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# The Service of Vespers

**on Tuesday Evening**

**for Wednesday, March 27, 2019**

**Triodion - On Tuesday of the Third Week  
at Vespers**

**Menaion - March 27  
Memory of the Holy Martyr Matrona of Thessaloniki**

**Text in English**

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**vol** Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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**Triodion**

On Tuesday of the Third Week at Vespers

**Menaion - March 27**

Memory of the Holy Martyr Matrona of  
Thessaloniki

**VESPERS**

**PRIEST**

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

*(Amen.)*

**READER**

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 103 (104).**

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my  
God, You are magnified exceedingly; You  
clothe Yourself with thanksgiving and  
majesty, who cover Yourself with light as  
with a garment, who stretch out the heavens  
like a curtain; You are He who covers His  
upper chambers with water, who makes the  
clouds His means of approach, who walks  
on the wings of the winds, who makes His  
angels spirits and His ministers a flame of  
fire. He established the earth on its stable  
foundation; it shall not be moved unto ages of  
ages. The deep like a garment is His covering;  
the waters shall stand upon the mountains;  
at Your rebuke they shall flee; at the sound  
of Your thunder, they shall be afraid. The  
mountains rise up, and the plains sink down  
to the place You founded for them. You set

a boundary they shall not pass over; neither  
shall they return to cover the earth. You are  
He who sends springs into the valley; the  
waters shall pass between the mountains;  
they shall give drink to all the wild animals  
of the field; the wild asses shall quench their  
thirst; the birds of heaven shall dwell beside  
them; they shall sing from the midst of the  
rocks. You are He who waters the mountains  
from His higher places; the earth shall be  
satisfied with the fruit of Your works. You are  
He who causes grass to grow for the cattle,  
and the green plant for the service of man, to  
bring forth bread from the earth; and wine  
gladdens the heart of man, to brighten his face  
with oil; and bread strengthens man's heart.  
The trees of the plain shall be full of fruit,  
the cedars of Lebanon, which You planted;  
there the sparrows shall make their nests;  
the house of the heron takes the lead among  
them. The high mountains are for the deer; the  
cliff is a refuge for the rabbits. He made the  
moon for seasons; the sun knows its setting.  
You established darkness, and it was night,  
wherein all the wild animals of the forest  
will prowl about; the young lions roar and  
snatch their prey, and seek their food from  
God. The sun arises, and they are gathered  
together; and they shall be put to bed in their  
dens. Man shall go out to his work and to his  
labor until evening. O Lord, Your works shall  
be magnified greatly; You made all things  
in wisdom; the earth was filled with Your  
creation. There is this great and spacious sea:  
the creeping things are there without number;  
the living things are there, both small and  
great; there the ships pass through; there is  
this dragon You formed to play therein. All

things wait upon You, that You may give them food in due season. When You give it to them, they shall gather it; when You open Your hand, all things shall be filled with Your goodness. But when You turn Your face away, they shall be troubled; when You take away their breath, they shall die and return again to their dust. You shall send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth. Let the glory of the Lord be forever; the Lord shall be glad in His works; He looks upon the earth and makes it tremble; He touches the mountains, and they smoke. I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing to my God as long as I exist; may my words be pleasing to Him, and I shall be glad in the Lord. May sinners cease from the earth, and the lawless, so as to be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knows its setting. You established darkness, and it was night.

O Lord, Your works shall be magnified greatly; You made all things in wisdom. [SAAS]

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

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

Our hope, O Lord, glory to You.

*While the Opening Psalm is being read the Priest, bareheaded and standing in front of the Holy Table, says quietly the following Prayers at the Lighting of the Lamps.*

**PRIEST** (*inaudibly*)

### **1st Prayer**

O Lord, compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and full of mercy, listen to our prayer and attend to the voice of our supplication. Make for us a sign for good. Guide us in your way, to walk in your truth. Make glad our hearts to fear your holy Name, because you are great and do wondrous things. You alone are God, and there is none like you, O Lord, among gods: powerful in mercy and loving in strength to help and to console and to save all who hope in your holy Name. [EL]

For to you belong all glory, honour and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### **2nd Prayer**

Lord, do not rebuke us in your anger, nor chastise us in your wrath, but deal with us in accordance with your kindness, physician and healer of our souls. Guide us to the harbour of your will. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts to the knowledge of your truth and grant that the rest of the present day and the whole time of our life may be peaceful and without sin, at the prayers of the holy Mother of God and of all the Saints. [EL]

For yours is the might, and yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### **3rd Prayer**

Lord our God, remember us, sinners and your unprofitable servants, as we call upon your holy Name, and do not put us to shame from the expectation of your mercy, but graciously grant us, Lord, all the requests that are for salvation, and count us worthy to love and to fear you from our whole heart, and in all things to do your will. [EL]

For you, O God, are good and love mankind, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### **4th Prayer**

O Lord, who are praised by the holy Powers with never silent hymns and unceasing songs of glory, fill our mouth with your praise to give majesty to your holy Name, and give us a part and an inheritance with all who fear you in truth and who keep your commandments, at the prayers of the holy Mother of God and of all your Saints. [EL]

For to you belong all glory, honour and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### **5th Prayer**

Lord, Lord, who uphold the universe by your immaculate hand, who are long-suffering towards us all and who repent of evils, remember your acts of compassion and your mercy. Visit us in your loving kindness and grant that for the rest of the present day we may escape the manifold wiles of the evil one, and, by the grace of your All-holy Spirit, keep our life free from assault. [EL]

By the mercy and love for mankind of your Only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### 6th Prayer

O God, great and wonderful, who order the universe with inexpressible loving-kindness and rich providence; who have granted us also the blessings of this world and brought us near to the promised Kingdom through the blessings that have been bestowed on us already; who have made us turn aside from every evil during that part of the present day which is now over, grant us also to complete what remains without blame in the presence of your holy glory, as we sing your praise, who alone are our God, good and the Lover of mankind. [EL]

For you are our God and to you we give glory, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### 7th Prayer

Great and most high God, who alone possess immortality, who dwell in unapproachable light, who fashioned all creation with wisdom, who made the separation between the light and the darkness and who placed the sun to have authority over the day and the moon and the stars to have authority over the night, who have counted us sinners worthy even at this present hour to come into your presence with confession and thanksgiving and to offer you our evening hymn of glory; do you, O Lord who love mankind, direct our prayer like incense

before you and accept it as a savour of sweet fragrance. Grant us that the present evening and the coming night may be peaceful, clothe us with weapons of light, deliver us from every night-time fear and from every deed that walks in darkness. And give us sleep, which you have bestowed on us for our rest in our weakness, freed from every fantasy of the devil. Yes, Master of all things, giver of blessings, may we also be filled with compunction on our beds and call to mind your Name in the night, and enlightened by meditation on your commandments may we rise with gladness of soul to give glory to your loving-kindness, as we bring to your compassion supplications and entreaties on behalf of our own sins and those of all your people. At the prayers of the holy Mother of God visit them with mercy. [EL]

For you, O God, are good and love mankind, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

*When the Opening Psalm is completed the Priest, in front of the Holy Table, or the Deacon in his usual place outside the Holy Doors, says the Litany of Peace.*

**DEACON**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the holy churches of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For this holy house and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For pious and Orthodox Christians, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For (episcopal rank) (name), for the honorable presbyterate, for the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For our country, for the president, and for all in public service, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For this city, and for every city and land, and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For those who travel by land, sea, and air, for the sick, the suffering, the captives and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

*(To You, O Lord.)*

**PRIEST**

For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

*(Amen.)*

*The appointed Kathisma of the Psalter may be read, i.e. Kathisma 18. It would be followed by the short litany.*

**DEACON**

Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

*(To You, O Lord.)*



**PRIEST**

*For Yours is the dominion, and Yours 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.*

*(Amen.)*

**CHOIR**

**Mode pl. 4.**

Lord, I have cried to You; hear me. Hear me, O Lord. Lord, I have cried to You; hear me. Give heed to the voice of my supplication when I cry to You. Hear me, O Lord. [SAAS]

Let my prayer be set forth before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord. [SAAS]

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, a door of enclosure about my lips.

Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.

With men who work lawlessness; and I will not join with their choice ones.

The righteous man shall correct me with mercy, and he shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.

For my prayer shall be intense in the presence of their pleasures. Their judges are swallowed up by the rock.

They shall hear my words, for they are pleasant. As a clod of ground is dashed to pieces on the earth, so their bones were scattered beside the grave.

For my eyes, O Lord, O Lord, are toward You; in You I hope; take not my soul away.

Keep me from the snares they set for me, and from the stumbling blocks of those who work lawlessness.

Sinners shall fall into their own net; I am alone, until I escape.

I cried to the Lord with my voice, with my voice I prayed to the Lord.

I shall pour out my supplication before Him; I shall declare my affliction in His presence.

When my spirit fainted within me, then You knew my paths.

For on the way I was going, they hid a trap for me.

I looked on my right, and saw there was no one who knew me.

Refuge failed me, and there was no one who cared for my soul.

I cried to You, O Lord; I said, "You are my hope, my portion in the land of the living."

Attend to my supplication, for I was humbled exceedingly.

Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

Bring my soul out of prison to give thanks to Your name, O Lord.

The righteous shall wait for me, until You reward me.

Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice.

Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

**Stichera of the Triodion.**

From Triodion - -

**Mode 3.**

*If You, O Lord, should mark transgression, O Lord, who would stand? For there is forgiveness with You.* [SAAS]

O Lord, who by Thy Cross hast slain the deceiver, deliver me from his delusion, for I have sinned and been beguiled. Cleanse me by the Fast and grant me to do Thy will, O Master, that I may look with joy upon Thy Holy Passion. [KW]



**Mode 3.**

*Because of Your law, O Lord, I waited for You; my soul waited for Your word. My soul hopes in the Lord.* [SAAS]

I have been wounded by the sword of pleasure, O Lord, and a shameful death has befallen me. O Master, pierced by a spear, who as Saviour bringest healing to those wounded by the arrows of the enemy, heal and restore to life my humble soul, and grant me to share in Thy Holy Passion. [KW]

**Mode 2.**

*From the morning watch until night; from the morning watch until night, let Israel hope in the Lord.* [SAAS]

May the Fast bring light to our souls, O Lord, and do Thou count us worthy uncondemned and with rejoicing to behold Thy Cross, and to worship it with fear; and in Thy love for man grant us to attain Thy voluntary Passion. [KW]

**Stichera from the Menaion.**

From Menaion - - -

**Mode 4. To a brave one.**

*For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption; and He shall redeem Israel from all his transgressions.* [SAAS]

You withstood the brutality \* of the Jews and their insolence, \* even as a woman, with manly frame of mind, \* O godly-minded one, for you looked ahead to the permanent \* future blessings that remain \* for all ages unshakable; \* which you did obtain \* when from earth you passed over to celestial bridal chambers and the chorus \* that never ceases, O glorious Saint. [SD]

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

*all you peoples.* [SAAS]

You were granted to see the light \* of the kingdom's magnificence \* and delightful handsomeness of your Bridegroom Christ, \* being adorned as you were with marks \* of your mighty martyrdom; \* and you worthily arrived \* at the wellspring of all things good, \* O all-blessed one. \* Now you freely partake of the divine and otherworldly joy and gladness \* and of the glory that never dies. [SD]

*For His mercy rules over us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever.* [SAAS]

Neither feminine frailty, \* the condition of servitude, \* hunger, nor mistreatment could stop or hinder you \* from imitating the martyr saints \* in their steadfast fortitude; \* for with willingness of soul \* you endured torture valiantly, \* O all-glorious Saint. \* Then you made it to heavenly bride-chambers, and you stand near your Creator, \* being adorned with a crown of grace. [SD]

Glory. Both now. **Stavrotheotokion.**

**Mode 4. To a brave one.**

When Your Mother the Virgin pure \* saw You hanging upon the Cross, \* she was overwhelmed with astonishment, O Lord, \* and gazing earnestly, she cried out: \* "Look how they rewarded You, \* Master, even after they \* had received many gifts from You. \* I implore You now, \* do not leave me to face the world alone, but rather hasten to be risen, \* raising the Ancestors with yourself." [SD]

*(No Entrance)*

**READER**

Gladsome light of holy glory of the holy, blessed, heavenly, immortal Father, O Jesus Christ: arriving at the hour of sunset and having seen the evening light, we praise the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God. It is worthy for You to be praised at all times with happy voices, O Son of God and Giver of life; \* and therefore the world glorifies You.

**The Readings**

**PRIEST**

The evening...

From Triodion - - -

**READER**

Prokeimenon. Mode 3.

Psalm 47 (48).

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

*In the city of our God, in His holy mountain.*

[SAAS]

The reading is from the book of Genesis.

**PRIEST**

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

**READER**

7:1-5

Then the Lord God said to Noah, "Enter the ark, you and all your family, because I have seen you righteous before Me in this generation. You shall also bring with you into the ark the clean cattle by sevens, male and female; and the unclean cattle by twos, male and female; and the clean birds of heaven by twos, male and female, to keep seed alive on the face of all the earth. For after seven more days I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and I will blot out from the face of the earth every living

thing I made." So Noah did all the Lord God commanded him. [SAAS]

Prokeimenon. Mode 2.

Psalm 48 (49).

My mouth shall speak wisdom.

*Hear this, all you nations.* [SAAS]

The reading is from the Proverbs of Solomon.

**PRIEST**

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

**READER**

8:32-9:11

Now therefore, my son, hear me: Blessed is the man who shall hearken to me and the man who shall guard my ways; who watches daily at my doors, who keeps watch at the doors of my entryways; for my issues are the issues of life, and grace is prepared from the Lord. But those who sin against me act ungodly toward their own souls, and those who hate me love death." Wisdom built her house, and she supported it with seven pillars. She offered her sacrifices; she mixed her wine in a bowl and prepared her table. She sent her servants, inviting people to the bowl with a lofty proclamation, saying, "He who is without discernment, let him turn aside to me"; and to those in need of discernment, she says, "Come, eat my bread and drink the wine I mixed for you; forsake lack of discernment, and you shall live; seek discernment so you may live, and keep straight your understanding with knowledge." He who chastises evil men shall receive dishonor to himself, and he who reproves the ungodly man shall be blamed himself. Do not reprove evil men, so they may

not hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. Give the opportunity to a wise man, and he will be wiser; instruct a righteous man, and he shall continue to receive it. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the counsel of saints is understanding; for to know the law is characteristic of a good mind. For in this manner you will live a long time, and the years of your life shall be increased.

[SAAS]

### READER

O Lord, keep us this evening without sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is your name to the ages. Amen. O Lord, let your mercy be upon us for we have set our hope in you. Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your commandments. Blessed are you, Master, grant me understanding of your commandments. Blessed are you, Holy One, enlighten me with your commandments. Lord, your mercy is forever. Do not despise the works of your hands. To you is due praise, to you is due song, to you is due glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. [HC]

*(Amen.)*

### DEACON

Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask the Lord.

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

For pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask the Lord.

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

For that which is good and beneficial for our souls, and for peace for the world, let us ask the Lord.

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

And let us ask for a Christian end to our life, peaceful, without shame and suffering, and for a good defense before the awesome judgment seat of Christ.

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

*(To You, O Lord.)*

### PRIEST

For You, O God, are good and love mankind, and to You we offer glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

*(Amen.)*

### PRIEST

Peace be with all.

*(And with your spirit.)*

**DEACON**

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

(To You, O Lord.)

**PRIEST** *(in a low voice)*

Lord our God, who bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of the human race, look upon your servants and upon your inheritance, for to you, the fearful Judge who love mankind, your servants have bowed their heads and inclined their necks, not waiting for any human help, but awaiting your mercy and looking for your salvation. Guard them at every moment, during both the present evening and the approaching night, from every foe, from every hostile operation of the devil and from vain thoughts and evil desires.

**PRIEST**

May the might of your kingdom be blessed and glorified, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

From Triodion - - -

**CHOIR**

**Aposticha. From the Triodion.  
Idiomelon. Mode 2.**

Though I am a creature born on earth, yet sharing in Thine image, O Lord, I dare to call upon Thee, the Creator, as my Father. Living as the Prodigal I have lost the grace of sonship, and forgetful of Thy gifts I have wasted mine inheritance. Yet disown me not, for Thou wast pleased to send Thine only-begotten Son, to suffer for my sake crucifixion in the flesh and death: but in Thy love for man bring me back from evil and make me Thine own. [KW]

**Verse:** *I lift my eyes to You, who dwell in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the*

*maidservant look to the hands of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God until He shall have compassion on us.* [SAAS]

Though I am a creature born on earth, yet sharing in Thine image, O Lord, I dare to call upon Thee, the Creator, as my Father. Living as the Prodigal I have lost the grace of sonship, and forgetful of Thy gifts I have wasted mine inheritance. Yet disown me not, for Thou wast pleased to send Thine only-begotten Son, to suffer for my sake crucifixion in the flesh and death: but in Thy love for man bring me back from evil and make me Thine own. [KW]

**For the Martyrs.  
Mode 2.**

**Verse:** *Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for we are greatly filled with contempt; our soul is greatly filled with it. We are a disgrace to those who prosper, and a contempt to the arrogant.* [SAAS]

The company of martyrs resisted tyrants, saying: 'We are soldiers of the Ruler of the powers on high; though ye give us up to fire and torment, we shall not deny the power of the Trinity.' [KW]

Glory. Both now. **Theotokion.  
Mode 2. (NM)**

O Saviour, when the lawless people nailed Thee to the Tree, who art the Life of all, Thy pure and holy Mother, standing beside Thee, cried aloud lamenting: 'Woe is me, beloved Child, the light of mine eyes! Thou hast hung the earth above the waters: how then canst Thou endure to be nailed upon the Tree between two evildoers!' [KW]

**PRIEST**

**Song of Simeon.**

Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples. A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel. [NKJV]

**PEOPLE**

**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.

**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.

(Amen.)

**CHOIR**

From Horologion - - -

**Apolytikia. Mode pl. 1.**

O Virgin Theotokos, rejoice, Mary full of grace. The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb; for you have borne the Savior of our souls [SD]

O Baptist of Christ, be mindful of us all, that we may be delivered from our iniquities; for unto you was given the grace to intercede for us. [SD]

Glory.

Entreat earnestly for us, O holy Apostles and all Saints, that we be delivered from peril and affliction; for you are our fervent advocates before the Savior. [SD]

*This final troparion, according to older rules, is simply recited by the Reader. In current practice, however, it is usually, sung much like the preceding hymns.*

Both now.

Beneath your tender compassion we take refuge, O Theotokos. Despise not our supplications in distress, but deliver us from all peril. You alone are pure; you alone are blessed. [SD]

**READER**

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**

Blessed are You, Christ our God, always  
now and forever and to the ages of ages.

*(Amen.)*

O heavenly King, uphold our rulers,  
strengthen the Faith, calm the nations, give  
peace to the world. Protect this holy Church  
(or, Monastery); grant our departed fathers  
and brethren that they may dwell with  
the righteous, and accept us in repentance  
and confession; for You are good and love  
mankind.

*(Amen.)*

**Prayer of St. Ephraim**

O Lord and Master of my life, do not  
permit the spirit of laziness and meddling, the  
lust for power and idle talk to come into me.

Instead, grant me, your servant, the spirit  
of prudence, humility, patience and love.

Yes, Lord and King, give me the power  
to see my own faults and not to judge my  
brother.

For you are blessed unto the ages of ages.  
Amen. [HC]

**READER**

Lord, have mercy. (12)

All-Holy Trinity, the consubstantial  
dominion, the indivisible rule, and cause  
of every good: be well pleased, even with  
regard to me a sinner. Strengthen my heart  
and grant it understanding, and take away  
all my defilement. Illumine my mind, so that  
I may ever glorify, praise, worship, and say:

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

Blessed be the name of the Lord from this  
present time and unto the ages. (3)

**Psalms 33 (34).**

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise  
shall continually be in my mouth. My soul  
shall be praised in the Lord; let the gentle  
hear, and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with  
me, and let us exalt His name together. I  
sought the Lord, and He heard me; and He  
delivered me from all my sojourning. Come  
to Him, and be enlightened, and your face  
shall never be ashamed. This poor man cried,  
and the Lord heard him, and saved him from  
all his afflictions. The Angel of the Lord shall  
encamp around those who fear Him, and He  
will deliver them. Oh, taste and see that the  
Lord is good; blessed is the man who hopes in  
Him. Fear the Lord, you His saints, for there  
is no want for those who fear Him. Rich men  
turned poor and went hungry; but those who  
seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing.  
Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach  
you the fear of the Lord. Who is the man who  
desires life, who loves to see good days? Keep  
your tongue from evil, and your lips from  
speaking deceit. Shun evil and do good; seek  
peace and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are  
upon the righteous, and His ears are open to  
their supplications. The Lord's face is against  
those who do evil, so as to destroy their  
remembrance from the earth. The righteous  
cried, and the Lord heard them; and He  
delivered them from all their afflictions. The  
Lord is near those who are brokenhearted,  
and He will save the humble in spirit. Many

are the afflictions of the righteous, but He will deliver them from them all. The Lord shall guard all their bones; not one of them shall be broken. The death of sinners is evil, and those who hate the righteous shall go wrong. The Lord will redeem the souls of His servants, and all who hope in Him shall not go wrong.

**Psalm 144 (145)**

I shall exalt You, my God and my King, and I shall bless Your name forever and unto ages of ages. Every day I shall bless you and praise Your name forever and unto ages of ages. Great is the Lord and exceedingly praiseworthy, and His greatness has no limit. Generation and generation shall praise Your works, and they shall declare Your power. They shall speak of the magnificence of the glory of Your holiness, and they shall describe Your wonders. They shall also speak of the power of Your awesome deeds and describe Your great majesty. They shall overflow with the memory of Your rich goodness, and shall greatly rejoice in Your righteousness. The Lord is gracious and merciful, longsuffering and abundant in mercy. The Lord is good to all, and His mercies are upon all His works. O Lord, let all Your works praise You and Your holy ones bless You. They shall tell of Your kingdom's glory, and they shall speak of Your power, that all the sons of men may know Your power and the glory of Your kingdom's magnificence. Your kingdom is a kingdom of all the ages, and Your dominion is from generation to generation. The Lord is faithful in His words and holy in all His works. The Lord supports all who stumble and restores all who are broken down. All eyes hope in You, and You give them their food in due

season. You open Your hand and fill every living thing with Your pleasure. The Lord is righteous in all His ways and holy in all His works. The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call upon Him in truth. He shall do the will of those who fear Him, and He shall hear their supplications and save them. The Lord keeps all who love Him, but all the sinners He shall utterly destroy. My mouth shall speak the Lord's praise, and let all flesh bless His holy name forever and unto ages of ages.

**READER**

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

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

Father, bless!

**PRIEST**

May 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.

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

*(Amen.)*