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The Service of Matins

for Saturday, August 31, 2019

Menaion - August 31
Commemoration of the Placement of the Holy Belt of the Most
Holy Theotokos

Katavasias of the Cross

Text in English

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vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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Menaion - August 31

Commemoration of the Placement of the Holy Belt of the Most Holy Theotokos

MATINS

CHOIR

Mode pl. 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.

From Menaion ---

Mode pl. 4.

Ever-virgin Theotokos, the shelter of mankind, you have given to your City as a protective wall the clothing and garment that you wore on your immaculate body. By your seedless childbirth, they have remained incorrupt. For in you both nature and time are made novel. Therefore we implore you, grant peace to your commonwealth, and great mercy to our souls. [SD]

Glory. Both now. **Repeat.**

From Menaion ---

Mode pl. 4.

Ever-virgin Theotokos, the shelter of mankind, you have given to your City as a protective wall the clothing and garment that you wore on your immaculate body. By your seedless childbirth, they have remained

incorrupt. For in you both nature and time are made novel. Therefore we implore you, grant peace to your commonwealth, and great mercy to our souls. [SD]

PRIEST

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.)

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

Kathisma I.

From Menaion ---

Mode 1. The soldiers keeping watch.

We faithful now extol the august holy garment * that you yourself had worn, O immaculate Virgin. * From it we derive the cures of diseases, All-holy One. * Hence we cry to you, who truly bore God the Highest; * Mary, chosen one, you are indeed the redemption * of all those who honor you. [SD]

Glory. Both now. **Repeat.**

We faithful now extol the august holy garment * that you yourself had worn, O immaculate Virgin. * From it we derive the

cures of diseases, All-holy One. * Hence we cry to you, who truly bore God the Highest; * Mary, chosen one, you are indeed the redemption * of all those who honor you. [SD]

Kathisma II.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4. *You appeared today.*

On this day, All-lauded One, your faithful people * gaily celebrate the feast of the Bestowal of your Belt, * and we intently cry out to you; * Rejoice, O Virgin, the boast of Christians everywhere. [SD]

Glory. **Repeat.**

On this day, All-lauded One, your faithful people * gaily celebrate the feast of the Bestowal of your Belt, * and we intently cry out to you; * Rejoice, O Virgin, the boast of Christians everywhere. [SD]

READER

Psalms 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. *The Theotokos, unsleeping.*

The precious garment that you wore about your body * that hosted God, O all-blessed Theotokos, * truly is power unassailable * for your City and a treasure whose blessings are perpetual, * O only Ever-virgin who bore a child. [SD]

Oikos.

No human speech, no mortal tongue can relate your greatness; for neither can celestial intelligence. Nevertheless, O Mother of the infinite sea of sympathy, I pray you accept these songs from my unfruitful lips, and give

me the divine grace to celebrate your garment, because of which the world today exults and joins the Angels in extolling your miracles, O only Ever-virgin who bore a child. [SD]

Synaxarion.

From the Menaion.

On August 31 we remember the installation of the Precious Belt of the Most Holy Theotokos in the church dedicated to her in Chalkoprateia in Constantinople, to where it was transferred from the Diocese of Zela in Cappadocia by the Emperor Justinian. We also remember the miracle that occurred when the Precious Belt was placed on the Empress Zoe, the wife of Emperor Leo.

Through the intercessions of Your undefiled Mother, Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

CHOIR

Katavasia of the Cross

Ode i. Mode pl. 4.

Moses prefigured the Cross. * Lifting up the rod, he stretched out his hand and split the Sea for Israel to cross on land. * Then he stretched it out again, * and the sea returned and covered Pharaoh's chariots. * The Cross was thus portrayed as our invincible armor. * So let us sing to the Lord, * Christ our God, for He is greatly glorified. [SD]

Ode iii.

The rod of Aaron is seen as typifying the mystery; * for it budded, and thus was the priest selected. * Now in the Church, that was barren once, the Cross of Christ, like a tree, * has blossomed forth, * as power and a firm support. [SD]

Ode iv.

I have heard the report, O Lord, * of Your incarnation, which is a mystery. * I considered Your astounding works, * and I glorified Your divinity. [SD]

Ode v.

Tree of the Cross, you are thrice-blessed, * for Jesus Christ, who is King and Lord, was crucified on you. * Through you fallen is the one who by a tree deceived us, * for he was lured by God who in the flesh indeed * was hung and nailed to you, * and who grants to our souls His peace. [SD]

Ode vi.

In the belly of the sea beast * the prophet Jonah prayed with his arms extended crosswise; * thus he clearly prefigured the saving Passion of Christ. * When after three days he emerged, * he was depicting the supernal resurrection from the dead * of Christ God, who was physically nailed to the Cross * and by His third-day arising illumined the universe. [SD]

Ode vii.

The impious tyrant's preposterous decree disturbed the populace, * breathing threats and blasphemous pronouncements hateful to God. * His brutal anger did not intimidate * the three Servants, nor did the consuming fire. * But when the dew-laden breeze whistled against the fire, they joined it and together sang, * "Blessed are You, O Lord. You are highly praised, O God, the God of our fathers." [SD]

Ode viii.

We praise and we bless and we worship the Lord.

You three pious Servants, * same in number as the Trinity, * bless God the Father, Maker of all; * sing a hymn to the Word who condescended * and who changed the fire in the furnace into dew; * as for the all-holy Spirit, who gives life to all, exalt It * beyond measure unto the ages. [SD]

DEACON

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

CHOIR

Ode ix.

Megalyrnarion. Mode pl. 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]

Ode ix. Katavasia. Mode pl. 4.

Theotokos, you are mystical Paradise, * for without husbandry you have blossomed Christ, * by whom on earth the Cross, as a life-

bearing tree, has been planted and watered.
* As it is now exalted, * we adore Him and
worship Him and magnify you. [SD]

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.

The Lord, subliming everything about
you, O Immaculate, * has honored your holy
clothing * and garment with incorruption.
* He gave it to your City for protection and
security. * And with longing we celebrate, * as
we joyously observe now * the feast day of its
Bestowal. [SD]

Another.

Mode 2. O Women, hearken.

Since you are Lady of the world
and Mistress of creation all, * and full of
illumination * and wisdom supremely

splendid, * as Mother of Almighty God,
* I pray you fill me with His light * and
knowledge and with grace divine * when I
complete this translation * for you, O pure
Theotokos. [SD]

Lauds. Mode 4.

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, reproving
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.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4. To a brave one.

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

O immaculate Virgin and Theotokos, the
Church of God * dons your holy garment as
though a shiny crown. * She is exultant and
beams with joy * today and she mystically *
dances as she cries aloud * unto you, O All-
holy one, "Rejoice, holy crown * and divine
royal diadem, O Lady; now rejoice, my only
glory, * eternal joy of my complement." [SD]

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

O immaculate Virgin and Theotokos, the
Church of God * dons your holy garment as
though a shiny crown. * She is exultant and
beams with joy * today and she mystically *
dances as she cries aloud * unto you, O All-
holy one, "Rejoice, holy crown * and divine
royal diadem, O Lady; now rejoice, my only
glory, * eternal joy of my complement." [SD]

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

An unbreachable battlement and a
buttress unshakable, * O all-holy Lady, and
sure deliverance * have you become for your
faithful flock * and City, O Bride of God. * You
have given them your own * precious garment
adorning them like a splendid gown. * All-
immaculate Virgin, as we honor it with faith
and pious fervor, * we are preserved from
calamity. [SD]

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

O pure Virgin, your holy shrine has
been clearly shown forth to be * like an
inexhaustible well of miracles. * Today
the rivers of grace divine * pour out most
abundantly * from your splendid Holy Case, *
and they fill the believers' minds with a godly
joy. * We the faithful with loyalty and longing
cry aloud to you, O Lady; * You are our joy,
life, and happiness. [SD]

Glory. Both now.

From Menaion ---

Mode 2.

All-immaculate Theotokos, the Church of God dons your holy Belt as though a most splendid crown. Today she is exultant and beams with joy, as she dances mystically, crying out to you, O Lady. "Rejoice, O precious diadem and crown of divine glory. Rejoice, the only glory and eternal joy of my complement. Rejoice, O haven and protection and salvation for us who run to you." [SD]

Great Doxology

Glory be to You who showed the light. Glory in the highest to God. His peace is on earth, His good pleasure in mankind. [SD]

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory.

Lord King, heavenly God, Father, Ruler over all; Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and You, O Holy Spirit.

Lord God, Lamb of God, 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 hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.

For You alone are holy, You alone are Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day I will bless You, and Your name will I praise to eternity, and to the ages of ages.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, this day, that we be kept without sin.

Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name to the ages. Amen.

Let Your mercy be on us, O Lord, as we have set our hope on You.

Blessed are You, O Lord. Teach me Your statutes.

Blessed are You, O Lord. Teach me Your statutes.

Blessed are You, O Lord. Teach me Your statutes.

Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, have mercy on me. Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.

Lord, I have fled to You. 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.

Continue Your mercy to those who know You.

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.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Apolytikion.

From Menaion - - -

Mode pl. 4.

Ever-virgin Theotokos, the shelter of mankind, you have given to your City as a protective wall the clothing and garment that you wore on your immaculate body. By your seedless childbirth, they have remained incorrupt. For in you both nature and time are made novel. Therefore we implore you, grant peace to your commonwealth, and great mercy to our souls. [SD]