

**2 MAY (Pascha Thursday Transfer)**  
**± Relics of Athanásios of Alexandria C4**

**VESPERS**

P: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-giving and undivided Trinity, always, now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen

**Paschal Verses**

R: Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs. X3

S1: Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;  
 let those who hate him take flight from his presence.

S2: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish,  
 as wax melts before the fire,

S3: So let sinners perish at the presence of God;  
 let the just be festive.

S4: This *is* the day which the Lord has made;  
 let us rejoice and be glad in it.

S5: Glory: Both now:

**Psalm 103**

**Iriniká**

**Lord I have cried**

Tone 5

O Lord, I have cried to you, listen to me;  
 O Lord, listen to me.

O Lord, I have cried to you, listen to me;  
 Note the voice of my plea when I cry to you.  
 O Lord, listen to me.

<sup>2</sup> Let my prayer be directed before you like incense,  
 the raising of my hands be an evening sacrifice.  
 O Lord, listen to me.

S8: O Lord, I have cried to you from the depths;  
 O Lord listen to my voice.

O Christ, you have put the Devil to shame by your precious cross.  
 You have blunted the sting of sin and saved us from the gates of death by your resurrection. We glorify you, only begotten *Lord*.

S7: Let your ears note the voice of my plea.  
 Christ was led like a sheep to the slaughter in order to grant resurrection to the human race. The princes of Hades were frightened by this, for the gates of sorrow were raised. Christ the King of glory had entered. He said to those in chains, "Go out," and to those in darkness, "Come to the light."

S6: O Lord, if you mark offences, who will stand?  
 But there is forgiveness with you.

O great wonder! The Creator of invisible matter suffered in the flesh in his love for the human race and rose again as immortal *Lord*. O families of nations, come and worship him. We have been rescued from error by his compassion and have learnt to sing about one God in three persons.

S5: O Lord, I have waited for you for your name's sake;  
 my soul has waited for your word,  
 my soul has hoped in the Lord.

O unfading Light, we offer you our evening worship. You shone on the world in the flesh in these last days as though in a glass. You even descended to Hades to banish its darkness. You have revealed the light of the resurrection to the nations. Glory to you, O Lord, Giver of light, glory to you!

Tone 4

S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord

from morning watch until night,  
 from morning watch.

S3: For there is mercy with the Lord  
 and abundant redemption with *him*.  
 He will redeem Israel from all his offences.

O venerable Athanásios, O divine preacher, you endured persecutions and withstood perils so firmly that you banished the ungodly error of *Arios*. You saved the Church from heresy as you proclaimed the true faith that the Son and the Spirit have the same being as the Father. X2

S2: Every nation, praise the Lord;  
 every people, acclaim him!

You brought light to those in darkness through the brilliance of your teaching. O Athanásios, you banished all error with the courage of a true pastor and as an unshakeable pillar of the Church of Christ, even though you exposed yourself to danger. Therefore we glorify you with joy in our hymns when we assemble.

S1: For his mercy is strengthened over us  
 and the truth of the Lord remains for ever.

O divinely inspired *bishop*, you practised all the virtues with perseverance. You were consecrated by the anointing of the Spirit in the sight of everyone. You became a most holy hierarch, a true shepherd and a defender of the faith. Therefore the whole Church honours your sacred memory and offers glory to the Saviour on this feast.

Glory: Tone 6

Let us all sing hymns to Athanásios, the holy bishop of Christ. He overthrew the teaching of *Arios* when he declared the Son to be one in being with the Father. He proclaimed the might of the Trinity to the ends of the earth as one God in three indivisible Persons. He prays to God for those of us who celebrate his memory with faith.

Both now: Tone 4

All-blameless *Lady*, regard the pleas of your servants. Stop every terrible attack against us and free us from every affliction, for we only have you as our sure and firm anchor, and have obtained your protection. O Lady, do not let us be shamed, but hurry to listen to the pleas of those who address you with faith, "Hail, O Lady, help of everyone, joy, shelter and salvation of our souls!"

*Entrance*

P/D: Wisdom! Stand upright!

**Phos Ilarón**

O Jesus Christ, joyful light of the holy glory  
 of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father,  
 when we come to the setting of the sun  
 and see the light of evening,  
 we praise God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

For it is right at all times to worship you  
 with voices of praise,  
 O Son of God *and* Giver of life.  
 Therefore the world glorifies you.

P/D: The Evening Prokeimenon

**Great Prokeimenon Ps 54 Tone 7**

R: O God, listen to my prayer  
 and do not disregard my plea.

S1: Be attentive to me and hear me;  
 I was distressed in my thought.

S2: For they have brought lawlessness on me  
 and raged with anger against me.

S3 But I have cried to God  
 and the Lord heard me.  
 at evening, morning and midday.

**Ekteni****Prayer**

O Lord, allow us this night to be guarded from sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our fathers! Praised and glorified be your name for ever. Amen. O Lord, let your mercy be on us, for we have hoped in you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes. Blessed are you, O Master; make me understand your statutes. Blessed are you, O Holy *One*; enlighten me with your statutes. O Lord, your mercy lasts for ever; do not overlook the work of your hands. To you belongs worship, to you belongs praise, to you belongs glory, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

**Plirotiká****Prayer**

P: Peace be with you all. R: And with your spirit  
D: Bow down your heads to the Lord. R: To you, O Lord.

P: For blessed and glorified is the power of your Kingdom, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

**Apósticha**

Tone 5

O Christ, incarnate Saviour, you were not parted from the heavens. We glorify you with songs of praise, for you accepted the cross and death for the sake of our race. O Lord, Lover of the human race, you overthrew the gates of Hades and rose on the third day to save our souls.

**The Paschal Sticherá**

S1: Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate him take flight from his presence. Ps 67  
A sacred Pascha has been revealed to us today; a new and holy Pascha, a mystical Pascha, a Pascha revered by all, a Pascha that is Christ the Redeemer, a spotless Pascha, a great Pascha, a Pascha of the faithful, a Pascha that has opened for us the gates of Paradise, a Pascha that sanctifies all the faithful.

S2: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish,  
as wax melts before the fire. Ps 67

O women, bearers of good tidings, come from that scene and say to Sion, "Receive from us the joyful good news of Christ's Resurrection." O Jerusalem, leap for joy, dance and be glad, for you have seen Christ the King like a bridegroom come from the grave.

S3: So let sinners perish at the presence of God;  
let the just be festive. Ps 67

The myrrh-bearing women came to the grave of the Giver of life before dawn. They found an Angel sitting on the stone who cried out to them and said, "Why do you seek the Living *Lord* among the dead? Why do you mourn the Incorruptible One as though he were in corruption? Go and proclaim *the news* to his Disciples."

S4: This *is* the day which the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it. Ps 117  
O Pascha of delight! O Pascha, the Lord's Pascha! A Pascha revered by all has dawned for us. O Pascha! Let us embrace one another with joy. O Pascha, deliverance from sorrow! For today Christ shone out from a tomb as though from a bridal chamber and filled the women with joy, saying, "Proclaim *the news* to the Apostles."

Glory: Both now:

It is the day of Resurrection; let us be resplendent in the festival. Let us embrace one another and say, "Brothers!" even to those who

hate us. Let us forgive everything in the Resurrection and so we shall cry, "Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs."

**Apolytikia**

Tone 3

O holy apostle James, pray to the merciful God that he may grant our souls forgiveness for their failings.

Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs.

**Dismissal****Ending**

P: Christ is risen!  
R: He is risen indeed!  
P: Glory to his third-day resurrection!  
R: We bow down to his third-day resurrection!

R: Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs. *X3*

**ORTHROS****Introduction**

P: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-giving and undivided Trinity; always, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages! *Amen.*

**Paschal Verses**

R: Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down by death and granted life to those in the tombs. *X3*

S1: Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate him take flight from his presence.  
S2: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish,  
as wax melts before the fire,  
S3: So let sinners perish at the presence of God;  
let the just be festive.  
S4: This *is* the day which the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
S5: Glory: Both now:

**Irinika****Ypakói**

Tone 4

Those who were with Mary came before the dawn and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They heard from the Angel, "Why do you search for the *Lord* who lives in eternal light among the dead, as though he were mortal? See the grave clothes. Run and announce to the world that the Lord has been raised, and has put death to death for he is the Son of God who saves the human race.

**Kontákia**

*Without note*

Tone 8

O immortal *Lord*, although you descended into the grave, yet you overthrew the power of Hades; O Christ *our* God, you rose as conqueror. You greeted the women bearing myrrh, saying, "Rejoice!" As you grant resurrection to the fallen, you give peace to your apostles.

Tone 2

O holy father Athanasios, you planted the doctrine of Orthodoxy and eradicated the weeds of error. You multiplied the seeds of faith which were watered by the Holy Spirit. Therefore we sing you a hymn of praise.

**Íkos**

O faithful, today let us celebrate the joyful memory of Athanasios with hymns. Through his teaching he caused the collapse of the heresies of Arios, Evnomios and Savellios. He delivered them to the eternal fire to be consumed for blasphemy against the incarnation of Christ which was announced by all the prophets. Therefore we sing him a hymn of praise.

#### Synaxáριον

Today we remember the transfer of the relics of our father among the saints Athanasios the Great, Patriarch of Alexandria who lived in the Fourth Century. He attended the First Council as a deacon and became a life-long fighter against the Arian Heresy. As a result he was exiled many times from his city. Although he was a giant in theological combat, he was humble, courteous and open to all. On the Second his stored remains were transferred to another tomb.

Together with him we remember:

Holy Gluvias, brother of Cadoc, of the Celtic Lands C6

Prince Boris of Bulgaria C10

Patriarch Athanasios of Constantinople C17

O God, have mercy on us through their holy prayers. Amen.

#### Synaxáριον

*Of the day*

#### Resurrection Ode

Now that we have seen the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. O Christ, we venerate your cross, and praise and glorify your resurrection, for you are our God. We do not know any other except you and we call on your name. All you faithful, come and let us venerate the holy resurrection of Christ, for see joy has come to all the world through the cross. Let us always bless the Lord and praise his resurrection, for he destroyed death by death through enduring the cross for us.

Now that Jesus has risen from the grave, as he foretold, he has given us eternal life and great mercy. X3

#### Katavasias

1: It is the day of Resurrection; O people, let us be radiant. It is Pascha, the Pascha of the Lord, for Christ God has made us pass from death to life and from earth to heaven and we sing the triumphal song.

3: Come and drink a new drink, not one miraculously produced from a barren rock, but from the Spring of incorruption which pours out from the tomb of Christ in whom we are made firm

4: Let the Prophet Habakuk who was inspired by God, stand with us in the divine guard. Let him point out the radiant Angel, who announces with resounding voice, "To-day there is salvation for the world, for Christ has risen as the almighty *Lord*."

5: Let us rise before the dawn and offer praise to the Master instead of myrrh. We shall see Christ, the Sun of justice who makes life dawn for everyone.

6: O Christ, you descended into the deepest parts of the earth and shattered the eternal shackles of those that those who were chained. On the third day you rose from the tomb like Jonah from the whale.

7: The one who set free the children from the furnace, becomes man and suffers as a mortal. The one who is the only blessed and most glorious God of our fathers clothes the mortal through suffering with the splendour of incorruption.

8: Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord.

This is the chosen and holy day, the first of Sabbaths, the Queen and Lady, the Feast of Feasts, and the Festival of Festivals on which we bless Christ for ever.

#### Ode 9

O my soul, glorify *the Lord* who suffered willingly, was buried and rose from the grave on the third day. Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has dawned on you. O Sion, dance now and rejoice and you, O pure Theotokos, also rejoice at the resurrection of him whom you bore.

O my soul, glorify Christ the Giver of life who rose from the grave on the third day.

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has dawned on you. O Sion, dance now and rejoice and you, O pure Theotokos, also rejoice at the resurrection of him whom you bore.

Christ is the new Passover, the living Sacrifice and the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

How divine! How beloved! O your sweetest voice! O Christ, you have truly promised to be with us until the end of time. We, the faithful, rejoice, since we have this as an anchor of hope.

Today the whole creation rejoices and is glad, for Christ has risen and Hades has been plundered.

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Glory:

O my soul, glorify the might of the undivided Divinity in three Persons.

O great and most sacred Pascha! O Christ! O Wisdom, Word and Power of God! Grant that we may partake of you fully in the day that has no evening of your Kingdom.

Both now:

Hail, O Virgin, rejoice!

Hail, O blessed *Lady*!

Hail, O glorified *Virgin*!

Your Son has risen from his three day *rest* in the tomb.

O great and most sacred Pascha! O Christ! O Wisdom, Word and Power of God! Grant that we may partake of you fully in the day that has no evening of your Kingdom.

9: The Angel cried to her who is full of grace, "Rejoice, O pure Virgin, rejoice!" And again I say, "Rejoice!" for your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day.

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has dawned on you. O Sion, dance now and rejoice and you, O pure Theotokos, also rejoice at the resurrection of the one whom you bore.

#### Small Litany

P: For all the powers of heaven praise you, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*.

#### Exaposteilária

O King and Lord, when you had fallen asleep in the flesh as a mortal, you arose again on the third day. O Pascha of incorruption and salvation of the world, you raised Adam from corruption and abolished death.

Let us sing a hymn about the great Athanasios. He is the glory of bishops, the son of Egypt and a jewel of immortal life. He overthrew Arios and is the helper of the faithful.

#### Praises

Tone 5

Let everything with breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

praise him in the heights.

To you, O God, is due a song.

Praise him, all his angels;  
praise him, all his powers.  
To you, O God, is due a song.

### Apósticha

Tone 5

Almighty Lord, you suffered the cross and death, and rose from the dead. We glorify your resurrection.

#### The Paschal Sticherá

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let those who hate him take flight from his presence. *Ps 67*  
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Glory: Both now:  
It is the day of Resurrection; let us be resplendent in the festival. Let us embrace one another and say, "Brothers!" even to those who hate us. Let us forgive everything in the Resurrection and so we shall cry, "Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs."

### Apolytikia

Tone 3

O holy father Athanásius, you became a stronghold of Orthodoxy. You strengthened the Church through your divine teachings and opposed the heretical opinion of Arius. You explained and taught that the Son is equal in nature to the Father. Holy father, intercede with Christ our God to grant us great mercy.

Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs.

### Dismissal

#### Ending

Christ is risen!  
He is risen indeed!  
Glory to his third-day resurrection!

We bow down to his third-day resurrection!

R: Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs. X3

### LITURGY

#### Paschal Verses

R: Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs. X3

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S3: So let sinners perish at the presence of God;  
let the just be festive.  
S4: This *is* the day which the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
S5: Glory: Both now:

#### Antiphon 1 Ps 65 Tone 2

S1: All the earth, shout with joy to the Lord;  
R: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, Saviour, save us.  
S2: Make melody to his name  
*and give glory in his praise.*  
S3: Say to God, "How fearful are your works!  
Your enemies will cringe before you  
because of the greatness of your power."  
S4: Let all the earth worship you and sing to you;  
O Most High, let them make melody to your name.  
S5: Glory: Both now:

#### Antiphon 2 Ps 66 Own Tone

S1: May God be compassionate to us and bless us;  
may he cause his face to shine on us  
and be merciful to us.  
R: Save us, O Son of God.  
You have risen from the dead.  
We sing to you, "Alleluia!"  
S2: May we know your way on earth,  
your salvation among all the nations.  
S3: O God, let the peoples acknowledge you  
*and all the peoples thank you.*  
S4: May God bless us  
and all the ends of the earth fear him.  
S5: Glory: Both now:  
*Monogenes*

#### Antiphon 3 Ps 67 & 117 Tone 8

S1: Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate him take flight from his presence.  
R: Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs.  
S2: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish,  
as wax melts before the fire,  
S3: So let sinners perish at the presence of God;  
let the just be festive.  
S4: This *is* the day which the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
S5: Glory: Both now:

#### Entrance Ps 67

Bless God, in *the* assemblies,  
the Lord from the springs of Israel.  
Save us, O Son of God.  
You have risen from the dead.

We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

### **Apolytikion**

Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs.

### **Ypakóí**

Tone 4

Those who were with Mary came before the dawn and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They heard from the Angel, "Why do you search for the *Lord* who lives in eternal light among the dead, as though he were mortal? See the grave clothes. Run and announce to the world that the Lord has been raised, and has put death to death for he is the Son of God who saves the human race.

Tone 3

O holy father Athanásius, you became a stronghold of Orthodoxy. You strengthened the Church through your divine teachings and opposed the heretical opinion of Arius. You explained and taught that the Son is equal in nature to the Father. Holy father, intercede with Christ our God to grant us great mercy.

### **Kontákion**

Tone 8

O immortal *Lord*, although you descended into the grave, yet you overthrew the power of Hades; O Christ our God, you rose as conqueror. You greeted the women bearing myrrh, saying, "Rejoice!" As you grant resurrection to the fallen, you give peace to your apostles.

### **Triságion Substitute**

For as many as have been baptised into Christ,  
have put on Christ. Alleluia!

### **Prokeímenon Dan 3 Tone 4**

R: Blessed are you, O Lord of our fathers.

S: For you are just in everything that you have one to u.

### **Apóstolos**

From the Letter of Paul to the Hebrews (13:7-16)  
Brothers, remember your leaders, men who spoke to you the word of God, and considering the results of their conduct, imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. <sup>9</sup>Do not be carried away by various and strange teachings, for it is good that the heart be established by grace, not by food, through which those who were so occupied were not benefited. <sup>10</sup>We have an altar from which those who serve the holy tabernacle have no right to eat. <sup>11</sup>For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest as an offering for sin, are burned outside of the camp. <sup>12</sup>Therefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people through his own blood, suffered outside of the gate. <sup>13</sup>Let us therefore go forth to him outside of the camp, bearing his reproach. <sup>14</sup>For we do not have here an enduring city, but we seek what is to come. <sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of lips which make confession to his name. <sup>16</sup>But do not forget to be doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

### **Alleluia Ps 131 Tone 1**

S1: Your priests, O Lord, will clothe themselves with justice  
and your holy ones will rejoice.

S2: For the Lord has chosen Zion.

### **Gospel**

From the Holy Gospel according to John (3:1-15)  
In those days there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do, unless God is with him." <sup>3</sup>Jesus

answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born anew.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with every one who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can this be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand this? <sup>11</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen; but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."

### **Especially**

The Angel cried to her that is full of grace, "O Pure Virgin, rejoice! And again I say, 'Rejoice!' For your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day.

Shine, shine, O New Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Dance now and be glad, O Sion, and you too rejoice, pure Mother of God, at the arising of him to whom you gave birth.

### **Communion**

Receive the Body of Christ; partake from the Fountain of Immortality

### **Post-Communion**

Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs.

### **Dismissal**

### **Ending**

P: Christ is risen!

R: He is risen indeed!

P: Glory to his third-day resurrection!

R: We worship his three-day resurrection!

### **Apolytikion**

Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs.