idiomela. For the Feast.

Glory.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 1.

The famous Prophets, dazzling thunderbolts of inspiration, are for ever blest. Plucking the words of the Spirit, they proclaimed to all the inexplicable birth of Christ God; rightly they reached the goal, having lived lives beyond wonder. [EL]

Both now.

Mode 1.

Hear, O heaven, and give ear, O earth; for see, the Son and Word of God the Father comes forth to be born of a maiden who has not known man, by the good pleasure of him who begat him impassibly and by the co-operation of the Holy Spirit. Bethlehem, prepare; Eden, open your gate, for he who is becomes what he was not, and the Fashioner of all creation is fashioned, he who grants the world his great mercy. [EL]

Megalyntaria to the Trinity

From Horologion - - -

Mode 2.

It is truly proper to extol the Trinity divine and holy: Unoriginate Father, Maker of all, co-eternal Logos, begotten before all time without change from the Father, and the all-holy Spirit, the Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father timelessly. [SD]

It is truly proper to extol and to glorify You, God the Logos. The Cherubim shudder and tremble at Him, and the Hosts of heaven offer hymns of glory to Him. For He

resurrected from the grave on the third day.
With fear let us glorify Him, Christ the Giver
of Life. [SD]

With inspired anthems worthy of God,
let us all sing praises to the Father and to the
Son and the Holy Spirit, tri-hypostatic power,
one Kingdom and Dominion, one Rule and
Sovereignty. [SD]

Immaculate Virgin, when creation saw
your Son risen, as befits God, it was filled
with great joy and ineffable gladness, and it
glorified the Savior, and it honored you. [SD]

READER

Trisagion Prayers.

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us.
Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our
transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our
infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the
Holy Spirit. Both now and ever 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. [GOA]

PRIEST

For Thine is the Kingdom and the power
and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and
of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the
ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Apolytikion. For the Forefeast.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4.

O Bethlehem, prepare, Eden is opened
unto all. * And be ready, Ephrata, for the Tree
of life * has in the grotto blossomed forth from
the Virgin. * Indeed her womb is shown to be
spiritually * a Paradise, in which is found the
God-planted Tree. * And if we eat from it we
shall live, and shall not die, as did Adam of
old. * Christ is born, so that He might raise up
* the formerly fallen image. [SD]

Lord, have mercy. (40)

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

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.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

PRIEST

May He Who rose from the dead, Christ
our true God, through the intercessions of His
all-pure and all-immaculate holy Mother, the
power of the precious and life-giving Cross,
the protection of the honorable, bodiless
powers of heaven, the supplications of the
honorable, glorious prophet and forerunner
John the Baptist, of the holy, glorious, and

praiseworthy apostles, of the holy, glorious,
and triumphant martyrs, of our righteous
and God-bearing fathers, (local patron saint);
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.

Let us pray for the peace of the world.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For all pious and Orthodox Christians.

For our (episcopal rank) (name).

For our nation.

For the armed forces.

For our departed fathers and mothers,
sisters and brothers.

For those who have mercy on us and serve
us.

For those who hate us and those who love
us.

For those who have asked us the
unworthy to pray for them.

For the release of captives.

For those who are traveling.

For those who are ill.

Let us pray also for the abundance of the
fruits of the earth.

And for all our family and friends who
have fallen asleep before us, the Orthodox
here and everywhere piously laid to sleep.

Let us also say for ourselves: Lord, have
mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

(Amen.)