

Reader's Service

The Coptic rite lacks a Reader's Service (where the Church gathers in the absence of a presbyter to study the readings of the day). However, with the long isolation in Egypt ended, some priests are carrying for mission parishes that do not yet have their own presbyter. In some cases, it is fitting for them to gather on the weeks when no presbyter is available to study the readings. This is an attempt to provide such a service. It is not based on the Liturgy of the Word, but on the Prime and Terce. It can be seen at times, especially during Holy Week, that the hours are versatile enough to contain a full set of readings. The layout here assumes a non-fasting day, when the Liturgy would be served at the 3rd hour, after praying Prime (The Raising of Morning Incense). It should be straight forward to adjust based on this pattern for Liturgies later in the day (integrate the readings into a later hour), or even meeting in the evening (pray Vespers as Prime is prayed here, inserting the Gospel for the Raising of Evening Incense, then integrate the day's readings into Compline).

Prior to this service, the congregation could recite The Rising of the Sun: Matins (or Lauds), page 47, or Vespers Praise, page 5, as appropriate.

Prime with the Gospel of the Raising of Morning Incense

The worshipper prays the introductory prayers,

In the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, One God. Amen.

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord bless. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Make us worthy to say thankfully,

Recite The Lord's Prayer, page 10.

Recite The Prayer of Thanksgiving, page 10.

In the morning, recite

The Doxology of Prime, page 55, stopping before “O true light”.

If desired, recite The Verses of the Cymbals, page 674.

Recite Psalm 50: “Have mercy on me, O God, in Your great mercy”, page 159.

Then is said (with prostrations),

O come, let us worship! O come, let us ask Christ our God!

O come, let us worship! O come, let us ask Christ our King!

O come, let us worship! O come, let us ask Christ our Saviour!

O our Lord Jesus Christ, the Logos of God, our God, through the intercessions of Saint Mary and of Your saints, guard us, let us give glory with a good glorification. Have mercy upon us according to Your will forever. The night has gone by; we give thanks unto You, O Lord, and we pray You to guard us this day without sin and deliver us.

Ephesians 4:1 5

People:

✙ We worship You, O Christ,

With Your Good Father,

And the Holy Spirit,

For You have {come} and saved us.

ΠΕΝΟΥΩΤ ὁμοκ ὠ Πιχριστος:

ΝΕΜ ΠΕΚΙΩΤ ΝΑΓΑΘΟΣ:

ΝΕΜ ΠΙΠΝΕΥΜΑ ΕΘΟΥΑΒ:

ΧΕ (____) ΔΚΩ† ὁμον ΝΑΙ ΝΑΝ.

Reader:

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Ephesians. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

I who am the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk worthily of the calling with which you have been called, with all lowliness of heart, and meekness, and long suffering, bearing with one another in love; hastening to keep the unity of the Spirit in the perfect bond of peace. There is one Body, and one Spirit, even as you have been called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

People:

One is God the Father of everyone. One is His Son, Jesus Christ the Logos, Who was incarnate, died and rose again from the dead on the third day, and has raised us up with Him. One is the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, the One and the same in His hypostasis; Who proceeds from the Father. He sanctifies the whole creation; He teaches us to worship the Holy Trinity in One Godhead and One nature. We praise Him; we bless Him forever. Amen.

Then say,

Reader:

The hymn of the blessed morning, we offer to Christ, our King and our God. We will hope in Him that He may forgive me our sins.

Read The Psalms of Early Morning (Prime), page 50, and The Gospel from Saint John 1:1 17, page 50.

The Prayer for the Sick

On days other than Saturday, the Prayer for the Sick is said,

Reader:

Stand up for prayer.

Pray for our fathers and our brethren who are sick with any sickness, whether in this place or in any place, that Christ our God may grant us, with them, health and healing, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Recite the Troparia of Prime, page 50, or continue “O true light” from

The Doxology of Prime, page 55.

The Prayer for the Travelers

On days other than Saturday, the Prayer for the Travelers is said. The prayer for the Oblations is not said on Sundays or Fesat days, as would be the case in the Eucharistic Liturgy, since the Oblation is not offered at a Reader's service,

Reader:

Stand up for prayer.

Pray for our fathers and our brethren who are travelling, or those who intend to travel anywhere. Straighten all their ways, whether by sea, rivers, lakes, roads, or those who are travelling by any other means, that Christ our God may bring them back to their own homes in peace, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

The Prayer for the Departed

On Saturdays, the Prayer for the Departed is said,

Reader:

Stand up for prayer.

Pray for our fathers and brethren who have fallen asleep and reposed in the Faith of Christ since the beginning: our holy fathers the archbishops and our fathers the bishops; our fathers the hegumens and our fathers the priests, and our brethren the deacons; our fathers the monks; and our fathers the laymen; and for the full repose of the Christians, that Christ our God may repose all their souls in the Paradise of Joy; and we too, accord mercy unto us, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Recite The Gloria and The Trisagion, page 685. Continue through The Doxologies and The Orthodox Creed.

Then say: Lord hear us, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 50 (or 41¹¹⁰¹), on feast days the people process around the Church.

The Prophecies

The prophecies of the day, if any, are read.

¹¹⁰¹ Originally "Lord have mercy" was recited 50 times. Under the influence of Roman Catholic missionaries, this came to be 41 times for the 39 lashes, crown of thorns, and sword pierced side. Cf. Burmester, O.H.E. "The Horologion of the Egyptian Church : Coptic and Arabic text from a mediaeval manuscript". Edizioni del Centro Franciscano di Studi Orientali Cristiani. Cairo: 1973

The Gospel of Prime

Reader:

Stand up for prayer.
Pray for the Holy Gospel.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

A Psalm of David.

The psalm is chanted, concluded by "Alleluia," or the seasonal Psalm response.

Reader:

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to _____. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

The Gospel of Prime is chanted.

Reader:

Glory is due to our God to the age of ages. Amen.

People:

Glory to You, O Lord.

The Five Short Prayers

Reader:

Pray for the peace of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic, Orthodox Church of God.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray for our high priest, Papa Abba ____—Pope and patriarch, and archbishop of the great city of Alexandria; and for our Orthodox bishops.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray for the safety of the world, and of this city of ours, and of all cities, districts, islands and monasteries.

People:

Lord have mercy.

From the 12th of Paoni (19th of June) to the 9th of Paopi (19th/20th of October), the following prayer is said:

Reader:

Pray for the rising of the waters of the rivers this year, that Christ our God may bless them and raise them according to their measure; that He may give joy to the face of the earth, sustain us, the sons of men, save the beasts, and forgive us our sins.

People:

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

From the 10th of Paopi (20th/21st of October) to the 10th of Tobi (18th/19th of January), the following prayer is said instead:

Reader:

Pray for the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year, that Christ our God may bless them to grow and multiply unto perfection with great fruit, have compassion on His creation which His hands have made, and forgive us our sins.

People:

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

From the 11th of Tobi (19th/20th of January) to the 11th of Paoni (18th of June), the following prayer is said instead:

Reader:

Pray for the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the trees, the vines, and for every fruit bearing tree in all the world, that Christ our God may bless them, bring them to perfection in peace without harm, and forgive us our sins.

People:

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

Reader:

Pray for this holy church and for our congregations.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of Your glory and Your honour. Have mercy on us, O God, the Father, the Pantocrator. All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, God of the powers be with us, for we have no helper in our afflictions and our troubles,

save You. Loose, remit and forgive us, O God, our iniquities, which we have committed willingly, and which we have committed unwillingly; which we have committed knowingly, and which we have committed unknowingly. The hidden and the manifest, O Lord, remit unto us, for the sake of Your Holy Name which is called upon us.

According to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.

Our Father Who art in Heaven...

Then shall this absolution be said,

O Lord, God of hosts, Who art before the ages and Who abides forever; Who created the sun for a light of the day, and the night for a rest of all flesh; we give thanks to You, O King of the ages, for You have made us to pass this night in peace, and have brought us to the beginning of the day. Therefore, we ask You, O our Master, King of the ages: may the light of Your truth shine upon us, and enlighten us with the light of Your divine knowledge. Make us children of light, children of the day, that we may pass this day in purity, righteousness and good disposition, that we may complete the rest of our life without stumbling.

By the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Your Only Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the adoration are due unto You, with Him, and the Holy Spirit, the Life Giver, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

Another absolution:

O You Who sends the light and it goes; Whose sun rises upon the righteous and upon the wicked; Who created the light, which enlightens the world; enlighten our hearts, O Master of all, and graciously grant unto us that we may be pleasing to You, this present day. Watch over us against every evil thing, every sin, and every adverse power; in Christ Jesus our Lord, with Whom You art blessed together with the Holy Spirit, the Life Giver, Who is Co Essential with You now, and forever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

The Prayer of the Hours is now said, especially if not proceeding directly to the Third Hour,

The Prayer of the Hours

Have mercy on us, O God, Who is worshipped and glorified at all times and at every hour, in heaven and on earth. Christ our God, the Good, long suffering, plenteous in mercy and compassion, Who loves the righteous and has mercy upon sinners, (among whom I am chief; Who desires not the death of a sinner, but rather that he return and live.) Who calls everyone to salvation, through the promises of the good things to come; do You, O Lord, receive our supplications at this very hour, and straiten our life to do Your commandments.

Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, rectify our thoughts, cleanse our consciences, and deliver us from all evil affliction and grief. Surround us with Your holy Angels, that we being guarded and guided by their encampment; may attain to the unity of the faith, and the knowledge of Your unapproachable glory. For blessed art You unto the ages of ages. Amen

Mid-Morning (Terce) with the Readings for the Day

Introductory Prayers

If not following Prime, the people begin with the Introductory prayers, and then continue with the Psalms:

The hymn of the third hour of the blessed day, we offer to Christ, our King and our God. We will hope in Him that He may forgive me our sins.

Read The Psalms of the Third Hour, page 67, and continue with The Gospel from Saint John 14:26—15:3, and the Troparia. Then say: Lord hear us, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins, Lord have mercy (Kirié Eleison) 50 (or 41¹¹⁰²), on feast days the people process around the Church.

A Hymn For the Holy Trinity

People:

Glory be to the Father and to the Son		Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati:
and to the Holy Spirit, both now, and		ke nyn ke a ee ke ees toos é onas ton
al-ways, and to the age of ages.		é onon: Amen: Alleluia.
Amen. Alleluia.		

¹¹⁰² Originally "Lord have mercy" was recited 50 times. Under the influence of Roman Catholic missionaries, this came to be 41 times for the 39 lashes, crown of thorns, and sword pierced side. Cf. Burmester, O.H.E. "The Horologion of the Egyptian Church : Coptic and Arabic text from a mediaeval manuscript". Edizioni del Centro Francese di Studi Orientali Cristiani. Cairo: 1973

The Hymn of the Censer

If Incense is being offered the people sing:

People:

This censer of pure gold,
bearing the sweet incense,
in the hands of Aaron the priest,
offering incense upon the altar,
before the mercy seat,
is the holy Virgin Mary;
Who brought forth Jesus Christ;
the Son and Logos.
The Holy Spirit came upon her,
purified her, sanctified her,
and filled her with grace.
Through her intercessions,
O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.

Or the shortened form may be said:

People:

This censer of pure gold, bearing the
armona, is in the hands of Aaron the
priest, offering up incense on the al-
tar.

Tai shoori en noob en katharos: etfai
kha pi aromata: et khen nen jij en Aa-
ron pi owib: ef tali oo-esthoinoofi
epshoi ejen pi ma-en-ershooshi.

If there is not enough time, and especially on the two Feasts of the Cross, the following is said instead of the preceding:

The golden censer is the Virgin; her
aroma is our Saviour. She gave birth
to Him; He saved us and forgave us
our sins.

Ti shoori en noob te ti Parthenos:
pes aromata pe pen Sotir: As misi
Emmof: Af soti emmon: (owoh) Af
ka nen novi nan evol.

On weekdays of Holy Lent and the Fast of the Ninevites, the following is said instead:

You are the censer of pure gold,
bearing the blessed Ember.

Entho te ti shoori: en noob en katha-
ros: etfai kha pi Gebes en krom et-es-
maro-oot.

Whether or not incense is being offered, the people continue:

People:

Through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos, Mary, O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.	Hiten ni presvia enté ti Thé-otokos eth-owab Maria: Ep Chois: ari ehmot nan em pi ko-evol enté nen novi.
Through the intercessions of the Seven Archangels, and the heavenly orders, O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.	Hiten ni presvia enté pi Shashf en Arshi-angelos: nem ni tagma en ep ooranion: Ep Chois: ari ehmot nan em pi ko-evol enté nen novi.
Through the prayers of my lords and fathers, the Apostles, and the rest of the Disciples, O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.	Hiten ni evki enté na chois en yoti en Apostolos: nem ep sepi enté ni Matthis: Ep Chois: ari ehmot nan em pi ko-evol enté nen novi.
Through the prayers of the Divinely Inspired Evangelist Mark the Apostle, O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.	Hiten ni evki enté pi Thé-orimos en Evangelistis: Markos pi Apostolos: Ep Chois: ari ehmot nan em pi ko-evol enté nen novi.
Through the prayers of the struggle-bearer, the martyr, my lord the prince, George, O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.	Hiten ni evki enté pi athloforos em martiros: pa chois ep ooro Gé-origios: Ep Chois: ari ehmot nan em pi ko-evol enté nen novi.
Through the prayers of our saintly and righteous father, Abba ____, O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.	Hiten ni evki enté pen yot eth-owab en diké-os: Abba ____: Ep Chois: ari ehmot nan em pi ko-evol enté nen novi.
Through the prayers of the saints of this day, each one, each one by his name, O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.	Hiten ni evki enté ni eth-owab enté pai ého-oo: pi owai pi owai kata pef rân: Ep Chois: ari ehmot nan em pi ko-evol enté nen novi.
Through their prayers, keep the life of our honoured and righteous father, the {bishop / metropolitan}, Abba _____. O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.	Hiten no evki areh ep onkh em pen yot ettayoot en diké-os: {en episkopos / em mitropolitiss} Abba _____. Ep Chois: ari ehmot nan em pi ko-evol enté nen novi.

Through their prayers, keep the life of our honoured father, the high priest, Papa Abba _____. O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.	Hiten no evki areh ep onkh em pen yot ettayoot: en arshi-erevs Papa Abba _____. Ep Chois: ari ehmot nan em pi ko-evol enté nen novi.
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Then the ending is sung:

We worship You, O Christ, with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, for You have {come} and saved us. (Have mercy on us.)	Ten oo-osht Emmok: O Pi Khristos: nem Pek Yot en Aghathos: nem pi Pnevma Eth-owab: je {Ak ee} ak soti emmon. (Nai nan.)
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The Pauline Epistle

Reader:

A chapter from the {First/Second} Epistle of our teacher Paul to _____. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

The Pauline Epistle is read and is concluded by:

Reader:

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

The Catholic Epistle

Reader:

The Catholic Epistle from the {First/Second/Third} Epistle of our teacher _____. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

The Catholic Epistle is read and is concluded by:

Reader:

Do not love the world, nor the things which are in the world. The world shall pass away and all its desires; but he who does the will of God shall abide forever. Amen.

The people may now sing the Praxis response appropriate to the season, or the following ordinary response:

Rejoice O Mary, the fair dove, who has borne unto us God the Logos.	Shéré ne Maria: ti etchrompi eth- nesos: thi et as misi nan: em Ef Nooti pi Logos.
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Whether or not the preceding is said, the people sing:

Blessed art You in truth, with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, for You have {come} and saved us. (Have mercy on us.)	Ek esmaro oot alithos: nem Pek Yot en Aghathos: nem pi Pnevma Eth owab: je {Ak ee} ak soti emmon. (Nai nan.)
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The Praxis

Reader:

A chapter from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Their blessing be with us all. Amen.

The Acts of the Apostles are read and are concluded by:

Reader:

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

The “Synaxarion” (the chronicle of the saints) is read. A Veneration may then be said (with procession if desired). During the Holy Fifty, the hymns “All you heavenly multitudes” and “Khristos Antesti” are said instead, and then the people sings:

The Hymn of the Trisagion

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Im- mortal, Who was born of the Virgin, have mercy upon us.	Agios O Thé-os: Agios Ees-shiros: Agios Athanatos: O ek Partheno gennethis: eleison imas.
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Im- mortal, Who was crucified for us, have mercy upon us.	Agios O Thé-os: Agios Ees-shiros: Agios Athanatos: O stavrothis di imas: eleison imas.
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Im- mortal, Who rose from the dead and ascended into the heavens, have mercy upon us.	Agios O Thé-os: Agios Ees-shiros: Agios Athanatos: O anastasis ek ton nekron: ke anelthon ees toos oora- noos: eleison imas.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen. O Holy Trinity, have mercy upon us.	Doxa Patri ke Eio: ke Agio Pnevmati: ke nyn ke a-ee: ke ees toos é-onas ton é-onon: Amen: Agia Trias: eleison imas.

The Gospel

Reader:

Stand up for prayer.
Pray for the Holy Gospel.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

A Psalm of David.

The psalm is chanted, concluded by “Alleluia,” or the seasonal Psalm response.

Reader:

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to _____. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

The Gospel is chanted.

Reader:

Glory is due to our God to the age of ages. Amen.

People:

Glory to You, O Lord.

If he has the blessing of the Bishop to do so, the Reader may now give commentary on the Readings.

The people now sings the Gospel response appropriate to the season, or the following ordinary response:

Blessed are they, in truth,/ The saints
of this day—Each one, each one by
his name— The beloved of Christ.

Intercede on our behalf,/ O lady of
us all, the Mother of God—Mary,
the Mother of our Saviour—That He
may forgive us our sins.

O oonia too khen oo methmi: ni eth
owab enté pai ého oo: pi owai pi
owai: kata pef rän: ni menrati enté Pi
Khristos.

Ari presvevin é-ehri egon: O ten
chois en nib tiren ti Thé-otokos: Ma-
ria eth Mav em pen Sotir: Entef ka
nen novi nan evol.

Then the ending is sung:

Blessed be the Father and the Son/ And the Holy Spirit:/ The perfect Trinity./ We worship Him and glo- rify Him.	Je Ef esmaro oot enjé ef Yot nem ep Shiri: nem pi Pnevma Eth owab: ti Trias et jik evol: Ten oo osht Emmos ten ti o oo Nas.
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The Short Prayers

Reader:

Pray for the peace of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic, orthodox Church, for God's salvation among the people, for stability in all places, that He may forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray for our fathers and our brethren who are sick with any sickness, whether in this place or in any place, that Christ our God may grant us, with them, health and healing, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray for our fathers and our brethren who are travelling, and those who intend to travel anywhere. Straighten all their ways, whether by sea, rivers, lakes, roads, or those who are travelling by any other means, that Christ our God may bring them back to their own homes in peace, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

From the 12th of Paoni (19th of June) to the 9th of Paopi (19th/20th of October), the following prayer is said:

Reader:

Pray for the rising of the waters of the rivers this year, that Christ our God may bless them and raise them according to their measure; that He may give joy to the face of the earth, sustain us, the sons of men, save the beasts, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

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

From the 10th of Paopi (20th/21st of October) to the 10th of Tobi (18th/19th of January), the following prayer is said instead:

Reader:

Pray for the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year, that Christ our God may bless them to grow and multiply unto perfection with great fruit, have compassion on His creation which His hands have made, and forgive us our sins.

People:

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

From the 11th of Tobi (19th/20th of January) to the 11th of Paoni (18th of June), the following prayer is said instead:

Reader:

Pray for the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the trees, the vines, and for every fruit bearing tree in all the world, that Christ our God may bless them, bring them to perfection in peace without harm, and forgive us our sins.

People:

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

Reader:

Pray that Christ our God may give us mercy and compassion before the mighty sovereigns, and soften their hearts towards us for that which is good at all times, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Let those who read recite the names of our holy fathers, the patriarchs, who have fallen asleep. O Lord, repose their souls, and forgive us our sins.

People:

The great Abba Antony, and the righteous Abba Paul; and the three saints Abba Macarii; Abba John the Short; Abba Pishoy, Abba Paul; our holy Roman fathers, Maximus and Dometius; Abba Moses, Abba John Kami, Abba Daniel; Abba Isidore, Abba Pachom, Abba Shenoute; and Abba Paphnoute, Abba Parsoma, Abba Teji; and all who have rightly taught the word of truth: the Orthodox bishops, priests, deacons, clergy, laity; and all the Orthodox [people]. (Amen.)

Pi nishti Abba Antoni: nem pi ethmi Abba Pavlé: nem pi shomt eth owab Makarios: Abba Yo annis pi Kolobos: Abba Pishoi: Abba Pavlé: nen yoti eth owab en Romé os Maximos nem Dometios: Abba Mosi: Abba Yo annis Kami: Abba Dani il: Abba Isidoros: Abba Pakhom: Abba Shenooti: ke Abba Paphnooti: Abba Parsoma: Abba Teji: ke panton ton orthos didaxanton ton logon tis alithias: Orthodoxon episkopon epresviteron diakonon eklirikon ke laikon: ke tooton ke panton Orthodoxon. (Amen.)

Reader:

Pray for our fathers and brethren who have fallen asleep and reposed in the Faith of Christ since the beginning: our holy fathers the archbishops and our fathers the bishops; our fathers the hegoumens and our fathers the priests, and our brethren the deacons; our fathers the monks; and our fathers the laymen; and for the full repose of the Christians, that Christ our God may repose all their souls in the Paradise of Joy; and we too, accord mercy unto us, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Glory to You, O Lord. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord, bless us. Lord, repose them. Amen.

Doxa Si Kyrié: Kyrie eleison: Kyrié eleison: Kyrié evlogison: Kyrié anapavson: Amen.

Reader:

Pray for those who have care for the sacrifices, oblations, first fruits, oil, incense, coverings, reading books and altar vessels, that Christ our God reward them in the heavenly Jerusalem, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray for the life and the standing of our honoured father the high priest Papa Abba _____, and for his partner in this service, Abba _____ the bishop, that Christ our God may keep his life unto us, for many years and peaceful times, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray for our fathers the orthodox bishops in every place of the whole world, and the hegoumens, the priests, the deacons, and all the orders of the Church. That Christ our God may keep them from every evil, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray for the rest of the Orthodox in every place of the whole world, that Christ our God confirm them in the orthodox faith, keep them from every evil all the days of their lives, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy (*in the long tune*).

Reader:

Pray for the safety of this holy place and every place, and every monastery of our orthodox fathers; the deserts and the elders who dwell therein. And for the safety of the world altogether, that Christ our God keep them from every evil, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray for those who are standing in this place, and who are participating with us in prayer, that Christ our God keep them and guard them. Receive their prayers unto Him, and have mercy upon them, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray for those who have bidden us to remember them, in our supplications and prayers, each one according to his name, that Christ our God may remember them in goodness at all times, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray for the holy priesthood, and all the orthodox holy orders, that Christ our God may harken unto them, guard them, strengthen them, and have mercy upon them, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Reader:

Pray that Christ our God may have mercy upon us all.

People:

Have mercy upon us, O God, the Father, the Pantocrator.

{Have mercy upon us, O God, the Father, the Pantocrator.

Have mercy upon us, O God, the Father, the Pantocrator.}

Reader:

Pray for this, our congregation, and for every congregation of the Orthodox (people), that Christ our God may bless them and conclude them in peace, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of Your glory and Your honour. Have mercy on us, O God, the Father, the Pantocrator. All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, God of the powers be with us, for we have no helper in our afflictions and our troubles, save You.

Loose, remit and forgive us, O God, our iniquities, which we have committed willingly, and which we have committed unwillingly; which we have committed knowingly, and which we have committed unknowingly. The hidden and the manifest, O Lord, remit unto us, for the sake of Your Holy Name which is called upon us.

According to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.

Our Father Who art in Heaven...

Then shall this absolution be said,

O God of all compassion and Lord of all comfort, Who has comforted us at all times with the comfort of Your Holy Spirit, we give thanks to You that You have made us to stand for prayer at this holy hour in which You did pour forth the grace of Your Holy Spirit in abundance, upon Your own holy disciples and honourable and blessed Apostles, in the likeness of tongues of fire.

We ask and entreat You, O Lover of mankind: receive our prayers, and send down upon us the grace of Your Holy Spirit. Cleanse us from all stain of body and spirit, and translate us into a spiritual state, that we may walk in the Spirit and not fulfill the desire of the flesh. And make us worthy to serve You in purity and righteousness all the days of our life. For to You are due

the glory, the honour and the might, with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

The Prayer of the Hours

Have mercy on us, O God, Who is worshipped and glorified at all times and at every hour, in heaven and on earth. Christ our God, the Good, long suffering, plenteous in mercy and compassion, Who loves the righteous and has mercy upon sinners, (among whom I am chief; Who desires not the death of a sinner, but rather that he return and live.) Who calls everyone to salvation, through the promises of the good things to come; do You, O Lord, receive our supplications at this very hour, and straiten our life to do Your commandments.

Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, rectify our thoughts, cleanse our consciences, and deliver us from all evil affliction and grief. Surround us with Your holy Angels, that we being guarded and guided by their encampment; may attain to the unity of the faith, and the knowledge of Your unapproachable glory. For blessed art You unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father...

The people may continue with the Sixth hour, as usual, before departing.