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The Service of Matins

for Friday, December 13, 2019

**Octoechos - Mode pl. 4.
on Friday Morning**

**Menaion - December 13
Memory of the Holy Martyrs Efstratios, Afxentios, Eugene,
Mardarios, and Orestis, and St. Lukia**

Text in English

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vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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Octoechos - Mode pl. 4.

On Friday Morning

Menaion - December 13

Memory of the Holy Martyrs Efstratios, Afxentios, Eugene, Mardarios, and Orestis, and St. Lukia

MATINS

CHOIR

Mode 4.

God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. [SAAS]

Verse 1: *Give thanks to the Lord and call upon His name.*

or: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

Verse 2: *All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I defended myself against them.*

Verse 3: *And this came about from the Lord, and it is wonderful in our eyes.*

Apolytikion. For the Martyrs.

Mode 4. Come quickly.

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You * the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. * Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, * dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

[SD]

From Octoechos ---

Glory. Both now. **Theotokion.**

Mode 4. Come quickly.

O Mother of Christ our God, all-blameless Virgin most pure, * as Symeon told, a sword pierced through your all-holy soul * when

you saw your Son and God * crucified by transgressors of His own will, O Lady. * Cease not to importune Him, * that He grant the forgiveness * of failings to us your servants, * O only most-blessed one. [SD]

The appointed Kathisma of the Psalter may be read, i.e. Kathisma 19. There is no litany, but immediately the following:

From Octoechos ---

CHOIR

Kathisma I.

For the Cross.

Mode pl. 4.

When the Robber saw the Author of life hanging on the Cross, he said, "If He who is crucified with us were not God incarnate, the sun would not have hid its rays, nor would the earth have quaked and trembled. I pray You who endure everything, remember me, O Lord, in Your Kingdom." [SD]

Verse: *Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at the footstool of His feet; for He is holy.*

Between the two robbers, Your Cross was a balance of justice. One was weighed down to hell by the weight of his blasphemy, the other floated up from his sins to the knowledge of theology. O Christ God, glory to You. [SD]

Glory. Both now. **Stavrotheotokion.**

Mode pl. 4. N/M (When he perceived.)

O noble Lady, as you watched your Son, who was incarnated from your blood, and whom you bore incomprehensibly, hanging on a cross between two criminals, your heart ached, and you grieved maternally and cried out, "Alas, O my Child! What is this divine and ineffable plan of Yours, by which You

brought Your creature back to life! I extol Your compassion." [SD]

The appointed Kathisma of the Psalter may be read, i.e. Kathisma 20. There is no litany, but immediately the following:

CHOIR

From Octoechos - - -

Kathisma II.

For the Cross.

Mode pl. 4. When You, the Life of all.

A tree once blossomed death in the middle of Eden. * The tree in the middle of the earth has produced life. * Tasting from the former, * we the incorrupt became corruptible, * whereas with the latter * we have delighted in incorruptibility. * For Christ our God has saved the human race * by means of His divine Cross. [SD]

Verse: God is our King before the ages; He worked salvation in the midst of the earth.

Mode pl. 4. When he perceived.

Of old the tree in the garden stripped us naked, * and by its taste did the enemy bring in death. * Now the tree of the Cross, which for all mankind is bearing * the garment of life, was planted upon the earth, * and therefore is all the world filled with every joy. * As we see it exalted now, let us, O peoples, cry aloud * together unto God in faith: * Full of glory is Your house, O Lord. [SD]

Glory. Both now. **Stavrotheotokion.**

Mode pl. 4. N/M (When he perceived.)

You became man by the blood of my womb,/and by pouring out Your blood, You deify mankind./In Your great goodness, You have come down,/to search for those who had tasted death beneath the forbidden tree./So cried the pure Virgin in tears, seeing Christ

hung upon the Cross./Before His death, she poured forth streams of tears.//her heart was torn, as she magnified her Son as God. [OCA]

From Octoechos - - -

Kathisma III.

For the Cross.

Mode pl. 4. N/M (When You, the Life.)

When Adam our progenitor was deceived into hoping to become a god, he became the cause of corruption to his descendants. But You, Lord most benevolent, pour out life by means of the Cross. You were willingly crucified, so as to reverse the former verdict. Therefore we extol Your voluntary Passion, O Christ. [SD]

Verse: God is wondrous in His saints.

For the Martyrs.

Today this tabernacle is illumined with heavenly light. For here the armies of Angels are exultant, and the hosts of Martyrs celebrate with them, for the memory of the medal-winning Athletes. By their supplications, send down peace and great mercy to Your world, O Christ. [SD]

Glory. Both now. **Stavrotheotokion.**

Mode pl. 4. N/M (When You, the Life.)

The Theotokos, who is likened to a ewe-lamb, watched as her Son was crucified, and she cried out, "Oh novel wonder! Oh terrible mystery! What is this, O immortal Logos of God? How is it that I see you dead, and yet You make the earth to quake, as almighty God? I extol Your divine and awe-inspiring condescension." [SD]

READER

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory. Both now.

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]

Kontakion.

From Menaion - - -

Mode pl. 2. N/M (The Theotokos.)

You appeared as a brilliant luminary to those sitting in the darkness of ignorance, O medal-winner. Armed with faith as with a spear, you were not afraid of the brashness of your adversaries, O Efstratios, more eloquent than orators. [SD]

Oikos.

O Christ, dispel the darkness that covers my soul, so that I might gaily extol that five-member choir of Martyrs: Afxentios who was nurtured by an augmented godly way of life; Eugene, wise and valiant in contests; also Orestis, who inhabits the divine mounts; and Mardarios, that simple man. Their instructor was Efstratios, more eloquent than orators. [SD]

Synaxarion.

From the Menaion.

On December 13, we commemorate the contest of Christ's holy martyrs, Efstratios, Afxentios, Eugene, Mardarios, and Orestis.

On this day we also commemorate the holy martyr Lucia the virgin.

On this day we also commemorate our devout father Arsenios of Latro.

We also commemorate the holy new hieromartyr Gabriel, Archbishop of Serbia, who witnessed in Prousa in the year 1659.

By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

DEACON

Let us honor and magnify in song the Theotokos and the Mother of the light.

CHOIR

Ode ix.

Megalyrnarion. Mode 4.

Verse: *My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.* [NKJV]

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. [SD]

Verse: *For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.* [NKJV]

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. [SD]

Verse: *For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.* [NKJV]

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. [SD]

Verse: *He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.* [NKJV]

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. [SD]

Verse: *He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty.* [NKJV]

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. [SD]

Verse: *He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.* [NKJV]

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. [SD]

Heirmos. Mode 4.

A cornerstone was cut out without hands * from a never-quarried mountain, * which prefigured you, holy Virgin. * The stone is Christ, who joined the disparate natures. * As we rejoice because of this, O Theotokos, we magnify you. [SD]

It is truly right to bless you, Theotokos, ever blessed, most pure, and Mother of our God. 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.

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 all the powers of heaven praise You and give You glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Exaposteilarion.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 2. O Women, hearken.

With sacred hymns let us extol * the orator Efstratios, * Afxentios and Orestis, * Mardarios and the wise Eugene. * These five all-holy martyr saints * competed for the sake of Christ. * And now they ever intercede * for us who extol their sacred * memorial with divine songs. [SD]

Theotokion.

Mode 2. O Women, hearken.

O Virgin, you gave birth to Christ, * the super-essential Word of the God, * divine hypostatic Wisdom, * humanity's true physician. * To you I therefore pray to heal * the painful and persistent sores * and traumas of my sorry soul; * and stop sinful recollections * within my heart, O pure Lady.

[SD]

Lauds. Mode 1.

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. It is fitting to sing a hymn to You, O God. [SAAS]

Praise Him, all you His angels; praise Him, all you His hosts. It is fitting to sing a hymn to You, O God. [SAAS]

Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you stars and light.

Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, and you waters above the heavens. Let them praise the Lord's name.

For He spoke, and they were made; He commanded, and they were created.

He established them forever and unto ages of ages; He set forth His ordinance, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you dragons and all the deeps.

Fire and hail, snow and ice, stormy wind, which perform His word.

Mountains and all the hills, fruitful trees and all cedars.

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds.

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all judges of the earth.

Young men and maidens, elders with younger, let them praise the Lord's name, for His name alone is exalted.

His thanksgiving is in earth and heaven. And He shall exalt the horn of His people.

A hymn for all His saints, for the children of Israel, a people who draw near to Him.

Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise in the assembly of His holy ones.

Let Israel be glad in Him who made him, and let the children of Zion greatly rejoice in their King.

Let them praise His name with dance; with tambourine and harp let them sing to Him.

For the Lord is pleased with His people, and He shall exalt the gentle with salvation.

The holy ones shall boast in glory, and they shall greatly rejoice on their beds.

The high praise of God shall be in their mouth and a two-edged sword in their hand.

To deal retribution to the nations, reproof among the peoples.

To shackle their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron.

To fulfill among them the written judgment: this glory have all His holy ones.

Praise God in His saints; praise Him in the firmament of His power.

Stichera. For the Saints.

From Menaion - - -

Sticheron 1. Idiomelon. Mode 1.

Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to the abundance of His greatness. [SAAS]

O people, let us extol the five-member choir of Saints, and in so doing praise Christ the Savior. Efstratios had strength of spirit, and he was a solid contestant and medal-winner. Afxentios, Eugene, Mardarios, and Orestis contested for the Faith, and they beat down the waves of the enemies. And now they intercede with the Savior, asking Him to grant forgiveness and pardon of sins, to those who with faith observe their memory. [SD]

Sticheron 2. Idiomelon. Mode 3.

Praise Him with the sound of trumpet; praise Him with the harp and lyre. [SAAS]

Efstratios, the soldier of Christ, astonished the unlawful men with his oratorical skills. By his marks as an athlete, he valiantly defeated

the enemy's hosts. He is a solid medal-winner, who walked the strait and narrow way, and has arrived at the land of eternal life. There he implores Christ to grant us His great mercy. [SD]

Sticheron 3. Idiomelon. Mode 3.

Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and flute. [SAAS]

Efstratios became known as a philosopher of the divine wisdom, and he proved to be an orator, by the beauty of his words. He is great among Martyrs. So, let us extol him with praises worthy of a medal-winning Martyr. This soldier of Christ gathered a godly corps, and in time of war, with his eye on the prizes for the contest, he seized the enemy's sword and cut him down. Let us say to him: "Most excellent of Martyrs, join your fellow athletes, and intercede with Christ our God, for those who faithfully keep your most solemn memory." [SD]

Sticheron 4. Idiomelon. Mode 4.

Praise Him with resounding cymbals; praise Him with triumphant cymbals; let everything that breathes praise the Lord. [SAAS]

Let us crown the victorious Witnesses of the truth with songs of praise. Efstratios exposed of the mythology of the Hellenes, as a preacher of the divine wisdom of Christianity. Afxentios used words of wisdom and patient deeds to convict the ungodliness of the tyrants. Eugene was useful to God, and useless to the tyrants, because of his saving confession. Orestis, that truthful and marvelous man, was a soldier of the King of all. And Mardarios, who was purer than a dove, put the subtle serpent to shame, by

the grace of Christ our God, the Savior of our souls. [SD]

Glory.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4.

Let us devoutly extol the God-bearing Martyrs, that five-stringed lyre and five-branched lamp-stand; and let us praise them by name. Rejoice, O Efstratios, divinely wise, for you were rightly enlisted by God into the heavenly army, and you pleased Him who enlisted you, O orator of orators. Rejoice, O blessed Afxentios, for you augmented and increased the talent that was entrusted to you by God. Rejoice, O godly-minded Eugene, the delightful descendant of divine nobility. Rejoice, all-blessed Orestis, who spent all your time in the mountains; for you were handsome in looks, very beautiful in mind, and excellent in both. Rejoice, O invincible Mardarios, for you glistened like a translucent pearl, and you endured the bitter tortures with great joy. Rejoice, O chorus of Martyrs, equal in number to the wise Virgins. We entreat you to rescue us from all wrath and tribulation, and to let us experience your ineffable glory, as we honor your annual memory. [SD]

Both now. **Stavrotheotokion.**

Mode 4. *You have given.*

As the all-pure Lady saw her only Son being put to death, * who as Master and Christ himself * put to death the wily one, * weeping she extolled Him, * her womb's very offspring, * and as she marveled and admired * His great forbearance, she cried aloud and said, * Forget me not your handmaiden, beloved Child,

dearest Son of mine, * and prolong not my misery, * O Lover of humanity. [SD]

READER

Doxology (*read*)

To you belongs glory, O Lord our God, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, and we thank you, for your great glory. Lord, King, Heavenly God, Father Almighty; only-begotten Son, Lord Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit. Lord God, the Lamb of God, the Son of the Father, who take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, you who take away the sins of the world. Accept our supplication, you who sit at the right of the Father, and have mercy on us. For you are the only Holy One, you are the only Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen. Every day I shall bless you, and I shall praise your name forever, and unto the ages of ages. Lord, you have become for us a refuge from generation to generation. I have said: Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against you. Lord, to you I have fled; teach me to do your will, for you are my God. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we shall see light. Extend your mercy to those who know you. Grant, O Lord, that in this day we may be kept without sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is your name unto the ages. Amen. Let your mercy, Lord, come upon us, just as we have hoped in you. Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your commandments. Blessed

are you, O Master, make me understand your commandments. Blessed are you, O Holy One, enlighten me with your commandments. Lord, your mercy remains forever, do not turn away from the works of your hands. To you belongs praise, to you belongs a hymn, to you belongs glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

DEACON

Let us complete our morning 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 day 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 are the God of mercy and compassion and love for mankind, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to 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)*

Holy Lord, dwelling on high and beholding things below and, with your eye that observes all, keeping watch over the whole creation, to you we have bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we beseech you, O Holy of Holies: Stretch forth your invisible hand from your holy dwelling and bless us all. And, as you are good and love humankind, pardon us if we have sinned in anything, voluntarily or involuntarily, granting us your blessings both of this world and of the world above.

PRIEST

For Yours it is to show mercy and to save us, O our God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages.

(Amen.)

From Octoechos ---

CHOIR

Aposticha of the Octoechos.

Mode pl. 4.

The rod of Moses prefigured Your precious Cross, O our Savior. For by means thereof You save Your people as from the depth of the sea, O You who love humanity.

[SD]

Verse: *We were filled with Your mercy in the morning, and in all our days we greatly rejoiced and were glad; gladden us in return for the days You humbled us, for the years we saw evil things. And behold Your servants and Your works, and guide their sons.* [SAAS]

Automelon.

The paradise of Eden once produced the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the midst of all the plants. * Whereas the holy Church, O Christ, now has brought forth Your precious Cross, * gushing forth eternal life into the world. * But while the one brought on Adam's death when he had taken it for food, * the other gave the Robber life * when for believing he was saved. * Make us partakers of the forgiveness he received from You, O Christ, * who by Your Passion ended the frenzy aimed against us of the foe; * and, O Lord, account us worthy of inheriting Your heavenly Rule. [SD]

Verse: *And let the brightness of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the works of our hands.* [SAAS]

Automelon.

What are we to call you, O holy ones?
* Cherubim, inasmuch as Christ has found repose in you. * Seraphim, for without ceasing

you were glorifying Him. * Or Angels, from the body you had turned away. * Or Powers, you are active doing miracles. * Your names are many, and greater are * the spiritual gifts that you received. * So intercede, we entreat you, that our souls be saved. [SD]

Glory. **For the Saints.**

From Menaion ---

Mode 4.

When the holy Martyrs had delved into the writings of the Fishermen, they put away the books of the philosophers, for they preferred the wisdom of the Apostles over the erudition of the Hellenes. The one was simply eloquence, whereas in the God-inspired words of the unlettered they learned the theology of the Trinity. And now they intercede for us, that our souls be preserved in peace. [SD]

Both now. **Stavrotheotokion.**

Mode 4. To a brave one.

When the all-modest Virgin saw * You, O Lord, to whom she gave birth * without knowing man, being stretched out on the Cross, * in her extreme grief she bathed her face in tears that were stained in blood, * and lamenting she cried out, * "What is this awful mystery? * You who once adorned * with the bright lights the firmament, how are You, O forbearing Lord and Master, * nailed to a Cross, without form or breath." [SD]

PRIEST

It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to sing to Your name, O Most High, to proclaim Your mercy in the morning and Your truth at night. [SAAS]

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.

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

Apolytikion. For the Martyrs.

Mode 4. *Come quickly.*

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily
awarded by You * the crowns of incorruption,
in that they contested for You our immortal
God. * Since they possessed Your power, they

defeated the tyrants, * dashing the demons'
powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ
God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

[SD]

From Octoechos - - -

Glory. Both now. **Theotokion.**

Mode 4.

We magnify you, O Theotokos, and cry
out: You are the bush in which, without
being burnt, Moses saw, as a flame, the fire of
Divinity. [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 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.)

DEACON

Wisdom.

(Father, bless!)

PRIEST

Blessed are You, Christ our God, 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.

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.

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. (3) 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, the holy Martyrs Eustratios, Afxentios, Eugene, Mardarios, and Orestis, whose memory we are observing; 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.)