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The Service of Vespers

on Monday Evening

for Tuesday, April 30, 2019

**Pentecostarion - On Monday of Bright Week
at Vespers**

**Pentecostarion Supplement
Bright Tuesday. Memory of Sts. Raphael, Nicholas and Irene.**

Text in English

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vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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Pentecostarion Supplement

On Monday of Bright Week in the Evening

Bright Tuesday. Memory of Sts. Raphael, Nicholas and Irene.

VESPERS

PRIEST

Glory to the holy and consubstantial, and life giving, and undivided Trinity, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

PRIEST

Mode pl. 1.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs... [GOA]

CHOIR

...He has granted life.

PRIEST

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs... [GOA]

CHOIR

...He has granted life.

PRIEST

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs... [GOA]

CHOIR

...He has granted life.

PRIEST

Verse 1: *Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from before His face.*

CHOIR

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

PRIEST

Verse 2: *As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire.*

CHOIR

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

PRIEST

Verse 3: *So shall the sinners perish from the face of God. And let the righteous be glad.*

CHOIR

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

PRIEST

Verse 4: *This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein.*

CHOIR

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

PRIEST

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

CHOIR

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

PRIEST

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

CHOIR

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

PRIEST

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death... [GOA]

CHOIR

...and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

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.)*

CHOIR

Mode 3.

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]

From Pentecostarion - - -

Resurrectional Stichera.

Sticheron 1. Mode 3.

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

Your cross, Christ Savior, has destroyed the power of death and has abolished the deception of the devil. Therefore mankind saved by faith, offers you hymns of praise forever. [HC]

Sticheron 2. Mode 3.

The righteous shall wait for me, until You reward me. [SAAS]

All of creation has been enlightened by your resurrection, O Lord, and paradise has once again been opened. Therefore, all creation extols you and offers hymns of praise forever. [HC]

Sticheron 3. Mode 3.

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

I glorify the might of the Father and the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit,

the undivided, uncreated Godhead, the consubstantial Trinity that reigns to the ages of ages. [HC]

Sticheron 4. Mode 3.

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

We worship your precious cross, O Christ, and praise and glorify your resurrection, for by your wounds we have all been healed. [HC]

Stichera. For the Saints.

Pentecostarion Supplement - - -

Mode 1. What a paradoxical miracle.

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

What a paradoxal miracle! * For the Martyrs of Christ, like resplendent shining stars * have risen up from the earth, and now they gladden the world. * O Lesbos, mystically dance, * for their illustrious splendor illumines you. * And join her, O Church of God, * in celebrating with gladness, and shout to them, * "We salute you, godly Martyrs * Raphael and Nicholas * and Irene graceful virgin, * as the ornaments of Athletes, rejoice!" [SD]

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

My God! How great are Your mysteries, O Christ! * For You have uncovered * from the bowels of the earth * that glorious Raphael * and godly Nicholas * and holy virgin Irene, * who for the sake of Your name contested famously. * You did this for the support * of us the faithful, who boast of this piously. * Therefore in their holy relics * we take refuge

faithfully * and from them are receiving *
every saving gift of grace divine. [SD]

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

Thrice-blessed Raphael and divine *
Nicholas, we honor * your discovery today, *
as we splendidly observe your holy memory. *
O Saints, you often appear * to the believers in
visions and in their dreams, * and daily reveal
to them * the hidden knowledge of secrets and
mysteries. * You are seen in waking visions
* face to face amazingly, * and you dazzle
all people * with the miracles that God does
through you. [SD]

Additional Stichera.

Pentecostarion Supplement - - -

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 revealed hidden mysteries * with
your body's discovery, * blessed and all-
glorious Martyr Raphael. * And you preferred
to assist in this * through manifestations of
* glory that you had God. * And the people
who faithfully * saw you were amazed * at
the wealth of the grace you had been given,
and to everyone proclaimed it * and what they
witnessed with their own eyes. [SD]

*Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; praise Him,
all you peoples. [SAAS]*

Wonder-worker St. Raphael, * you
revealed what was formerly * unknown
information about yourself to us: * namely
your glorious name and rank, * the name of
your fatherland, * and the details of your life

* and your contest; for you indeed were seen
face to face. * So immense is your love for us
and favor! Therefore loudly we proclaim it *
and tell the world of your grace from God. [SD]

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

O believers, come let us all * with
melodious hymns extol * Raphael that
glorious son of Ithaca, * the pride and joy of
the Grecian Isle * of Lesbos, and patron saint
* of the village of Thermi; * and his partner
in martyrdom * holy Nicholas, * and Irene
that most blessed girl. For lately they revealed
themselves to many * and they pour out
wondrous miracles. [SD]

Glory.

Pentecostarion Supplement - - -

Mode pl. 2.

Today, as we celebrate the Resurrection
of Christ, let us also festively observe the
memory of those Martyrs, who recently came
to light, Raphael the all-blessed, Nicholas
the godly-minded, and Irene the virgin, and
let us also honor those who joined them in
martyrdom. For they were all of one soul
as they competed, and for Christ endured a
contest of suffering. They have been glorified
in heaven worthily; whereas on earth, they
remained hidden for many years, by ineffable
divine decree. Recently, they were made
known, full of heavenly glory, full of light,
full of grace, and they work extraordinary
miracles. They appear to people near and
far, and they reveal to us what was unknown
in previous generations. Great are You, O
Lord, and there is no limit to Your greatness!
You have marvelously magnified Your holy

Martyrs, and through them You grant us the great mercy. [SD]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

From Pentecostarion - -

Mode 3.

How can we not marvel at your theandric childbirth, O most reverend Maid? For while having had no spousal congress, all-blameless one, you gave birth unto a Son unfathered in the flesh, Who had, unmothered, been begotten of the Father before all ages. He in no way underwent any change, intermingling or division; but He preserved each nature's distinct identity in its totality. Therefore, O Virgin Mother and Lady, entreat Him for the salvation of the souls of those confessing you, in Orthodox manner, to be Theotokos. [SD]

DEACON *(in a low voice)*

Let us pray to the Lord.

PRIEST *(in a low voice)*

Prayer of the Entrance

At evening, at morning and at midday we praise, bless and give thanks, and we pray to you, Master of all things, Lord who love mankind: Direct our prayer before you like incense, and do not incline our hearts to words or thoughts of evil, but deliver us from all that hunt down our souls. For our eyes look to you, O Lord, our Lord, and we have hoped in you.

DEACON

Wisdom. Arise.

CLERGY AND PEOPLE

Mode 2.

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. [SD]

DEACON

The evening Prokeimenon.

CHOIR

Prokeimenon. Grave Mode.

Our God: both in heaven and on earth, all things whatsoever He wills, He does. [SAAS]

Verse: *In the exodus of Israel from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a foreign people.*

Our God: both in heaven and on earth, all things whatsoever He wills, He does.

Verse: *The sea saw them and fled, the Jordan turned back.*

Our God: both in heaven and on earth, all things whatsoever He wills, He does.

Verse: *What is it to you, O Sea, that you fled, and to you, O Jordan, that you turned back?*

Our God: both in heaven and on earth, all things whatsoever He wills, He does.

From Menaion - -

READER

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

DEACON

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

READER

43:9-14

Thus says the Lord: All the nations are gathered together, and the rulers shall be assembled from among them. Who will declare these things or tell us things from the beginning? Let them bring forth their witnesses, and be proven right; and let them speak the truth. "You are My witnesses, and I am a witness," says the Lord God, "and My

Servant whom I chose, that you may know and believe, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no other God, nor shall there be after Me. I am God, and besides Me there is no one who saves. I proclaimed, and I saved. I denounced foreign gods so there were none among you. You are My witnesses, and I am a witness," says the Lord God. "Even from the beginning, there is no one who can deliver out of My hands; I will work, and who will reverse it?" Thus says the Lord God who redeems you, the Holy One of Israel. [SAAS]

READER

The reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon.

DEACON

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

READER

3:1-9

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torture will ever touch them. In the eyes of the undiscerning they seemed to have died, and their departure was considered to be misfortune, and their passage from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in man's view they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Though chastened in a few things, great kindness will be shown them, for God tested them and found them worthy of Himself. He tested them like gold in a furnace and accepted them as a whole burnt offering. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and they will run about like sparks through straw. They will judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall reign over them unto the ages. Those who trust in Him will understand truth,

and the faithful shall continue with Him in love, because grace and mercy are upon His elect [and He watches over His holy ones]. [SAAS]

READER

The reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon.

DEACON

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

READER

5:15-6:3

The righteous live forever, and their reward is with the Lord; and their care is by the Most High. Therefore they shall receive a kingly dwelling of dignity and a crown of beauty from the hand of the Lord, because He will shelter them with His right hand and protect them with His arm. He will take His zeal as His full armor and will turn His creation into weapons against His enemies. He will wear righteousness as a breastplate and put on impartial judgment as a helmet. He will take holiness as an unconquerable shield and sharpen His relentless wrath for a sword; and creation will fight with Him against the senseless. Well-aimed flashes of lightning will strike and leap to their object as from a well-drawn bow of clouds; and hailstones full of anger will be hurled as from an engine of war. The water of the sea will be vexed with them, and the rivers will wash over them severely. A powerful wind will oppose them, and like a storm it will winnow them away. Lawlessness will lay waste all the earth, and wrongdoing will overturn the thrones of rulers. Listen therefore, O kings, and understand; learn, O judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, you that rule over multitudes, and take pride

in yourself over a multitude of nations. For power was given to you from the Lord, and your lordship from the Most High. [SAAS]

DEACON

Let us all say with all our soul and with all our mind, let us all say.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Lord almighty, God of our fathers, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for (episcopal rank) (name).

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, the hieromonks, the hierodeacons, the monastics, and all our brotherhood in Christ.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, forgiveness, and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all pious Orthodox Christians residing and visiting in this city: the parishioners, the members of the parish council, the stewards, and benefactors of this holy church.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church, and for all our fathers and brethren who have fallen asleep before us, who here have been piously laid to their rest, as well as the Orthodox everywhere.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable church, for those who labor and those who sing, and for the people here present who await Your great and rich mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

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.)

Litany and Blessing of Loaves.

CHOIR

Idiomela. For the Saints.

Pentecostarion Supplement - - -

Mode 1.

Rejoice in the Lord, O island of Lesbos, and in the Spirit leap for joy, O Church of God. Behold, on the hill of Karyes, the God of glory has thundered, and He speaks to

us things superior, by means of His august Martyrs. For Raphael and Nicholas, who excelled in times past, have appeared to us in modern times, and they reveal to all the mystery of God's will. They appear in a marvelous manner, and thus they openly demonstrate the greatness of the true Faith, both by what they say and by the miracles they do, all for the praise of Christ, and to strengthen and support those who shout: Glory to You, O Lord! [SD]

Pentecostarion Supplement - - -

Idiomelon. Mode 2.

Come, believers, one and all, together let us run to Karyes in Thermi. There we shall see the mysteries of God on display. For Raphael and Nicholas, those famous monastic Martyrs, have come up from the earth like very fragrant flowers, and by the Spirit's grace they spread their fragrance over everyone. Glorified by the will of God, they are distinctly seen, day and night, by young men and virgins, men and women, and they grant each their requests that lead to salvation. Therefore, glory to You, O Lord, for You have glorified You Saints, and through them You grant us the great mercy. [SD]

Pentecostarion Supplement - - -

Idiomelon. Mode 3.

Honored with priesthood, you served Christ devoutly and impeccably, O most sacred Raphael. You excelled in wisdom and learning and in every kind of virtue, and you adorned the Church, in word and deed, by the brilliance of your piety. You accepted Martyrdom for Christ, and demonstrated steadfastness of soul, and thus you belittled the madness of the oppressors. And by your most bitter death, you glorified the Savior's Passion. And now, after being hidden for

many years, you have been revealed to us, as if from the inner most sanctuaries of heaven, and you are evidence of the blessings of the Lord's Resurrection. May we, too, be granted to receive these blessings, by your intercessions. [SD]

Pentecostarion Supplement - - -

Idiomelon. Mode 4.

As a teacher of virtue, a trainer and coach in the pursuit of divine gifts, O most sacred Raphael, by your own example, you bolstered the resolve of your fellow Martyrs to die for Christ. Nicholas, the holy Deacon and your student and companion, competed in the contest of martyrdom; and Irene, the fair young girl, was delivered to fire for the sake of Christ, and thus she was offered to Him as a fragrant offering. Since you were their director, you were grandly glorified, and finally you have shown your glory to the world. And now, we pray that you and your fellow Martyrs intercede for us unceasingly, that our souls receive mercy. [SD]

Glory. Both now.

Pentecostarion Supplement - - -

Idiomelon. Mode pl. 1.

It is a day of festive celebration. This bright feast has been established in honor of Raphael and Nicholas, who were revealed to us recently. One and all, let us together celebrate their appearance, and as we enjoy their miracles, let us cry aloud, "Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life." [SD]

DEACON

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for (episcopal rank) (name).

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness and remission of the sins of all pious and Orthodox Christians living and visiting in this city, the parishioners, the members of the Parish Council and every Ministry of this Parish, and the donors and benefactors of this holy church, and the servants of God [names] who celebrate this holy feast.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for the protection of this holy church, this city and every city and land, from wrath, famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, sword, foreign invasions, civil strife, and accidental death. That our good and loving God may be merciful, gracious and favorable to us by turning and keeping from us all wrath and sickness, and deliver us from His just rebuke, and have mercy on us.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray that the Lord our God may hear the prayer of us sinners, and have mercy on us.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

Hear us, O God our Savior, the hope of all those who live everywhere on earth and those far out at sea or in the air. Be gracious toward our sins, Master, and have mercy on us.

For you are a merciful and loving God, and to you we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

DEACON

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

Most merciful Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, through the intercessions of our most pure Lady the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary, the power of the precious and life giving Cross, the protection of the honorable, bodiless Powers of heaven, the supplications of the honorable and glorious prophet, and forerunner John the Baptist, the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy Apostles, our Fathers among the Saints, the great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom, Athanasios, Cyril, and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria; Nicholas, bishop of Myra, Spyridon, bishop of Trimythous, Nektarios of Pentapolis, the wonder-workers; the holy, glorious great Martyrs George the Victorious, Demetrios the Myrobletes, Theodore the Teron, and Theodore the General, Menas the Wonderworker, the Hieromartyrs Haralambos and Eleftherios; the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; the glorious great Martyr and all-laudable Euphemia; the holy and glorious Martyrs

Thecla, Barbara, Anastasia, Katherine, Kyriake, Fotene, Marina, Paraskeve and Irene; of our holy God-bearing Fathers; (local patron saint); the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, the holy, glorious, lately-appearing, and miracle-working monastic Martyrs Raphael, Nicholas, and Irene, whose memory we celebrate, and of all your Saints.

Accept our prayer; grant us forgiveness of our transgressions; protect us under the shelter of your wings; drive away from us every enemy and adversary; grant peace to our life; Lord have mercy on us and on your world; and save our souls as a good and loving God.

PRIEST or: CHOIR

Hymn to the Theotokos.

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]

DEACON

Let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

Blessing of the Loaves.

Lord, Jesus Christ. our God, You blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and from them five thousand men were filled. Bless now these loaves, the wheat, the wine and oil and multiply them in this holy church, this city, in the homes of those who celebrate today, and in Your whole world. And sanctify Your faithful servants who partake of them.

For You are He who blesses and sanctifies all things, Christ our God, and to You we offer up glory together with Your eternal Father

and Your holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CLERGY

Rich men turned poor and went hungry; but those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing. [SAAS]

CHOIR

Rich men turned poor and went hungry; but those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing. (2) [SAAS]

From Pentecostarion - - -

CHOIR

Aposticha.

Mode 3.

By your passion, O Christ, you have darkened the sun. By your resurrection, you have given all things light. Accept our evening hymn, O lover of mankind. [HC]

Stichera. For the Saints.

Mode pl. 1. Rejoice.

Rejoice, O holy priest Raphael! * You had competed for the faith most persistently; * and as a monastic martyr inspired by God, famously * with heavenly glory you were magnified. * For reasons ordained by God, you were hidden beneath the earth, * and you remained there undiscovered for many years, * but in recent times like a bright sun you rose and shined, * bringing resplendent cheer to all * through wondrous appearances * and by the rays and divine grace of your astonishing miracles. * To Christ pray in earnest, * and entreat Him that great mercy be granted to our souls.

Verse: *God is wondrous in His saints.* [SAAS]

After the holy case that contained *
your holy relics was retrieved from beneath
the earth, * O Saints, by your revelation,
it seemed to be like a box * of perfume
containing noetic anointing oil. * And they
who discovered them were amazed by your
wealth of grace, * and by your many and
successive appearances. * You revealed to
them what had hitherto been unknown. *
Saints Raphael and Nicholas * and holy virgin
Irene, * they who had seen you in visions in
turn proclaimed and made known to all * your
all-holy contest, * for which you received a
heavenly crown most worthily. [SD]

Verse: *To the saints on His earth, in them the
Lord magnified all His will.* [SAAS]

Truly the Church of Christ does rejoice, *
O blessed Martyrs, at the wondrous discovery
* of your divine holy relics, by which your
heavenly * glory has become known to all
everywhere. * The isle of Lesbos is most
especially jubilant, * being illumined by
your numberless miracles, * hieromartyrs
St. Raphael and St. Nicholas, * and godly-
minded St. Irene, * together with all the rest
* who were with you and completed * the
sacred struggle of martyrdom, * the known
and unknown saints. * All together ever pray
for what benefits us all. [SD]

From Pentecostarion - -

Stichera of Pascha.

Mode pl. 1.

Verse 1: *Let God arise, and let His enemies
be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from
before His face.*

Today a sacred Pascha has been revealed
to us; a Pascha new and holy, a Pascha

mystical, a Pascha all-venerable, Pascha, the
Redeemer Christ himself; a Pascha that is
blameless, a Pascha that is great, a Pascha
of believers, a Pascha that has opened for us
the gates of Paradise, a Pascha that sanctifies
believers all. [SD]

Verse 2: *As smoke vanishes, so let them
vanish, as wax melts before the fire.*

Come now from that sight, O you women
and heralds of good news, and say to Zion,
"Receive from us the joyful tidings of the
Resurrection of Christ. O Jerusalem, be
exultant, dance and leap for joy, for you have
witnessed Christ the King coming forth as a
Bridegroom from the sepulcher." [SD]

Verse 3: *So shall the sinners perish from the
face of God. And let the righteous be glad.*

The myrrh-bearing women at dawn very
early, standing outside the tomb of the Giver-
of-Life, found an Angel who was seated upon
the stone. And the Angel addressed them, and
this is what he said, "Why do you seek among
the dead the One who is alive? Why do you
grieve as though corruptible the Incorrupt? So
go back and proclaim it to His Disciples." [SD]

Verse 4: *This is the day the Lord made; let us
greatly rejoice and be glad therein.*

Pascha of delight! Pascha, the Lord's
Pascha! A Pascha all venerable has risen
for us. Pascha! With joy let us embrace one
another. Pascha, the ransom from sorrow!
Today from the sepulcher Christ emerged
resplendently as from a bridal chamber,
and the women He filled with joy, saying,
"Proclaim this to the Apostles." [SD]

Glory. **For the Saints.**

Pentecostarion Supplement - - -

Mode pl. 4.

As imitators of the Savior's Passion, you also display the splendor of His resurrection, when you appear, O holy Martyrs. When He rose, He appeared to the virtuous Myrrh-bearing women; likewise you entrusted the mystery of your appearance to faithful women, and you openly declared and revealed to them what had previously been hidden. Seeing how it has all come to pass, O Raphael, Nicholas, and virgin Irene, we magnify Christ, who has glorified you. [SD]

Both now. **Of Pascha.**

From Pentecostarion - - -

Mode pl. 1.

It is the day of the Resurrection. Let us shine brightly for the festival, and also embrace one another. Brethren, let us say even to those who hate us, "Let us forgive everything for the Resurrection." And thus let us cry aloud, "Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life." [SD]

From Pentecostarion - - -

Mode pl. 1.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

Apolytikion. For the Saints.

Pentecostarion Supplement - - -

Mode 4. Come quickly.

O Martyrs, you competed for Christ our God on the isle * of Lesbos, which you sanctified when your relics were found * and enshrined there, O blessed Saints. * Now we hold you in honor * as our God-sent protectors. * O Raphael and Nicholas our

God-bearing fathers, * together with virgin St. Irene, * you intercede with the Lord for us. [SD]

From Pentecostarion - - -

Mode pl. 1.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

DEACON

Let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

May the blessing and the mercy of the Lord come upon you by His divine grace and love for mankind, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

Make firm, Lord our God, the holy and pure faith of the pious Orthodox Christians, together with the Holy Church and this city forever.

READER

Amen.

Optional:

PRIEST

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

READER

PRIEST

Glory to You, O Christ God, our hope.
Glory to You.

READER

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Lord, have mercy. (3) 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, the holy, glorious, lately-appearing, and miracle-working monastic Martyrs Raphael, Nicholas, and Irene, whose memory we celebrate, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Let us forgive everything for the Resurrection, And thus let us cry aloud:

Christ is risen!

PEOPLE

Truly He is risen!

PRIEST

Christ is risen!

PEOPLE

Truly He is risen!

PRIEST

Christ is risen!

PEOPLE

Truly He is risen!

PRIEST

Glory to His holy Resurrection on the third day!

PEOPLE

We worship His Resurrection on the third day!

PRIEST

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

PEOPLE

Truly the Lord is risen!