

**29 JUNE (After All Saints)  
+ Apostles Peter and Paul**

**VESPERS**

**Lord I have cried**

Tone 2

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.

S6: O Lord, if you mark offences, who will stand?

But there is forgiveness with you.

What garlands of song shall we weave for Peter and Paul? *Although they were separated in body, they were united by the Spirit. They rank first among preachers: one was the leader of the apostolic army while the other laboured more than all. Truly, Christ our God, who has great mercy, has adorned them with the crowns of immortal glory.*

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.

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S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord

from morning watch until night,

from morning watch.

How shall we worthily sing hymns to honour Peter and Paul? Their hands were filled with grace and truth; their feet carried them to the ends of the

earth to preach the gospel of peace. Once *they were* driven by the wind of the Spirit, *but* they are now carried up to heaven. Truly they are rivers of wisdom and upholders of the cross. Through them, Christ our God who has great mercy, has cast down the arrogance of demons.

S3: For there is mercy with the Lord  
and abundant redemption with *him*.

He will redeem Israel from all his offences.

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

What spiritual songs shall we sing for Peter and Paul? They have silenced the sharp tongues of the godless. They are awesome swords of the Spirit. They are the adornment of Rome and have nourished the whole world with the word of God. They are the living tablets of the New Testament written by the hand of God. Christ, who has great and rich mercy, has exalted them in Zion.

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

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Glory: Tone4

Three times Christ asked Peter, "Do you love me?" In this way he reversed the threefold denial of himself. From that time Simon was to lead those who had witnessed God's mysteries. He cried out to the Lord, "You know all things; you know that I love you." "Feed my sheep, tend my chosen ones," the Saviour said. "Feed my lambs whose salvation I bought

with my own blood.” O blessed Apostle, pray that he may grant us great mercy.

Both now:

*O Virgin*, the prophet David was a forefather of God through you. He spoke beforehand about you in songs to the *Lord* who worked wonders in you, “At your right hand stood the queen.” God, who was well-pleased to be incarnate from you without a father, announced you as mother and source of Life. He wanted to renew his fallen image, which had been made corrupt by passion, so he found the lost sheep wandering on the mountain, placed it on his shoulders and brought it to his Father. He joined it to the heavenly powers by his own will. O Theotokos, Christ who has great and rich mercy has saved the world.

*Entrance*

### **Phos Ilarón**

P/D: Wisdom! Stand upright!  
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.

### **Prokeímenon** *Of the Day*

#### **Reading 1**

From the First Letter of Peter (1:3-9)  
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, kept in heaven for you. <sup>5</sup>By God's power *you* are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed at

the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while you may have to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold which though perishable is tested by fire, may be found to result in praise, glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

<sup>8</sup>Without having seen him you love him. Although you do not now see him, you believe in him, and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy.

<sup>9</sup>You obtain the salvation of your souls as the outcome of your faith.

### **Reading 2**

From the First Letter of Peter (1:13-19)

Brothers, clothe your minds, be sober, set your hope fully on the grace that is coming to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, <sup>15</sup>but as the one who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct, <sup>16</sup>since it is written, "You must be holy, for I am holy." <sup>17</sup>If you invoke as Father the one who judges everyone impartially according to his deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup>You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your fathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

### **Reading 3**

From the First Letter of Peter (2:11-24)

Brothers, I implore you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh that wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup>Maintain good conduct among the Gentiles, so that in case they speak against you as wrongdoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. <sup>13</sup>Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it is to the emperor as supreme, <sup>14</sup>or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. <sup>15</sup>For it is God's will that by doing right you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. <sup>16</sup>Live as free men, yet without using your freedom as a pretext for evil; live as servants of God. <sup>17</sup>Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the emperor. <sup>18</sup>Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to the kind and gentle but also to the overbearing. <sup>19</sup>For one is approved if, remembering God, he endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>For what credit is it, if, when you do wrong and are beaten for it, you take it patiently? But if when you do right and suffer for it you take it patiently, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called,

because Christ also suffered for us and left us an example that we should follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>He committed no sin; no deceit was found on his lips. <sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not abuse in return. When he suffered, he did not threaten, but he trusted to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sin and live to justice. You have been healed by his wounds.

### **Ektení**

#### **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.*

### **Lití**

Tone 5

O Apostles *you are* praised throughout the world. The Wisdom of God, the Word of the Father, foretold in his gospel that you would be his true vines. You carried in your branches the sweet-tasting Fruit of life. Those of us who are faithful partake and are filled with joy. O Peter, rock of faith, and Paul, pride of all the earth, strengthen the flock established through your teachings.

## Apósticha

### Tone 1

O glorious Apostle Paul, who can describe your bondage and tribulations in the cities? Who can speak of your endless toil and effort for the gospel of Christ? You laboured to gain the entire human race and lead them into Christ's holy Church. O Paul, apostle and teacher of the churches, pray that she may guard your true confession to the ends of the world.

S1: Their sound has gone out into all the earth. Ps 18

O glorious Apostle Paul, who can describe your bondage and tribulations in the cities? You kept vigil in hunger and thirst, *and were* cold, naked and weary; you fled from Damascus for your life and were let down in a basket through the wall. Your back was torn by rods of iron; you were stoned and kept a prisoner under guard. You were shipwrecked and cast adrift in the open sea. Truly you are a spectacle for angels and the human race. You endured all these things for Jesus Christ, your Lord and your strength, so that you might win the whole world for him. We entreat you, as we faithfully keep your memory, "Pray unceasingly that our souls may be saved."

S2: The heavens declare God's glory of God.

Let us praise Peter and Paul, the two great stars of the church. They shine brighter than the sun in the sky of faith. Let the nations follow the rays of their preaching and be led from ignorance to divine knowledge. One was nailed to the cross and received the keys of the kingdom from Christ in Heaven. The other was beheaded by the sword and departed to the Saviour; he is worthily counted blessed. Together they proclaim to Israel, "The one who was stretched out on the cross is the Lord of all." By their prayers, O Christ our God, strengthen the Orthodox Faith and destroy our enemies, for you are the Lover of the human race.

### Glory: Tone 6

A joyful feast dawns over the earth today for the memorial of Peter and Paul, the wise leaders of the apostles. Let Rome rejoice and be glad with us. O brothers, let us keep feast in songs and hymns. Hail, O apostle Peter, true friend of Christ our God! Hail, O dear Paul, herald of the faith and teacher of the inhabited earth! O chosen pair, you have boldness before him; continually pray that our souls may be saved.

Both now:

O Theotokos of God, you are the true vine loaded with the Fruit of life. Therefore, O Lady, we beg you to intercede, together with the apostles and all the saints, that we may obtain mercy for our souls.

### **Song of Simeon**

B/P: O Master, now let your servant depart in peace  
according to your word,  
<sup>2</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared before all peoples,  
<sup>3</sup> a light of revelation for *the* nations  
and *the* glory of your people Israel.

### **Triságon Prayers**

#### **Apolytikia**

Tone 4

O first-enthroned of the apostles and teachers of the inhabited earth, implore the Master of all to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

O Virgin Theotokos, we praise you for mediating the salvation of our race. For your Son and our God accepted suffering through the cross in the flesh which he took from you. He has freed us from corruption, for he is the Lover of the human race.

#### **Dismissal**

### **ORTHROS**

#### **God is the Lord Ps 117**

R: God is the Lord and has appeared to us.

Blessed is the one who comes in the Lord's name. *Ps 117*

S1: Thank the Lord, for he is good,  
for his mercy lasts for ever.

S2: All the nations surrounded me,  
but I opposed them in the Lord's name.

S3: This *is* the Lord's doing  
and it is wonderful in our eyes.

## **Apolytikia**

Tone 4

O first-enthroned of the apostles and teachers of the inhabited earth, implore the Master of all to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

O Virgin Theotokos, we praise you for mediating the salvation of our race. For your Son and our God accepted suffering through the cross in the flesh which he took from you. He has freed us from corruption, for he is the Lover of the human race.

## **Small Litany**

P: For yours is the might, and yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

## **Kathisma 1**

Tone 8

The Father from heaven showed you the divine revelation of the incarnate Word. O Peter, you forsook the depth of the sea filled with fish and cried out with great boldness to your Maker, "I acknowledge you to be the co-existing Son of the Father." Therefore you were truly and rightly revealed as the Rock of faith. O Apostle, you are the custodian of grace; intercede with Christ our God that remission of sins may be given to those who lovingly celebrate your holy memory. *X2*

## **Kathisma 2**

Tone 8

You were called from heaven by Christ and revealed as the herald of light. You illuminated the entire human race with the teaching of grace. O Paul, you shine with the radiance of the Spirit and blotted out the service of the law by your writing. Therefore you were counted worthy of translation to Paradise and the third Heaven. Intercede with Christ our God that remission of sins may be given to those who lovingly celebrate your holy memory.

Glory:

O apostles of the Lord, like stars you enlighten the ends of the earth with brilliant radiance through your teaching and holy preaching. You are the initiates of the heavenly mysteries.

Both now:

Those of us who are faithful bless the Theotokos through whom we have been rescued from corruption. She is the fervent ally of those in tribulation, *as also* our helper and reconciliation with God.

*Polyeleos*

### **Kathísma 3**

Tone 8

Let us praise the leaders of the apostles, those great and radiant lights, Peter and the most wise Paul. They glowed with the fire of the Holy Spirit and burnt up all the darkness of error. They have become worthy citizens of the Kingdom above and are seated on thrones of grace. Therefore, let us sing to them, “O holy apostles of Christ our God, plead with him to grant forgiveness of sins to those who lovingly celebrate your holy memory. X2

### **Small Litany**

P: For yours is the might, and yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

### **Anaváthmi Ps 128 Tone 4**

1: Many passions have fought against me from my youth,  
but help me and save me, O my Saviour. X2

2: Those who hate Zion will be shamed by the Lord;  
they will be withered like grass by the fire. X2

Glory:

3: Every soul lives through the Holy Spirit, is exalted in purity  
and illuminated by the Triune Unity in a sacred mystery.

Both now:

4: The streams of grace pour out through the Holy Spirit;  
they water all creation and produce life.

### **Prokeímenon Ps 18 Tone 4**

R: Their sound has gone out into all the earth. Ps 18

S: The heavens declare God's glory of God.

### **Gospel Dialogue**

P/D: Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy*

P: For you, O God, are holy *and* rest in the Holy Place. We send up glory to you, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

R: Let everything with breath praise the Lord. X3

Praise God in his saints;

praise him in the firmament of his power. Ps 50

P/D: And that we may be counted worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord our God. *Lord have mercy X3*

P/D: Wisdom. Stand up. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

P: Peace be with you all. *And with your spirit*

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

P/D: Let us attend

R: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

### **Gospel**

From the Holy Gospel according to John (21:15-25)

At that time Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep." <sup>18</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you girded yourself and walked where you would; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish to go." <sup>19</sup> (This he said to show by what death he was to glorify God.) And after this he said to him, "Follow me."

<sup>20</sup> Peter turned and saw following them the disciple whom Jesus loved, who had lain close to his breast at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" <sup>21</sup> When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!" <sup>23</sup> The saying

spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?"<sup>24</sup> This is the disciple who is bearing witness to these things, and who has written these things; and we know that his testimony is true.<sup>25</sup> But there are also many other things which Jesus did; were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

R: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

### Psalm 50

O God, have mercy on me in your abundant mercy  
and wipe out my offence through your great compassion.  
<sup>4</sup> Wash me thoroughly from my lawless act  
and cleanse me from my sin.  
<sup>5</sup> For I know my lawlessness  
and my sin is always before me.  
<sup>6</sup> I have sinned against you alone  
and done this evil before you  
<sup>6b</sup> so that you might be justified in your words  
and overcome when you are judged.  
<sup>7</sup> For see, I was conceived in lawlessness  
and my mother gave birth to me in sin.  
<sup>8</sup> For see, you have loved truth  
and revealed to me the hidden and secret *things* of your wisdom.  
<sup>9</sup> You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I will be clean;  
you will wash me and I will become whiter than snow.  
<sup>10</sup> You will make me hear about joy and gladness;  
the humbled bones will rejoice.  
<sup>11</sup> Turn your face from my sins  
and wipe out all my lawlessness.  
<sup>12</sup> O God, create a pure heart within me  
and renew an upright spirit within me.  
<sup>13</sup> Do not banish me from your presence  
or remove your Holy Spirit from me.  
<sup>14</sup> Restore the joy of your salvation to me  
and make me firm with your directing Spirit.  
<sup>15</sup> I will teach the lawless your ways  
and the ungodly will return to you.

- <sup>16</sup> O God, set me free from the guilt of blood;  
O God of my salvation,  
my tongue will rejoice in your justice.
- <sup>17</sup> O Lord, you will open my lips  
and my mouth will proclaim your praise.
- <sup>18</sup> For if you had wanted sacrifice, I would have given it;  
you will not be pleased with burnt offerings.
- <sup>19</sup> Sacrifice for God is a broken spirit;  
God will not despise a broken and humbled heart.
- <sup>20</sup> O Lord, be good to Zion in your pleasure  
and let the walls of Jerusalem be built.
- <sup>21</sup> Then you will be pleased with a sacrifice of justice,  
with an offering and burnt sacrifices;  
then they will offer calves on your altar.

Glory: Tone 6

O merciful *Lord*, blot out the abundance of our offences through the prayers of the apostles.

Both now:

O merciful *Lord*, blot out the abundance of our offences through the prayers of the Theotokos.

Have mercy: Tone 2

O Peter, you are the leader of the apostles and the rock of faith. O Paul, you are the speaker and light of the churches of God. Now that you stand before the throne of God, plead with Christ for us.

### **Intercession**

P/D: O God, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Visit your world with mercy and compassion; exalt the horn of Orthodox Christians and send down on them your rich mercy, through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, by the power of the honourable and life-giving cross, through the protection of the honourable bodiless powers of heaven, through the prayers of the honourable, glorious, prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, of the holy, glorious, all-praised apostles, of the holy, all-praised and victorious martyrs, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, of the holy and just forebears of God, Ioachim and Anna, of the holy apostles Peter and Paul, and of all the saints. We

ask you, only merciful Lord, “Listen to us sinners as we pray to you, and have mercy on us.”

*Lord have mercy. X12*

Through the mercy, compassion and love for the human race of your uniquely-fathered Son, with whom you are blessed, together with the all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.  
*Amen.*

### **Kontákion**

Tone 2

O Lord, only Searcher of the hearts of men, you have taken up to eternal rest and to the enjoyment of your blessings the two preachers of divine truth and leaders of the apostles, for you have accepted their labours and deaths as a sweet-smelling sacrifice.

### **Íkos**

O Saviour, give my tongue speech and open my mouth. Fill it with your Spirit and grant my heart contrition, so that I may be the first to stick to what I say and accomplish what I teach, for you have said that whoever does what he teaches is truly great among men. For if I do not do what I say, then I am merely resonant brass. Therefore, only Searcher of the hearts of men, teach me what to say and allow me to do what is right.

### **Synaxáron**

Today we remember the holy, glorious and renowned leaders of the apostles, Peter and Paul. Peter was the son of a fisherman, yet became a leader among the Twelve. Paul was a Roman citizen, yet turned his back on privilege to labour for the Gospel. As he preached about Christ, Peter was sent to the cross. Paul was the executioner of error and felt the edge of the sword on his neck. On the Twenty Ninth their blood bathed the earth at Rome.

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

### **Katavasías**

1: I will open my mouth and be filled with the spirit. I will sing a song to the Queen and Mother. I will come, rejoice in the feast and praise all her glory.

3: O Theotokos, living and inexhaustible fountain, in your divine glory spiritually establish your choir which is assembled in chorus. Make them worthy *to receive* crowns of glory in your mercy.

4: The counsel of God cannot be scrutinised. The Most High was incarnate from a Virgin. The prophet Habakkuk foresaw this and cried, “Glory to your power, O God!”

5: O Virgin, all creation was amazed at your divine glory, for you knew no man. You held thee God of all in your womb and gave birth to the eternal Son. You order salvation for all those who praise you.

6: O devout people, come and clap hands while we observe this divine and most precious feast of the Mother of God. Let us glorify God who was born from her.

7: The devout youths worshipped the Creator rather than created things. They courageously trampled on the threatening fire and joyfully sang, “Blessed are you, most praised Lord, the God of our fathers.”

8: Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord. The *Lord* who was born from the Theotokos saved the holy children in the furnace. The one who was then prefigured has now been born on earth and gathers the whole inhabited earth to sing, “All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord and exalt him above all for ever.

## Ode 9

**M**y soul glorifies the Lord  
and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour. **R**

**R:** *You are* more honourable than the Cherubim  
and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim.  
You gave birth to God the Word without defilement;  
O true Theotokos, we glorify you.

<sup>2</sup> For he has regarded his servant's humility;  
see, from now all generations will call me blessed. **R**  
<sup>3</sup> For the Almighty has accomplished great *things* for me  
and his name is holy.

His mercy is from generation to generation  
on those who fear him. **R**

<sup>4</sup> He has accomplished strength with his arm  
*and* scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. **R**

<sup>5</sup> He has put down the mighty from *their* thrones  
and exalted the humble.

He has satisfied the hungry with good *things*  
and dismissed the rich with nothing. **R**

<sup>6</sup> He has helped his servant Israel  
in remembering his mercy,  
as he spoke to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his seed for ever. **R**

9: Let every earthborn mortal spiritually rejoice and carry lamps. be  
radiant and spiritually leap for joy. Let the ranks of angelic powers  
celebrate as they honour the sacred wonders of the Theotokos and cry,  
“Hail, O pure and blessed Ever-virgin who gave birth to God!”

### **Small Litany**

P: For blessed is your name, and glorified is your kingdom, of the Father  
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*

### **Exaposteilaria**

Tone 2

I sing about the leaders of the apostles, Peter and Paul. They are lights of  
the inhabited earth, heralds of faith, trumpets sounding with truth,  
preachers of belief, pillars of the Church and destroyers of error.

O Virgin full of grace and mother of God, the great and awesome mystery  
of your child-bearing was proclaimed by the prophets, taught by the  
apostles, acknowledged by the martyrs, praise by the heavenly angels and  
honoured by the human race on earth.

### **Praises**

Tone 4

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.

S4: Praise him with cymbal and dance;  
praise him with strings and flute.

The Saviour asked the twelve apostles, “Who do men say that I am?”  
Then Peter, the leader of the disciples, received heavenly grace and cried  
out with a clear voice, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”  
He is worthy of our highest praise, for he was given this revelation from  
the Father in Heaven. He has justly won the power of binding and loosing.

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;  
praise him with joyful cymbals.

Let everything with breath praise the Lord.  
O Peter, it is right to call you the rock. The Lord established the unshaken  
faith of the Church on you. He made you the chief shepherd of his rational  
sheep and has entrusted you with the keys of the heavenly gates. In his  
goodness he commanded you to open to all those who approach with faith.  
Your Master counted you worthy to be crucified. Plead with him to  
enlighten and save our souls.

S2: Their sound has gone out into all the earth. Ps 18

O Paul, you were not called by man, but by God. Mist and darkness  
covered your bodily eyes when the misery of unbelief was revealed to you.  
Heavenly light flashed before the eyes of your heart and revealed to you  
the beauty of Jesus Christ, our Lord. You came to know the one who  
brings light from darkness. Plead with him to enlighten and save our  
souls.

S1: The heavens declare God’s glory of God.

O Paul, you boldly proclaimed Christ and proudly carried his cross. You  
treasured his love above everything. Because you were captivated by your  
cherished *Lord*, you rejoiced to be called his slave. You chose danger and

death for his name as being sweeter than all this world's delights. Now you have been released from your labours and have won the Master's praise. Plead with him to enlighten and save our souls.

Glory: Tone 6

Assemble, O chosen members of Christ's holy Church! The feast of the honourable apostles dawns on the earth and brings salvation for us all. Clap your hands, all you peoples! Cry out with festivity, "Hail, O twin rays of the sun which enlighten us who sit in darkness! Hail, O Peter and Paul, unshakeable pillars of divine doctrine! Hail, O friends of Christ and chosen vessels! Come and be present with us in spirit. Grant us spiritual gifts as we celebrate your sacred memory with song.

Both now:

O Theotokos, you are the true vine who bloomed for us with the Fruit of life. O Lady, plead with him, we pray you, together with the apostles and all the saints, to have mercy on our souls.

### **Great Doxology**

Glory to you who have shown us the light!

glory to God in the highest!

Peace on earth and goodwill to men!

<sup>2</sup> We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,  
we glorify you, we thank you for your great glory,

<sup>3</sup> O Lord King, heavenly God, almighty Father,  
O Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ,  
and you, O Holy Spirit!

<sup>4</sup> O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us,

*for* you take away the sin of the world.

<sup>5</sup> Receive our prayer,

*for* you sit on the right of the Father,  
and have mercy on us.

<sup>6</sup> For only you are holy, only you are Lord,

O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

<sup>7</sup> I will bless you every day

and always praise your name for ever and ever. Ps 144

<sup>8</sup> O Lord, allow us this day

to be guarded from sin.

<sup>9</sup> Blessed are you, O Lord God of our fathers!

Praised and glorified be your name for ever. Amen. Daniel 3

<sup>10</sup> O Lord, let your mercy *be* on us,

for we have hoped in you. Ps 32.

<sup>16</sup> Blessed are you, O Lord!

Teach me your statutes. X3 Ps 118

<sup>12</sup> O Lord, you have been our refuge

from generation to generation. Ps 89

I said, "O Lord, have mercy on me;

heal my soul, for I have sinned against you." Ps 40

<sup>14</sup> O Lord, I have fled to you;

teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Ps 142

<sup>15</sup> For with you is the source of life

and in your light we will see light. Ps 35

<sup>16</sup> Stretch out your mercy

to those who know you. Ps 35

## **Triságion**

## **Apolytícion**

Tone 4

O first-enthroned of the apostles and teachers of the inhabited earth,  
implore the Master of all to grant peace to the world and great mercy to  
our souls.

## **LITURGY**

### **Antiphon 1 Ps 91 Tone 5**

S1: It is good to thank the Lord

and make melody to your name, O Most High.

R: At the prayers of the Theotokos, Saviour, save us!

S2: To announce your mercy in the morning  
and your truth by night,

S3: For the Lord our God is upright  
and there is no injustice in him.

S4: Glory: Both now:

### **Antiphon 2 Ps 94 Tone 2**

S1: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord,  
and shout with joy to God our Saviour.

R: Save us, O Son of God. You are wonderful in your saints.  
We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

S2: Let us enter his presence with gratitude  
and shout with gladness to him in psalms.

For the Lord is a great God  
and an exalted king over all the earth.

S3: For the ends of the earth are in his hand  
and the summits of the mountains are his.

For the sea is his and he made it;  
his hands have formed the dry land.

*Monogenes*

### **Antiphon 3 Ps 18 Tone 3**

S1: Their sound has gone out into all the earth.

R: O first-enthroned of the apostles and teachers of the inhabited earth,  
implore the Master of all to grant peace to the world and great mercy to  
our souls.

S2: The heavens declare God's glory.

### **Entrance Ps 94**

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.

Save us, O Son of God.

You are wonderful in your saints.

We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

### **Apolytikia**

Tone 4

O first-enthroned of the apostles and teachers of the inhabited earth,  
implore the Master of all to grant peace to the world and great mercy to  
our souls.

## *Of the Church*

### **Kontákion**

O unfailing protection of Christians and unchanging mediator before the Creator, do not despise the prayers of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to those of us who faithfully cry to you, “O Theotokos, you always protect those who honour you, so hurry to intercede for us and hasten to plead for us.”

### **Triságion**

#### **Prokeímenon Ps 18 Tone 8**

R: Their sound has gone out into all the earth.

S: The heavens declare God’s glory of God.

### **Apostolos**

From the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (11:21-12:9)

Brothers, however anyone is bold (I speak in foolishness), I am bold also.

<sup>22</sup> Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? So am I. <sup>23</sup> Are they servants of Christ? (I speak as one beside himself) I am more so; in labours more abundantly, in prisons more abundantly, in stripes above measure, in deaths often. <sup>24</sup> Five times from the Jews I received forty stripes minus one. <sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I suffered shipwreck. I have been a night and a day in the deep. <sup>26</sup> I have been in travels often, perils of rivers, perils of robbers, perils from my countrymen, perils from the Gentiles, perils in the city, perils in the wilderness, perils in the sea, perils among false brothers; <sup>27</sup> in labour and travail, in watching often, in hunger and thirst, in fasting often, and in cold and nakedness. <sup>28</sup> Besides those things that are outside, there is what presses on me daily, anxiety for all the churches. <sup>29</sup> Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is caused to stumble, and I do not burn with indignation? <sup>30</sup> If I must boast, I will boast of the things that concern my weakness. <sup>31</sup> The God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, the one who is blessed forevermore, knows that I do not lie. <sup>32</sup> In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king guarded the city of the Damascenes desiring to arrest me. <sup>33</sup> Through a window I was let down in a basket by the wall, and escaped his hands. It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. For I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. <sup>2</sup> I know a man in Christ, fourteen years ago (whether in the body, I do not

know, or whether out of the body, I do not know; God knows), such a one caught up into the third heaven. <sup>3</sup> I know such a man (whether in the body, or outside of the body, I do not know; God knows), <sup>4</sup> how he was caught up into Paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. <sup>5</sup> On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except in my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup> For if I would desire to boast, I will not be foolish; for I will speak the truth. But I forbear, so that no man may account of me above what he sees in me, or hears from me. <sup>7</sup> By reason of the exceeding greatness of the revelations, that I should not be exalted excessively, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, that I should not be exalted excessively. <sup>8</sup> Concerning this thing, I begged the Lord three times that it might depart from me. <sup>9</sup> He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Most gladly therefore I will rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest on me.

### **Alleluia Ps 88 Tone 1**

S1: O Lord, the heavens will acknowledge your wonders.

S2: God is glorified in a council of the saints.

### **Gospel**

From the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (16:13-19)

At that time when Jesus came into the parts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” <sup>14</sup> They said, “Some say John the Baptist, some, Elijah, and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup> Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup> I also tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give to you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven; whatever you release on earth will be released in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he charged the disciples that they should tell no one that he is Jesus the Christ.

### **Communion Ps 18**

Their sound has gone out into all the earth

and their words to the ends of the world. Alleluia!

