

**Octoechos - Grave Mode.**

On Saturday Morning

**Menaion - December 7**

Memory of St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan

**LITURGY**

*Unless otherwise indicated, the texts of the prayers and hymns of the Divine Liturgy are from: The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (© 2016), used with permission from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. This text was produced by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and approved by the Ecumenical Patriarchate.*

**Antiphon I. Mode 2.**

**Verse 1:** *It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to sing to Your name, O Most High.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

**Verse 2:** *To proclaim Your mercy in the morning and Your truth at night.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

**Verse 3:** *The Lord my God is upright, and there is no wrongdoing in Him.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

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

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

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

**Antiphon II. Mode 2.**

**Verse 1:** *The Lord reigns; He clothed Himself with majesty; the Lord clothed and girded Himself with power.* [SAAS]

*or:*

**Verse 1:** *Come, let us greatly rejoice in the Lord; let us shout aloud to God our savior.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

**Verse 2:** *And He established the world, which shall not be moved.* [SAAS]

*or:*

**Verse 2:** *Let us come before His face with thanksgiving, and let us shout aloud to Him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, a great King over all the earth.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia.

**Verse 3:** *Holiness is proper to Your house, O Lord, unto length of days.* [SAAS]

*or:*

**Verse 3:** *For in His hand are the ends of the earth, and the heights of the mountains are His. For the sea is His, and He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia.

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

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

Only begotten Son and Logos of God, being immortal, You condescended for our salvation to take flesh from the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary and, without change, became man. Christ, our God, You were crucified and conquered death by death. Being one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: Save us. [GOA]

**Antiphon III.**

**Apolytikion. For the Saint.**

**Mode 4.**

A rule of faith are you, and an icon of gentleness, and a teacher of self-control. And to your flock this was evident, by the truth of your life and deeds. You were humble and therefore you acquired exalted gifts, treasure in heaven for being poor. Father holy hierarch Ambrose, intercede with Christ our God, and entreat Him to save our souls. [SD]

*An optional alternative to the Antiphons are the Typika (Psalms 102 and 145), and the Beatitudes with the appointed troparia, which are provided here.*

**Psalm 102.**

**Psalm 145.**

**The Beatitudes.**

**Grave Mode.**

In Your kingdom. Remember us, O Lord, when You come in Your kingdom. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven [RSV]

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. [RSV]

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. [RSV]

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. [RSV]

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. [RSV]

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. [RSV]

**Troparia.**

From Octoechos - - -

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.* [RSV]

The fruit that killed me of old was good for food and beautiful to contemplate. But Christ is the very tree of life, from which I eat and die not. And echoing the Robber's words, I cry out, "Remember me in Your kingdom, O Lord." [SD]

*Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.* [RSV]

O holy Athletes, when you had finished \* fighting the good fight and kept the faith, \* from God you were awarded the crowns \* of incorruption and granted \* to be glorified with Him, \* O all-lauded Martyr Saints, dwelling with the Angels on high. [SD]

*Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely [for my sake].* [RSV]

Let us now honor the sacred roster \* of the saintly bishops, priests, and monks, \* and prophets, holy women, and the rest \* who reside in the dwellings \* of the first-born now with joy, \* socializing with the hosts \* of the Incorporeals. [SD]

*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.* [RSV]

Assign a place wherein dwell the Righteous \* to those whom You translated from us, \* and overlook the spiritual sins \* that they may have committed \* in ignorance or knowingly \* while on earth, O Word of God, \* in Your love and great mercy. [SD]

Glory.

Those who have died supplicate You, praying \* to You, the all-holy Trinity, \* imploring that You save them from that flame \* that is fearful and eternal, \* and on Judgment Day that they \* obtain the eternal goods \* and Your holy glory, O God. [SD]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

All-holy Lady, the Father's brightness \* made His dwelling in your virgin womb, \* for

us who were subjected to the foe \* and fell into  
corruption, \* for we took the bad advice. \* But,  
O all-immaculate, \* your Son made us new  
again. [SD]

**Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.**

Come, let us worship and bow down  
before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who  
are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You,  
Alleluia. [GOA]

**Hymns After the Small Entrance.**

**Apolytikion. For the Saint.**

**Mode 4.**

A rule of faith are you, and an icon of  
gentleness, and a teacher of self-control. And  
to your flock this was evident, by the truth of  
your life and deeds. You were humble and  
therefore you acquired exalted gifts, treasure  
in heaven for being poor. Father holy hierarch  
Ambrose, intercede with Christ our God, and  
entreat Him to save our souls. [SD]

**Apolytikion of the Parish Church**

(The text of the Apolytikion of the local  
church goes here.)

**Kontakion. For the Martyrs.**

**Mode pl. 4. Automelon.**

O Planter of creation, Lord, to You does  
the entire world bring as an offering the  
God-bearing martyr Saints, as being nature's  
first fruits. At their earnest entreaties, keep  
Your Church in a state of profoundest peace,  
through the Theotokos, O Lord abundantly  
merciful. [SD]

**THE TRISAGION HYMN**

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

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

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

**The Epistle**

SATURDAY OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK

**Prokeimenon. Mode pl. 2. Psalm 31.**

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice greatly.

[SAAS]

**Verse:** *Blessed are those whose transgressions  
are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.* [SAAS]

Gal. 1:3-10

Brethren, grace to you and peace from  
God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who gave himself for our sins to deliver us  
from the present evil age, according to the will  
of our God and Father; to whom be the glory  
for ever and ever. Amen. I am astonished that  
you are so quickly deserting him who called  
you in the grace of Christ and turning to a  
different gospel - not that there is another  
gospel, but there are some who trouble you  
and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But  
even if we, or an angel of heaven, should  
preach to you a gospel contrary to that which  
we preached to you, let him be accursed. As  
we have said before, so now I say again, If any  
one is preaching to you a gospel contrary to  
that which you received, let him be accursed.  
Am I now seeking the favor of men, or of  
God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were  
still pleasing men, I should not be a servant of  
Christ. [RSV]

**Alleluia. Mode pl. 2. Psalms 64, 101.**

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Verse 1:** *Blessed are they whom You have  
chosen and received, O Lord.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Verse 2:** *And their memorial abides from generation to generation.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### **The Gospel**

Saturday of the Twelfth Week of Luke

Lk. 13:19-29

The Lord said this parable, "The kingdom of God is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his garden; and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches." And again he said, "To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? It is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened." He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. And some one said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, "Strive to enter by the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the householder has risen up and shut the door, you will begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us.' He will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from; depart from me, all you workers of iniquity!' There you will weep and gnash your teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and you yourselves thrust out. And men will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God." [RSV]

### **Hymn to the Theotokos.**

It is truly right to bless you, Theotokos, ever blessed, most pure, and Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Logos. We magnify you, the true Theotokos. [GOA]

### **Communion Hymn. Psalms 64, 101.**

Blessed are they whom You have chosen and received, O Lord. Their memorial abides from generation to generation. Alleluia. [SAAS]

### **Hymn after Holy Communion.**

#### **Mode 2.**

We have seen the true light; we have received the heavenly Spirit; we have found the true faith, worshiping the undivided Trinity, for the Trinity has saved us. [GOA]

### **THE DISMISSAL**

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.

### **Fasting Rule**

*Fish: fish, oil and wine are allowed. Refrain from meat, dairy and eggs.*

*It is the Christmas fast.*