

# THE PARAKLESIS SERVICE WITH THE LITTLE SUPPLICATORY CANON TO THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.  
O heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present, and fillest all things, the Treasury of good things, and Giver of life: Come, and abide in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O good One.

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*thrice*)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

All-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto 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 ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.  
Lord, have mercy. (*twelve times*)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

### **PSALM 142**

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

### **“GOD IS THE LORD” IN TONE FOUR**

Choir: God is the Lord and hath appeared unto us. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

*Verse 1.* O give thanks unto the Lord and call upon His Holy Name. *(Refrain)*

*Verse 2.* All nations compassed me about: but in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them. *(Refrain)*

*Verse 3.* This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. *(Refrain)*

### **APOLYTIKIA AND THEOTOKION**

*(Tone Four)* To the Theotokos let us run now most earnestly, we sinners all and wretched ones, and fall prostrate in repentance, calling from the depths of our souls: Lady, come unto our aid, have compassion upon us; hasten thou for we are lost in a throng of transgressions; turn not thy servants away with empty hands, for thee alone do we have as our only hope.

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

*(Chant the apolytikion of the church temple.)*

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*(Tone Four)* O Theotokos, we shall not cease from speaking of all thy mighty acts, all we the unworthy ones; for if thou hadst not stood to intercede for us, who would have delivered us from such numerous dangers? Who would have preserved us all until now in true freedom? O Lady, we shall not turn away from thee; for thou dost always save thy servants from all manner of grief.

### **PSALM 50**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt

make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built up. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

### ***THE LITTLE SUPPLICATORY CANON IN TONE EIGHT***

#### Ode One

*Most Holy Theotokos, save us!*

By many temptations am I distressed; \* in search of salvation \* unto thee have I taken flight. \* O Mother of the Word and Ever-virgin, \* from all ordeals and afflictions deliver me.

*Most Holy Theotokos, save us!*

Attacks of the passions disquiet me; \* my soul to repletion \* has been filled with despondency. \* Bestill them, O Maiden, with the calmness \* of thine own Son and thy God, O All-blameless One.

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

To Christ God, the Savior, thou gavest birth. \* I beg thee, O Virgin, \* from afflictions deliver me. \* For now unto thee I flee for refuge, \* bringing to thee both my soul and my reasoning.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Diseased is my body and my soul. \* Do thou make me worthy \* of divine guidance and thy care, \* O thou who alone art God's Mother, \* for thou art good, and the Birth-giver of the Good.

#### Ode Three

*Most holy Theotokos, save us!*

I have thee as the shelter and the defense of my life. \* Thee, the Theotokos and Virgin; pilot and govern me \* into thy sheltered port, \* for thou art author of good things \* and staff of the faithful, O thou only lauded one.

*Most holy Theotokos, save us!*

I beseech thee, O Virgin, do thou dispel far from me \* all of the distress of despair and turbulence in my soul; \* for thou, O Bride of God, \* hast given birth to the Lord Christ, \* Who is Prince of Peace, O thou only all-blameless one.

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

Since thou gavest birth unto our Benefactor, the cause of good, \* from the wealth of thy loving kindness, do thou pour forth on all; \* for thou canst do all things, \* since thou didst bear Christ, the One Who \* is mighty in power; for blessed of God art thou.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

With most grievous diseases and with corrupt passions, too, \* I am put to trial, O Virgin; come thou unto mine aid; \* for I know thee to be \* an inexhaustible treasure \* of unfailing healing, O only all-blameless one.

### ***TROPARIA AFTER THE THIRD ODE IN TONE EIGHT***

Preserve and save, O Theotokos, thy servants from every danger. After God, do all of us for refuge flee unto thee; a firm rampart art thou and our protection.

In thy goodwill, look thou on me, O all-hymned Theotokos, and do thou behold my body's grievous infirmity, and heal thou the cause of my soul's sorrow.

### ***LITANY***

*Censing the Icon of the Theotokos, the Priest says:*

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for our Father and Metropolitan *N.*, (and for our Bishop *N.*) and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and remission of sins for the servants of God, all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community, the parishioners and benefactors of this holy temple, and all that serve, sing, labor and gather herein; and for the forgiveness of their every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for all who are afflicted by the war in the Holy Land, Lebanon and the Middle East, the wounded, and the families of the departed ones, that the physician of our souls and bodies may heal their wounds; and we also pray for the doctors, nurses and all those caring for the afflicted by offering shelter or help, that the Lord God may protect them from despondency and discouragement; and for every involved leader that, in compassion, humility and wisdom, may resolve this conflict and immediately restore peace.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, our God, who art the Source of life and peace in heaven and on earth, pour out the grace of thy peace on a world troubled by war and hatred. Extinguish the differences and enmity between humans and pour into the hearts of all humility, peace, and goodness. Calm the warriors and give them wisdom. Give help to the suffering, protection to the refugees and homeless, comfort to the alienated and sorrowful, and give us all the will and strength to help, with all our hearts, our brothers and sisters who suffer from war.

You said: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Teach us to seek to acquire peace of heart and peace among humans and peoples, for, in the heart in which peace is found, there is no longer enmity, love of dominion or fear, but the consolation of the Holy Spirit, love of God and love of our neighbors.

For this we humbly pray to You, O Christ our God, for peace among human beings in every country, especially in the Holy Land, Lebanon and the Middle East, for peace among peoples, and for the welfare of the whole world, that we may live in harmony and may work without hindrance deeds pleasing to thee, glorifying the philanthropic love of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God Who lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

### ***KATHISMA IN TONE TWO***

O fervent advocate, invincible battlement, fountain of mercy, and sheltering retreat for the world, earnestly we cry to thee: Lady Mother of God, hasten thou, and save us from all imperilment, for thou alone art our speedy protectress.

### ***THE LITTLE SUPPLICATORY CANON (CONTINUED) IN TONE EIGHT***

#### Ode Four

*Most Holy Theotokos, save us!*

Lull the tempest of all my sins, \* and bestill the raging of passions with thy calm; \* for progenitress art thou of Him \* Who is Lord and Helmsman, O thou Bride of God.

*Most Holy Theotokos, save us!*

O bestow out of the abyss \* of thy great compassion on me thy supplicant; \* for thou brought forth One compassionate \* Who is Savior of all who sing hymns to thee.

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

While delighting, O spotless one, \* in thy many favors, a hymn of thankfulness \* do we all raise up in song to thee, \* knowing thee to be the Mother of our God.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Having thee as our staff and hope, \* and as our salvation's unshaken battlement, \* from all manner of adversity \* are we then redeemed, O thou all-lauded one.

#### Ode Five

*Most Holy Theotokos, save us!*

Pure one, fill my heart \* with rejoicing unto plenitude, \* and grant thine undefiled felicity, \* since thou didst give birth unto Him Who is the cause of joy.

*Most Holy Theotokos, save us!*

Come, deliver us \* out of dangers, O pure Mother of God, \* since thou art Mother of deliverance, \* and of the peace which doth surpass all human reasoning.

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

Dissipate the gloom \* of my trespasses, O Bride of God, \* with the clear brightness of thy radiance, \* for thou didst bear the Light divine which was before all time.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Heal me, O pure one, \* of the sickness which the passions bring, \* and make me worthy of thy guardianship, \* and by thy prayers and intercessions grant thou health to me.

### Ode Six

*Most Holy Theotokos, save us!*

My nature, held by corruption and by death, \* hath He saved from out of death and corruption, \* for unto death He, Himself, hath submitted. \* Wherefore, O Virgin, do thou intercede with Him \* Who is in truth thy Lord and Son \* to redeem me from enemies' wickedness.

*Most Holy Theotokos, save us!*

I know thee as the protection of my life \* and most safe fortification, O Virgin. \* Disperse the horde of my many temptations \* and put to silence demonic audacity. \* Unceasingly I pray to thee: \* From corruption of passions deliver me.

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

A bulwark of safe retreat art thou to us, \* and of souls art thou the perfect salvation, \* and a relief in distresses, O Maiden; \* and in thy light do we ever exult with joy. \* O Lady, do thou also now \* from all passions and perils deliver us.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Bedridden, I lie supine with sickness now, \* and no healing for my flesh is existent \* except for thee, who didst bear the world's Savior, \* our God, the Healer of every infirmity. \* I pray to thee, for thou art good: \* From corruption of illnesses raise me up.

### **TROPARIA AFTER THE SIXTH ODE IN TONE EIGHT**

Preserve and save, O Theotokos, thy servants from every danger. After God, do all of us for refuge flee unto thee; a firm rampart art thou and our protection.

O spotless one, who inexpressibly in the last days didst by a word bring forth the Word; do thou make request of Him, as one who hath motherly boldness.

### **LITANY**

*Censing the Icon of the Theotokos, the Priest says:*

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

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People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and remission of sins for the servants of God, all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community, the parishioners and benefactors of this holy temple, and all that serve, sing, labor and gather herein; and for the forgiveness of their every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for all who are afflicted by the war in the Holy Land, Lebanon and the Middle East, the wounded, and the families of the departed ones, that the physician of our souls and bodies may heal their wounds; and we also pray for the doctors, nurses and all those caring for the afflicted by offering shelter or help, that the Lord God may protect them from despondency and discouragement; and for every involved leader that, in compassion, humility and wisdom, may resolve this conflict and immediately restore peace.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for the uprooting of hatred, enmity, and the desire for domination from the hearts of those who oppress the innocent, to bring among them unfeigned love, understanding, and peaceful co-existence, and put an end to war, disturbance, and human suffering.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray that He may deliver the oppressed from distress by the onslaught of armies, and turn the oppressors from evil and lead them to peace and love, that no one may perish, and that peace may reign on earth, unto the joy of His Church and people.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God Who lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

*The priest enters the sanctuary through the south door and dons his phelonion.*

### ***KONTAKION IN TONE TWO***

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

### ***ANABATHMOI IN TONE FOUR***

From my youth up, many passions have warred against me. But do Thou help and save me, O my Savior. (*twice*)

Ye who hate Zion shall be put to confusion of the Lord; like grass in the fire shall ye be withered up. (*twice*)

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

Through the Holy Spirit is every soul quickened and exalted in purity, and made resplendent by the Triune Unity in mystic holiness.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Through the Holy Spirit the channels and streams of grace overflow showering all creation with invigorating Life.

*The priest opens the curtain and the Beautiful Gate.*

### **PROKEIMENON IN TONE FOUR**

I shall proclaim Thy Name from generation to generation. *(twice)*

*Stichos: Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear; and forget thine own people, and thy father's house and the King shall greatly desire thy beauty.*

I shall proclaim Thy Name from generation to generation.

### **GOSPEL READING**

Priest: And that we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. *(thrice)*

Priest: Wisdom! Stand upright! Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be to all.

People: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke (1:39-49, 56).

People: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest: Let us attend!

In those days, Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zachariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of thy greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; for He Who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His Name." And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her home.

People: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

### **TROPARIA IN TONE TWO**

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

O Father, Word and Spirit, Trinity in unity: blot out the multitude of our transgressions.



*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Who art merciful, blot out the multitude of our transgressions.

***TROPARION IN TONE SIX (\*\*Having laid up all their hope\*\*)***

*Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.*

O entrust me not, I pray, \* to any human protection, \* O our Lady, holy one, \* but do thou accept the prayer \* of thy supplicant. \* Sorrow hath fettered me, \* and I am unable \* to endure and bear the demons' darts; \* a shelter have I not, \* neither place to run, I, the wretched one; \* embattled from all sides am I, \* and no consolation have I but thee. \* Mistress of creation, \* protection and hope of faithful ones: \* turn not away when I pray to thee; \* do that which will profit me.

***THEOTOKIA IN TONE TWO***

From thee is no one turned away ashamed and empty who doth run to thee for refuge, O pure Virgin Theotokos; but he asketh the favor and receiveth the gift from thee, unto the profit of his own request.

The transformation of the afflicted and the relief of those in sickness art thou in truth, O Virgin Theotokos; save thy people and thy flock, thou who art the peace of the embattled, and who art the calm of the storm-driven, the only protectress of those who believe.

***THE INTERCESSION***

Priest: O God, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Visit Thy world with mercy and compassions. Exalt the horn of Orthodox Christians, and send down upon us Thy rich mercies. Through the intercessions of our all-immaculate Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable bodiless Powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, all-laudable apostles Peter and Paul, and of all the holy apostles; of our fathers among the saints, great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; Athanasius, Cyril and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria; Nicholas of Myra, Spyridon of Trimythous and Nektarios of Pentapolis, the Wonderworkers; of our fathers among the saints Tikhon, patriarch of Moscow and Raphael, bishop of Brooklyn; of the holy, glorious, great-martyrs, George the Trophy-bearer, Demetrios the Myrrh-streamer, Theodore the Soldier, Theodore the General, and Menas the Wonderworker; of the hieromartyrs Ignatius the God-bearer of Antioch, Charalampos and Eleutherios; of the holy, glorious great women martyrs, Thekla, Barbara, Anastasia, Katherine, Kyriaki, Photeini, Marina, Paraskeva and Irene; of the holy, glorious, right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers who shone in the ascetic life, especially Paisios of Athos; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints: we beseech Thee, O most merciful Lord, hearken unto the petitions of us sinners who make our supplications unto Thee, and have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy. *(twelve times)*

*The priest, still with phelonion, comes out the north door and resumes his place in front of the icon.*

Priest: Through the mercies and compassions and love for mankind of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine All-Holy, and good, and Life-giving Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

## ***THE LITTLE SUPPLICATORY CANON (CONTINUED) IN TONE EIGHT***

### Ode Seven

*Most holy Theotokos, save us!*

Having willed thus, O Savior, \* to dispense our salvation in Thine economy, \* Thou dweltest in the Maid's womb, \* and unto all creation \* as protectress didst show her forth. \* O God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

*Most holy Theotokos, save us!*

Make request, O pure Mother, \* to thy Son Who hath willed to grant mercy unto us, \* to rescue from transgressions \* and from the soul's defilement \* those who cry out most faithfully: \* O God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

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

A fount of incorruption \* and a tower of safety is she who gave Thee birth. \* A treasure of salvation \* and portal of repentance \* hast Thou proved her to them that shout: \* O God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Deign to grant restoration \* from diseases of body and soul to those who run \* to thy divine protection \* with faith, O Theotokos, \* and thus grant them recovery; \* for Mother of Christ our Savior art thou.

### Ode Eight

*Most holy Theotokos, save us!*

Do not disdain those \* who seek the aid that thou dost grant, \* for, O Virgin Maiden, they do hymn thee, \* and they all exalt thee unto ages forever.

*Most holy Theotokos, save us!*

On all who hymn thee \* with faith, O Virgin, and exalt \* thy truly ineffable Offspring, \* thou poured forth a great abundance of thy cures and healings.

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

All the diseases \* that plague my soul dost thou make well, \* and the suff'rings of the flesh thou healest also; \* wherefore, O thou Maiden full of grace, I glorify thee.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

All the assaultings \* of the temptations dost thou quell, \* and the onslaughts of the passions dost thou banish; \* wherefore do we hymn thee to all ages, O Virgin.

### Ode Nine

(Heirmos) Most rightly we confess thee \* as our God's birthgiver, \* we who through thee have been saved, O thou Virgin most pure. \* With choirs of bodiless angels, \* thee do we magnify.

*Most holy Theotokos, save us!*

The torrent of my weeping \* spurn not with refusal, \* for thou didst give birth to Him Who doth take away all tears \* from every face, O thou Virgin, \* for He is Christ indeed.

*Most holy Theotokos, save us!*

Do thou, O Virgin Maiden, \* fill my heart with gladness, \* for thou art she who received all the fullness of joy \* and made to vanish away all \* sorrow of sinfulness.

*Most holy Theotokos, save us!*

A haven and protection, \* and a wall unshaken, \* and a rejoicing and shelter and place of retreat \* do thou become, O thou Virgin, \* for those who flee to thee.

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

Illumine with the radiance \* of thy light, O Virgin, \* all those who piously call thee the Mother of God; \* and do thou banish away all \* darkness of ignorance.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Brought low am I, O Virgin, \* in a place of sickness \* and in a dwelling of anguish. Grant healing to me, \* transforming all of my illness \* into full healthfulness.

*The priest censes the icon of the Theotokos at the center of the church as the people chant:*

### ***THEOTOKION IN TONE EIGHT***

It is truly meet to bless thee, O Theotokos, who art ever blessed and all-blameless, and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption bearest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

*The priest does the great censuring of the church as the people chant:*

### ***THE MEGALYNARIA IN TONE EIGHT***

Higher than the heavens above art thou, \* and thou art much purer \* than the radiance of the sun; \* for thou hast redeemed us \* out of the curse that held us. \* O Mistress of creation, \* with hymns we honor thee.

From the great abundance of all my sins, \* ill am I in body, \* ailing also am I in soul. \* Thee have I as refuge. \* Do thou therefore help me, \* O hope of all the hopeless, \* for thou art full of grace.

O Lady and Mother of Christ our God, \* receive supplication \* from us wretches, who beg of thee \* that thou make entreaty \* unto the One born from thee. \* O Mistress of creation, \* do thou intercede for us.

Now we chant with eagerness unto thee \* with this ode most joyful, \* O all-hymned Mother of our God. \* Together with the Baptist \* and all the saintly choirs, \* beseech, O Theotokos, \* that we find clemency.

Speechless be the lips of the impious \* who refuse to rev'rence \* thy revered Icon which is known \* by the name Directress \* and which hath been depicted \* for us by the Apostle \* Luke, the Evangelist.

*Here, chant the megalynarion of the church temple as provided in the [Paraklesis supplement](#). If you do not find it there, contact the [Department of Liturgics](#).*

O all ye arrays of angelic hosts, \* with the Holy Baptist, \* the Apostles' twelve-numbered band, \* all the Saints together, \* as well as God's birthgiver, \* pray make ye intercession \* for our deliverance.

### ***THE TRISAGION PRAYERS***

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*thrice*)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

All-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto 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 ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

*On the nights of August 2-3, if they are not Fridays, and on weeknights outside the Dormition Fast, sing the following:*

TROPARIA OF CONTRITION IN TONE SIX (Soft Chromatic)

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us; for laying aside all defense we sinners offer unto Thee, as Master, this supplication: have mercy on us.

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

O Lord, have mercy on us, for in Thee have we put our trust; be not exceedingly wroth with us, nor remember our iniquities, but look down upon us even now, as Thou art compassionate, and deliver us from our enemies; for Thou art our God, and we are Thy people; we are all the work of Thy hands, and we call upon Thy Name.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Open unto us the door of thy compassion, O blessed Theotokos. As we set our hope in thee, may we not be confounded; through thee may we be delivered from all adversities, for thou art the salvation of the race of Christians.

***FINAL LITANY***

*Censing the Icon of the Theotokos, the Priest says:*

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for our Father and Metropolitan *N.*, (and for our Bishop *N.*) and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and remission of sins for the servants of God the parishioners, members of the parish council and organizations, donors and benefactors of this holy temple.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Again we pray that He may keep our holy churches and this city and every city and countryside from wrath, famine, plague, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, foreign invasion, civil war and sudden death; that our good God, Who lovest mankind, will be gracious, favorable and conciliatory and turn away and dispel all the wrath stirred up against us and all sickness, and may deliver us from His righteous chastisement which impendeth on us, and have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Weeping with tears, mourning, and deep sorrow has come upon us, O Lord, because of the suffering brought by war to our fellow people. Therefore, to Thee, our God, with humble hearts we cry: Stop, as a merciful One, this suffering, and let the fear that has seized us be unto our repentance, and deliver us all from all injustice, oppression, and persecution, that we may live in peace according to Thy will. We pray to Thee, O Thou who art swift to help and firm in defense, hearken and have mercy on us.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Look from the height of Thy holy habitation, O Lord our God, and, as a good and Friend of man, see the danger of death that threatens Thy people, especially in the Holy Land, Lebanon, and the Middle East, and come quickly and bring them out of all oppression and humiliation. Stop the war that destroys lives and homes, give repentance to the oppressors, comfort the afflicted, guide the wandering, and plant peace and blessing in the hearts of Thy servants. We pray to Thee, hearken and have mercy on us.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*forty times*)

Priest: Again we pray that the Lord our God may hearken unto the voice of the supplication of us sinners, and have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Priest: Hear us, O God our Savior, the Hope of all the ends of the earth and of those who are far off upon the sea; and be gracious, *be gracious*, O Master, upon our sins, and have mercy upon us.  
For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: O Lord our God, Who art Thyself, the Hope of the hopeless, the Help of the helpless, the Savior of the storm-tossed and the Physician of the sick.  
For those who lost loved ones, grant the comfort you imparted to Mary and Martha before you raised Lazarus, and care for them as Thou didst care for Thy Mother from the Cross, putting her in the care of the Apostle John.  
For the survivors, grant them healing in every sense, as you strengthened and healed the confessors.  
For those related to and aiding the survivors and the families of the fallen, grant the strength and compassion Thou didst instill in Thy foster father Joseph, who was Thy guardian in Thine earthly youth.  
For those who died, grant them remission of their every sin in Thy great compassion; both those who like the wise servant and the wise virgins, constantly prepared themselves to enter the heavenly banquet at any hour; and those who emulated the Rich Fool, preferring to enjoy earthly pursuits and ignore heavenly ones.  
To the rest of us, instill in us the knowledge that while the devil still manipulates our Divinely-given free will to his own ends in this world, his power is fleeting and ultimately void, as Thou hast already crushed his dominion, leaving to him only those who freely choose him.  
Remind us that, while evil at times seems to win, and the death of the innocent seems to signal the destruction of goodness, the innocents are at peace, and for a while the God-fearing will endure a period of torment; those who choose evil shall endure eternal torment.  
For those who hate us and hate the innocents, speak to their hearts as St. Procla sought to speak to her husband Pilate concerning Thee, and as Thou didst speak to Pharaoh concerning the Hebrews, to soften the hearts of those who seek the destruction of thy people.  
Spare O Lord, from all humans all hatred of the murderers. Spare us, O Lord, from paranoia and rash acts by which we trample each other like rabid beasts. Spare, O Lord all first responders, doctors, and nurses, from despondency, discouragement, and all things which would undermine their righteous calling to protect the wounded in the manner of their Guardian Angels, and care for them in the manner of the Good Samaritan.  
Instruct and give wisdom and humility to all who are in authority and proclaim unto them good things concerning thy church and all thy people in the Holy Land, in Lebanon and in the Middle East. Raise up for us leaders of compassion, humility and understanding and grant unto all of us a spirit of wisdom and the fear of God, a spirit of strength and piety.  
O Lord, we make haste unto thee; do thou teach us to do thy will, for thou art our God; for with thee is the fountain of life; in thy light shall we see light. Let thy mercy be upon them that know thee.  
All this we ask of Thee our all-powerful and all-loving Savior, together with Thine unorginate Father, and Thine all-holy and good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

### ***THE DISMISSAL***

Deacon: Wisdom!

People: Father, bless!

Priest: Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen. Preserve, O God, the Holy Orthodox Faith and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

People: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption bearest God the Word and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

Choir: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (*thrice*). Father, bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God (*insert appropriate characteristic phrase*), through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless Holy Mother;

- **for Monday, say**: by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven;
- **for Tuesday, say**: at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John;
- **for Wednesday and Friday, say**: by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross;
- **for Thursday, say**: at the supplication of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of our father among the saints, Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia;
- **for Saturday, say**: at the supplication of the holy, glorious and right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers;

of *Saint N.*, the patron and protector of this holy community; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of (*name(s) of the saint(s) of the day*), whose memory we celebrate today; and of all the Saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

People: Amen.

*The clergy and faithful come forward and venerate the Icon of the Theotokos.*

O ye Apostles from afar, \* being now gathered together \* here in the vale of Gethsemane, \* give burial to my body, \* and Thou, my Son and my God, \* receive Thou my spirit.

Thou art the sweetness of Angels, \* the gladness of afflicted ones; \* and the protectress of Christians, \* O Virgin Mother of our Lord; \* be thou my helper, and save me \* from out of eternal torments.

I have thee as Mediatrix \* with the man-befriending God; \* may He not censure my actions \* before the hosts of the Angels. \* I supplicate thee, O Virgin, \* come unto mine aid most quickly.

Thou art a gold-entwined tower \* and twelve-wall encircled city, \* a throne besprinkled with sunbeams, \* a royal chair of the King. \* O inexplicable wonder \* that thou dost milk-feed the Master.

Priest: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

People: Amen.