

THE OFFICE OF GREAT COMPLINE  
for Monday through Thursday of the first week of the Great Fast

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

*Reader:* Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things; Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us; and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us. (3)

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

O Most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto 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 the evil one.

*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 the ages of ages.

*Reader:* Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

Come, let us worship God our King.

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

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ himself, our King and our God.

### PSALM 69

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me! O Lord, make haste to help me! Let them be put to shame and confusion who seek my life! Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire my hurt! Let them be appalled because of their shame who say, "Aha, Aha!" May all who seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee! May those who love thy salvation say evermore, "God is great!" But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! Thou art my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry!

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*We now chant the appointed portion of the Great Canon*

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### PSALM 90

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." For he

will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place - the Most High, who is my refuge — no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot. “Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.”

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (3)

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

*Reader:* God is with us, understand, O nations, and submit yourselves: for God is with us.

*Choir:* God is with us, understand, O nations, and submit yourselves: for God is with us.

*Reader:* Hear this, all you ends of the earth!

*Choir:* For God is with us. *(repeated after each verse)*

*Reader:*

Submit yourselves, you mighty ones!

Even if your strength returns, you shall be overthrown once more. If you take counsel together, the Lord will scatter you.

If you speak a word, it will never stand, even among yourselves.

We do not fear your threats, nor are we troubled. For the Lord our God is holy, and him will we fear.

If I trust in Him, He will be my sanctification. I will wait for Him; He will save me.

Behold, I and the children God has given me.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who dwell in the land of the shadow of death, on them has light shined.

For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given. And the government shall be upon His shoulder. And of His peace, there shall be no end.

And His name shall be called the Angel of Great Counsel. Wonderful, Counselor.

Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. The Father of the world to come.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

God is with us, understand, O nations, and submit yourselves: for God is with us!

*Choir:* God is with us, understand, O nations, and submit yourselves: for God is with us.

*Reader:*

Now that the day is over, I glorify You O Master, And I pray that I may pass the evening and the night without sin. Grant this, O Savior, and save me.

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

Now that the day is over, I glorify You, O Master, And I pray that I may pass the evening and the night without giving offense. Grant this, O Savior, and save me.

*Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Now that the day is over, I praise You, O Holy One, And I pray that I may pass the evening and the night without temptation. Grant this, O Savior, and save me.

The bodiless Cherubim glorify You with never-ending songs. The six-winged Seraphim exalt You with ceaseless voices. All the hosts of Angels honor You with the thrice-holy hymn. For You, O Father, are from all eternity, with Your co-eternal Son, and with the Spirit of life, Who is equal to You; You have revealed the unity of the Trinity.

O most-holy Virgin and Mother of God, and you eye-witnesses and servants of the Word, all you choirs of prophets and martyrs, who enjoy eternal life, fervently pray for us all, who are in fearful distress, that we may be delivered from the deceit of the Evil One, so that we may sing the song of the Angels: Holy, holy, holy, Thrice-holy Lord, have mercy on us and save us!

*Then, in a low voice the Reader says the Symbol of Faith*

### SYMBOL OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and the earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages; Light of Light, true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; and He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life; Who proceeds from the Father; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets. In One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the

dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*After the Symbol of Faith, the Priest intones these verses*

*Priest:* O Most-holy Sovereign-Lady, Theotokos, pray for us sinners.

*Choir:* O Most-holy Sovereign-Lady, Theotokos, pray for us sinners.

*A prostration is made after each petition.*

*Priest:* O Most-holy Sovereign-Lady, Theotokos, pray for us sinners. *And immediately*

All-Heavenly Powers, Holy Angels and Archangels, pray for us sinners.

*Choir* All-Heavenly Powers, Holy Angels and Archangels, pray for us sinners.

*The Choir repeats each subsequent petition*

O Holy John, Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist of our Lord Jesus Christ, pray for us sinners.

O Holy Glorious Apostles, Prophets, Martyrs, and All Saints, pray for us sinners.

O our Venerable and God-bearing Fathers, Pastors, and Ecumenical Teachers, pray for us sinners.

O Holy Hierarch Father Spyridon, pray for us sinners.

O invincible, ineffable and divine Power of the honorable and life-creating Cross, forsake not us sinners.

O God, cleanse us sinners.

O God, cleanse us sinners, and have mercy on us.

*Reader:* Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us. (3)

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

O Most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto 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 the evil one.

*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 the ages of ages.

*Reader:* Amen.

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*On Monday & Wednesday evenings, in Tone 2*

Illumine mine eyes, O Christ God, that I not sleep in death, that mine enemy never say: I have prevailed against him.

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

Be the Helper of my soul, O God, for I walk in the midst of many snares; deliver me from them and save me, O Good One, for Thou art the Lover of Mankind.

*Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

As we have no boldness because of the multitude of our sins, O Virgin Theotokos, intercede with Him Who was born of thee for much more is the prayer of a mother able to incline the Master unto kindheartedness. Despise not the supplications of sinners, O All-pure One, for merciful and strong to save is He Who condescended to suffer for us.

*On Tuesday & Thursday evenings, in Tone 8*

Thou knowest, O Lord, the unsleeping vigilance of mine unseen enemies, and having fashioned me, Thou knowest the frailty of my cursed flesh: Therefore, I commit my soul into Thy hands. Cover me with the wings of Thy goodness, that I not sleep in death, and illumine my spiritual eyes with the delight of Thy divine words. And raise me up at an acceptable time that I may glorify Thee as Thou only art Good and the Lover of Mankind. Look upon me and hear me, O Lord my God.

How terrible is Thy judgment, O Lord, when the angels stand about and men are led before Thee, and the books are opened, deeds are searched out and thoughts examined strictly. What judgment will there be for me who am conceived in sins? Who will extinguish the flame for me, who will enlighten the darkness for me, if not Thou, O Lord Who hast mercy on me as the Lover of Mankind?

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

Grant me tears, O God, as once Thou didst unto the sinful woman, and count me worthy to wash Thy feet which have freed me from the paths of deception, that I may offer as fragrant myrrh unto Thee a pure life fashioned in repentance, and that I might hear Thy voice, for which I long: Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

*Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

In thee having hope that will not be put to shame, O Theotokos, I am saved; having acquired thy protection, O Most-pure One, I am not afraid; I shall pursue mine enemies and vanquish them, covered only, as with a breastplate, with thy protection and thine all-powerful help. And beseeching thee, I cry out to thee: O Sovereign Lady, by thy prayers save me and raise me up from gloomy sleep that I may glorify thee, by the power



of the Son of God Who was incarnate of thee.

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*Reader:* Lord, have mercy. (40)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious, beyond compare, than the Seraphim, without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify thee.

In the name of the Lord, Master, bless.

*Priest:* Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

*Reader:* Amen.

### A PRAYER OF SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

O Lord, Lord, Who deliverest us from every arrow that flieth by day, deliver us also from everything that walketh in darkness. Receive the lifting up of our hands as an evening sacrifice. Vouchsafe us also to pass without reproach the course of night untempted of evil things, and redeem us from every disturbance and dread that cometh to us from the devil. Grant unto our souls contrition and unto our thoughts care concerning the trial of Thy fearful and righteous judgment. Nail our flesh to the fear of Thee, and mortify our earthly members, that, even in the quietness of sleep, we may be illumined by the contemplation of Thy judgments. Withdraw from us every unseemly fantasy and injurious desire. Raise us up at the time of prayer confirmed in the faith and progressing in thy commandments, through the favor and grace 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. Amen.

Come, let us worship God our King.

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

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ himself, our King and our God.

### PSALM 50

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in thy sight: that thou mayest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Hide thy face 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 uphold me with a free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation; and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise. For thou delightest not in sacrifice; else would I give it: thou hast no pleasure in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem. Then shalt thou delight in the sacrifices of righteousness, in burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

## PRAYER OF MANASSES

O Lord Almighty, Thou God of our fathers, of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and of their righteousseed; Who hast made Heaven and earth with all the array thereof; Who hast bound the sea by the word of Thy command; Who hast shut up the deep and sealed it by Thy fearful and glorious Name; Whom all things fear, yea and before Whose power they tremble; for the majesty of Thy glory cannot be borne and the anger of Thy threatening toward sinners is intolerable; and yet Thy merciful promise is immeasurable and unsearchable; for Thou art the Lord most high, of great compassion, long-suffering, abundant in mercy, and repentest of the evils against me. Thou, O Lord, according to Thy great goodness, hast promised repentance and forgiveness to them that have sinned against Thee; and of Thine infinite mercies hast appointed repentance unto sinners, that they may be saved. Thou, therefore, O Lord of hosts, hast not appointed repentance to the just, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, who have not sinned against Thee; but Thou hast appointed repentance unto me, who am a sinner; for my sins are more in number than the sands of the sea. My transgressions, O Lord, are multiplied, my transgressions are multiplied, and I am not worthy to behold and look unto the height of Heaven for the multitude of mine iniquities. I am bowed down with many iron bands, so that I cannot lift up my head by reason of my sins, neither have I any respite; for I have provoked Thy wrath and done that which is evil before Thee; I did not Thy will, neither kept I Thy commandments; I have set up abominations and multiplied detestable things.

Now, therefore, I bow the knee of my heart, beseeching Thee for grace, I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I acknowledge mine iniquities; but I humbly beseech Thee, forgive me, O Lord, forgive me, and destroy me not with mine iniquities. Be not angry with me forever, by reserving my evils for me; neither condemn me to the lower parts of the earth; for Thou, O Lord, art the God of them that repent; and in me wilt Thou show all Thy goodness; for Thou wilt save me that am unworthy, according to Thy Great Mercy. I will praise Thee henceforth all the days of my life; for all the hosts of Heaven doth sing Thy praise, and Thine is the glory unto ages of ages. Amen.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us. (3)

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

O Most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto 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 the evil one.

*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 the ages of ages.

*Reader:* Amen.

*And the Choir sings these Troparia, in Tone 6*

*Choir:* Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for laying aside all excuse, we sinners offer to Thee, as to our 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. Do not be angry with us,

nor remember our iniquities, but look down on 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 on Thy name.

Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O Blessed Theotokos, open the doors of compassion unto us whose hope is in thee, that we may not perish, but be delivered from adversity through thee. For thou art the salvation of the Christian people.

*Reader:* Lord, have mercy. (40)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious, beyond compare, than the Seraphim, without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify thee.

In the name of the Lord, Master, bless.

*Priest:* Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us.

*Reader:* Amen.

### PRAYER OF SAINT MARDARIUS

O Master, God the Father Almighty, O Lord, the Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and

O Holy Spirit, One Godhead, One Power: Have mercy on me a sinner, and according to Thy judgments which Thou knowest, save me, Thine unworthy servant, for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Come, let us worship God our King.

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

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ himself, our King and our God.

### DOXOLOGY

Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise Thee. We bless Thee. We worship Thee. We glorify Thee. We give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: Thou Who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; Thou Who takest away the sins of the world, accept our prayer; Thou Who sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us. For Thou only art holy, Thou only art Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day will I bless Thee and praise Thy name forever; yea, for ever and ever. Lord, Thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said, Lord, be merciful to me and heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee. Lord, I have fled unto Thee; teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. For with Thee is the Fountain of Life; in Thy light shall we see light. O continue Thy mercy unto those who know Thee. Vouchsafe, O Lord, that we may be kept this night without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou,

O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master, make me to understand Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me with Thy statutes. Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever; despise not the works of Thy hands. Unto Thee is due praise. Unto Thee is due a song. Unto Thee is due glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us. (3)

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

O Most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto 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 the evil one.

*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 the ages of ages.

*Reader:* Amen.

*Then we sing in a loud voice, but slowly, in Tone 6*

## O LORD OF HOSTS: PSALM 150

*Choir (Refrain):* O Lord of Hosts be with us, for beside Thee we have no other Helper in adversities. O Lord of Hosts have mercy on us.

Praise ye God in His saints, praise Him in the firmament of His power. *Refrain*  
Praise Him for His mighty acts, praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness.

*Refrain*

Praise Him with the sound of trumpet, praise Him with the psaltery and harp. *Refrain*

Praise Him with timbrel and dance, praise him with strings and flute. *Refrain*

Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation. Let every breath praise the Lord. *Refrain*

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

*Choir:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

O Lord, if we did not have Thy Saints as intercessors, and Thy goodness being merciful to us, how could we dare to sing Thy praises, O Savior Whom the angels ceaselessly glorify? O Thou Who knowest the heart, spare our souls.

Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Great is the multitude of my transgressions, O Theotokos, and I have fled unto thee, O Pure One, asking for salvation. Visit my feeble soul and beseech thy Son and our God to grant me forgiveness for the evil I have done, O Only-blessed One.

O All-holy Theotokos, do not forsake me all the time of my life; do not commit me to human protection, but do thou thyself defend me and have mercy on me.

On thee have I placed all my hope, O Mother of God; preserve me under thy protection.



*Reader:* Lord, have mercy. (40)

### PRAYER OF THE HOURS

O Thou Who at every season and every hour in Heaven and on earth art worshiped and glorified, O Christ our God-longsuffering, greatly-merciful and deeply-compassionate; Who lovest the just and showest mercy upon the sinner; Who callest all men to salvation through the promise of good things to come: Do Thou, the same Lord, accept also our prayers in this hour, and direct our lives according to Thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, guide aright our minds, cleanse our thoughts, and deliver us from every affliction, evil, and sickness. Compass us about with Thy holy Angels, that guarded and guided by their legions we may attain unto unity of faith and the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory, for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious, beyond compare, than the Seraphim, without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word; true Theotokos, we magnify thee.

In the name of the Lord, Master, bless.

*Priest:* Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on us.

*Reader:* Amen.

## PRAYER OF SAINT EPHREM

*Priest:* O Lord and Master of my life. Give me not a spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power and idle talk. *Prostration*

But give rather a spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to Thy servant.

*Prostration*

Yea, O Lord and King: Grant me to see mine own transgressions and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto the ages of ages. Amen. *Prostration*

O God, cleanse me a sinner. (12) *with bows*

O Lord and Master of my life. Give me not a spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power and idle talk. But give rather a spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to Thy servant. Yea, O Lord and King: Grant me to see mine own transgressions and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto the ages of ages. Amen. *Prostration*

*Reader:* Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us. (3)

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

O Most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

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but deliver us from the evil one.

*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 the ages of ages.

*Reader:* Amen.

### PRAYER TO THE THEOTOKOS BY PAUL THE MONK

O Sovereign-Lady, Bride of God, spotless, undefiled, incorrupt, most-pure, and chaste Virgin, who hast united God the Word to mankind through thy most glorious birthgiving, and also hast joined the fallen nature of our race to heavenly things; who alone art the hope of the hopeless, the aid of the embattled, the ready help to them that flee unto thee and the refuge of all Christians: Despise not me, a defiled sinner, even though I have made myself altogether useless through impure thoughts, words and deeds, and through my slothful understanding, and have become a slave to the sweet things of this life. As the Mother of the God who loveth mankind, have pity on me, a sinner and prodigal, in that same love for mankind, and accept my prayer, though it be offered to thee by defiled lips. And using thy boldness as a mother, pray to thy Son, our Master and Lord, that He may open even unto me the goodness of His deep love for mankind and overlook my countless transgressions, turn me to repentance and reveal me to be an experienced accomplisher of his commandments. And as thou art merciful, compassionate and benevolent, stand by me always in this present life as my fervent intercessor and helper, driving away the assaults of enemies and guiding me to salvation. And at the time of my departure from this life, care for my wretched soul and drive far away from it the dark forms of evil demons; and in the fearful day of judgment, deliver me from eternal torments and present me as an heir of the ineffable glory of thy Son and our God. May I receive this, O my Sovereign Lady, most-holy Theotokos, through thy mediation and help: through the grace and love for mankind of thine only-begotten Son, our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, to Whom is due all glory, honor and

worship, together with His Father Who is without beginning, and his Most-holy, Good and Life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

### PRAYER TO OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST BY THE MONK ANTIOCHUS

And grant unto us, O Master, when we depart to sleep, repose of body and soul. And keep us from the dark sleep of sin and from every dark and passionate pleasure of the night. Subdue the impulses of the passions and quench the flaming arrows of the evil one which are deceitfully loosed against us. Still the rebellions of our flesh and put to sleep all our earthly and material reasonings. And grant us, O God, a watchful mind, chaste thoughts, a sober heart, and a light sleep, free of every fantasy of satan. Raise us up at the time of prayer confirmed in Thy commandments, and with the memory of Thy judgments held firmly within us. Grant that we may glorify Thee all through the night, that we may sing and bless and glorify Thy most-honorable and majestic Name: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O most-glorious, ever-Virgin Mother of Christ our God, bear our prayer to thy Son and our God, that though thee He may save our souls.

### PRAYER OF SAINT JOANNICIUS

My Hope is the Father. My Refuge is the Son. My Protection is the Holy Spirit. O Holy Trinity: Glory to Thee.

*Priest:* Glory to Thee, O Christ God, our Hope, glory to Thee.

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

Lord have mercy. (3) Master, bless.

*And immediately the Priest says aloud, while the faithful prostrate (Customarily, the Priest also kneels, facing the people.)*

O GREATLY-MERCIFUL Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God: through the prayers of our all-pure Sovereign Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary; by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the intercessions of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist, John; of the holy, glorious and all-praised Apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all Thy Saints: Make our prayer acceptable. Grant unto us remission of our transgressions. Cover us under the shelter of Thy wings. Drive far from us every enemy and adversary. Make our life peaceful, O Lord, have mercy upon us and upon Thy world, and save our souls, as Thou art Good and the Lover of Mankind.

*Choir:* Amen.

*After the Dismissal, the Priest makes a prostration to the brethren, saying*

*Priest:* Bless, brothers and sisters, and forgive me, a sinner.

*And the brethren reply*

*Brethren:* May God forgive and have mercy on thee, holy father.

*And they make a prostration, saying*

*Brethren:* Bless me, holy father, and forgive all wherein I have sinned this day in deed,

word, thought, and in all my senses, and pray for me a sinner.

*Priest:* Through His grace may God forgive and have mercy on us all.

*And the Priest says this Litany*

*Priest:* Let us pray for our most blessed Metropolitan (N.); for our [Arch]Bishop (N.); and for all our brethren in Christ.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. *And after each subsequent petition*

For the President of our country, all civil authorities, and the armed forces:

For those who hate us and those who love us: For those who are kind to us and serve us:

For those who have asked us to pray for them, unworthy though we be:

For the deliverance of captives:

For our departed fathers and brothers:

For travelers by land, sea and air:

For those who are lying in sickness:

Let us pray for an abundance of the fruits of the earth: And for every Orthodox Christian soul:

Let us bless pious rulers:

Orthodox Hierarchs and the founders of this holy Habitation:

Our parents and all our fathers and brethren, departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord:

Let us also say for ourselves:

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Priest:* Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us.

*Choir:* Amen.

HERE ENDS GREAT COMPLINE