

**15 AUGUST**  
**§ Dormition of the Theotokos**

**VESPERS**

**Lord I have cried**

Tone 1

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.

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.

The Source of Life is laid in the grave and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven. Rejoice, O Gethsemane, holy dwelling place of the Theotokos! O faithful, come with Gabriel leading and cry, "Hail, O full of grace, the Lord is with you and through you grants the world great mercy." X2

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 pure Lady, your mysteries are glorious. You were made the throne of the Most High and today you are transferred from earth to heaven. Your glory is full of majesty and shines with divine brightness. O virgins, ascend on high with the Mother of the King. Hail, O full of grace, the Lord is with you and through you grants the world great mercy. X2

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

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

The dominions, thrones, rulers, principalities, powers, Cherubim and fearful Seraphim glorify your falling asleep. All those who live on earth rejoice and are adorned with your divine glory. Kings fall down and sing with the archangels and angels, "Hail, O full of grace, the Lord is with you and through you grants the world great mercy." X2

Glory: Both now: Multi-toned

T1: At the sovereign command of God, the God-bearing apostles were caught up from every place,

T5: and when they came to your all-pure body from which Life has come, they kissed it with love.

T2: The heavenly powers also came with their Master,

T6: and in awe escorted the body which was all-pure and well-pleasing to God, the body which had received God in the flesh. And with dignity they went before and invisibly cried out to the Most High powers, "See, the Queen of all and the Maiden of God is coming.

T3: O gates, lift up and raise her who is the Mother of the Everlasting Light,

T7: for the salvation of all was accomplished through her. We cannot gaze at her and or give her the honour which is her due,

T4: for her virtue surpasses all understanding."

T8: Therefore, most-pure Theotokos, as you live for ever with your Son, the Life-bearing King, pray to him to preserve the new people of God, and to save them from every attack of the enemy, for we have acquired your intercession,

T1: and we bless you in beauty and light for ever.

*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*

**Prophecy 1**

*Jacob's ladder – an antitype of the Theotokos*

From the Book of Genesis (28:10-18)

Jacob went away from Beersheba and left for Haran. <sup>11</sup> He came to a certain place and slept there, for the sun had gone down; he took one of the stones of the place, put it under his head and lay down to sleep in that place. <sup>12</sup> He dreamed and see there was a ladder fixed on the earth, whose top reached heaven, and the angels of God ascended and descended on it. <sup>13</sup> Then the Lord stood on it, and said: I am the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. Do not fear; the land on which you lie, to you I will give it, and to your seed. <sup>14</sup> Your seed will be like the sand of the earth; it will spread out to the sea, to the south, to the north and to the east. In you and in your seed will all the tribes of the earth be blessed. <sup>15</sup> See I am with you to preserve you continually along all the way on which you will go. I will bring you back to this land, for I will not desert you, until I have done all that I have said to you. <sup>16</sup> Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said: The Lord is in this place and I did not know it. <sup>17</sup> He was afraid and said: How fearful is this place! This is no other than the house of God and this is the gate of heaven. <sup>18</sup> Then Jacob rose in the morning, took the stone which he had laid there beside his head, set it up as a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.

**Prophecy 2**

From the Prophecy of Ezekiel (43:27, 44:1-4)

It will come to pass that from the eighth day onwards, the priests will offer your whole-burnt-offerings on the altar, together with your peace-offerings. Then I will accept you, says the Lord. <sup>1</sup> Then he brought me back by the way of the outer gate of the sanctuary that looks eastwards, but it was shut. <sup>2</sup> And the Lord said to me: This gate will be shut, it will not be

opened, and no one will pass through it, for the Lord God of Israel will enter through it, and it will be shut. <sup>3</sup> For the prince, he will sit in it, to eat bread before the Lord; he will go in by the way of the porch of the gate, and will go out by the same way. <sup>4</sup> Then he brought me in through the way of the gate that looks northwards, in front of the house. I looked, and see, the house was full of the glory of the Lord, so I fell on my face.

### **Prophecy 3**

From the Book of Proverbs (9:1-11)

Wisdom has built a house for herself, and set up seven pillars. <sup>2</sup> She has killed her sacrifices; she has mingled her wine in a bowl, and prepared her table. <sup>3</sup> She has sent out her servants, calling with a loud proclamation to the feast, as though in a hollow, saying: <sup>4</sup> Whoever is foolish, let him turn aside to me; and to those who want understanding she says: <sup>5</sup> Come, eat my bread, and drink wine which I have mingled for you. <sup>6</sup> Leave folly and seek; search for wisdom so that you may live. Improve understanding by knowledge. <sup>7</sup> The one who disciplines evildoers will obtain dishonour for himself. The one who rebukes an ungodly man will disgrace himself. <sup>8</sup> Do not rebuke evildoers, in case they hate you. Rebuke a wise man and he will love you. <sup>9</sup> Give an opportunity to a wise man, and he will be wiser: instruct someone just, and he will receive more instruction. <sup>10</sup> The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the counsel of holy ones is understanding, for to know the law is good understanding. <sup>11</sup> For in this way you will live long, and years of your life will be added to you.

### **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

Come, all who love to keep the feasts, let us form a choir. Come *and* crown the Church with songs, for the Ark of God goes to her rest. For today heaven opens wide as it receives the mother of the one who cannot be contained. The earth, as it yields up the Source of Life, is robed in blessing and majesty. The hosts of angels, who are present with the fellowship of the apostles, gaze in great fear at the *Lady* who gave birth to the Cause of life. Now that she is translated from life to life, let us all venerate and implore her, "O Lady, do not forget your ties of kinship with those who faithfully observe the feast of your all-holy Dormition.

## Apósticha

Tone 4

All you people come and sing the praises of the pure and most holy Virgin from whom the Word of the Father ineffably came in the flesh. Let us cry aloud and say, "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the womb which held Christ. Most pure *Lady*, now that you have delivered your soul into his holy hands, plead with him to save our souls.

S1: O Lord, rise into your resting-place,  
you and the ark of your holiness. Ps 131

O pure and most holy Virgin, the host of angels in heaven and the human race on earth praise and venerate your falling asleep, for you are the Mother of Christ our God, the Creator of all. O greatly-honoured, unwedded Theotokos, continually plead with him for us, for next to God, we have put our hope in you.

S2: The Lord has sworn  
and will not change his mind. Ps 109

O people, come and sing today a song of David to Christ our God. "The virgins who follow her," he said, "will be brought to the King." They will be brought with joy and gladness, for she, through whom we have been made godlike, is from the seed of David. She gloriously and ineffably commends herself into the hands of her own Son and Master. While we praise her as the Mother of God, we cry out to her and say, "O Theotokos, save us from every distress and affliction, for we acknowledge you."

Glory: Both now: Tone 4

O virgin Theotokos, when you departed to the one who was ineffably born from you, James the first bishop and brother of the Lord was there, and so was Peter, the honourable leader and chief of the disciples, and the whole sacred fellowship of the apostles. In speeches which revealed heavenly matters they praised the divine mystery of Christ's dispensation. O greatly-venerated Virgin, they rejoiced as they buried your body. On high the most holy angelic powers bowed in wonder and said to one another, "Open wide your gates and receive her who bore the Creator of heaven and earth." So we also, O gracious Lady, cry out to you, "Raise all Christian people and save 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.

### **Triságion Prayers**

#### **Apolytícion**

Tone 1

O Theotokos, when you gave birth you preserved your virginity; when you fell asleep you did not forsake the world. O Mother of Life, you were transferred to life and rescue our souls from death through your prayers.

X3

### **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.

### Apolytikion

Tone 1

O Theotokos, when you gave birth you preserved your virginity; when you fell asleep you did not forsake the world. O Mother of Life, you were transferred to life and rescue our souls from death through your prayers.

X3

### 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 4

O David, cry out, "What is this present feast?" "Christ," he said, "has transferred to the heavenly homes the *Lady* who gave birth to him without seed. She is the one of whom I sang in the book of Psalms, when I called her, "Daughter, Child of God and Virgin." Therefore, O mothers, daughters and brides of Christ, celebrate and cry, "Rejoice", for she is transferred to the heavenly kingdom. X2

### Kathisma 2

Tone 1

O far-famed Theotokos, the honourable choir of the wise apostles was miraculously assembled to bury your most pure body in glory. Together with them the hosts of angels sounded the triumphant praises of your transferral which we celebrate with faith. X2

*Polyeleos*

### **Kathísma 3**

Tone 3

When you gave birth your conception was without seed and when you fell asleep your death was without corruption. O Theotokos, a second miracle followed the first. How could a woman who had not been touched by a man nurse a child, yet remain a virgin? O Theotokos, how could you experience death? Therefore we cry to you with the angel, “Hail, O Full of Grace!” X2

### **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, 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 44 Tone 4**

R: I will remember your name.

S: O daughter, listen and see.

### **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 Luke (1:39-49, 56)

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, <sup>40</sup> and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup> And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup> For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." <sup>46</sup> And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, <sup>48</sup> for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup> for the one who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>56</sup> And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her home.

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*, wipe out the abundance of our sins through the intercessions of the Theotokos.

Both now:

O merciful *Lord*, wipe out the abundance of our sins through the intercessions of the Theotokos.

Have mercy: Tone 6

When the translation of your most pure tabernacle was being prepared, the apostles surrounded your deathbed and looked at you with dread. As they gazed at your body, they were filled with awe. Peter cried out to you with tears, “O undefiled Virgin, I see you, the life of the entire human race as you lie here stretched out and I am struck with wonder. For the *Lord* who is the delight of the future life made his home in you. Pray then fervently to your Son and God to save your flock from harm.

### **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, 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

Neither tomb nor death could hold the Theotokos who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. For being the Mother of Life, she was transferred to life by the *Lord* who made his home in her virginal womb.

## **Íkos**

O my Saviour, set a rampart around my mind, for I boldly sing the praises of your most pure Mother, the stronghold of the world. Establish me firmly within the fortress of my words and make me strong within the defences of my thoughts, for you promise to fulfil the petitions of those who plead with you in faith. Grant my tongue prompt speech with thoughts which bring no shame, for every good gift and enlightenment is sent down from you, the guiding Light who lived in her virginal womb.

## **Synaxáron**

Today we remember the honourable Dormition of the most holy Theotokos. Although she died on the Fifteenth, she lives for ever. O God, have mercy on us and save us through her holy prayers, for you are good and love the human race. Amen.

## **Katavasías**

1: O Virgin, your sacred and renowned memorial is clothed in the embroidered garments of divine glory. It has brought all the faithful together in joy. They are led by Miriam with dances and tambourines. They sing the praises of your only begotten Son, for he has been greatly glorified.

I will open my mouth and it will be filled with the spirit. I will sing a song to the Queen and Mother. I will come, rejoice in the feast and praise her holy Dormition.

3: O Christ, wisdom and the power of God, since you create and support all things, establish the Church as immoveable and steadfast, for only you are holy and have your resting place among the saints.

O Theotokos, living and inexhaustible fountain, in your divine glory spiritually establish your choir which has been assembled in chorus. Make them worthy of the crowns of glory through your mercy.

4: O Christ, since the radiance of your brightness would come as a light to the Gentiles, the dark sayings and riddles of the prophets foreshadowed your incarnation from a Virgin. The depths cry out to you with joy, “Glory to your power, O lover of the human race.

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

5: O Christ, I will declare the divine and ineffable beauty of your perfection, for you have shone in your own person as the co-eternal brightness from the eternal glory. After you had taken flesh from a virgin's womb, you rose as the Sun and gave light to those who were in darkness and shadow.

O Virgin, the entire creation was awed by your divine glory, for you did not know man, yet gave birth to the God of all. You have been translated from earth to the eternal mansions and to the life without end; you grant salvation to those who praise you in song.

6: The fire-breathing whale, the monster inhabiting the salt waters of the sea was a prefiguring of your three-days' burial. Jonah acted as interpreter, for after being saved and unharmed as though he had never been swallowed, he cried, “O God, I will sacrifice to you with the voice of praise.”

O divinely-inspired believers, let us clap our hands in gladness as we celebrate the most precious feast of the Mother of God and glorify God who was born from her.

7: Divine Love, fought against cruel wrath and fire, quenched the fire with dew, derided the wrath and made the three-stringed harp of the saints inspired by God sing in the midst of the flames in answer to the instruments of music. “Blessed are you, most glorious God, our God and the God of our fathers!”

The godly youths worshipped the Creator, not the creature. They courageously trampled on the flames and joyfully sang, “Blessed are you, most praised Lord God of our fathers!”

8: The all powerful angel of God revealed to the children a flame which brought refreshment to the holy while it consumed the ungodly. He made the Theotokos a life-giving spring which gushed for the destruction of

death and for the life of those who sing, "We have been rescued and praise the one and only Creator as we exalt him above all for ever.

Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord.

The *Lord* who was born to the Theotokos saved the holy children in the furnace. The one who was then prefigured has now been born on earth. He gathers all creation to sing, "All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord, and exalt him above all for ever!"

### **Canticle Nine**

*The Magnificat is not sung*

O Theotokos, all generations call you blessed.

O pure Virgin, the limits of nature are overcome in you, for birth-giving remains virginal and life is united to death. O Theotokos, you were a virgin after childbearing, alive after death and always save your inheritance.

O Theotokos, all generations call you blessed.

The angelic powers were amazed when they saw their own Master in Zion bearing a woman's soul in his hands. As is correct for a Son, he said to her who had spotlessly given birth to him, "O honourable among women, come and be glorified with your Son and God.

O Theotokos, all generations call you blessed.

As they stood around your body which had held God, the choir of the apostles looked on it with awe, greeted it and said with clear voices, "Since you depart to your Son in the heavenly homes, always save your inheritance.

O Theotokos, all generations call you blessed.

The angels, as they gazed at the Dormition of the Virgin, were struck with wonder when they saw how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven.

### **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*

## Exaposteilárion

Tone 3

O apostles, you have assembled here in Gethsemane from all the ends of the earth, so bury my body. My Son and my God, receive my spirit. X3

### 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.

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;

praise him with joyful cymbals.

Let everything with breath praise the Lord.

O unwedded virgin Mother of the Lord of all, the heavens rejoice and the armies of angels are festive at your glorious Dormition. The whole earth celebrates and sings a farewell hymn to you, for you have rescued the human race from the ancestral curse. X2

S1: O Lord, rise into your resting-place,

you and the ark of your holiness. Ps 131

The chief apostles hurried from the ends of the earth to bury you at a divine command. When they saw you taken up from earth to heaven, they shouted the words of Gabriel with joy and cried, "Hail. O bearer of the entire Divinity! Hail, for you alone have united heavenly and earthly things through your child-bearing!"

S2: The Lord has sworn

and will not change his mind. Ps 109

O virgin Mother and Bride of God, you gave birth to Life. Now at your holy Dormition, you are transferred to immortal life, attended by angels,

principalities, powers, apostles, prophets, and the whole creation. Your Son received your spotless soul into his immaculate hands.

Glory: Both now: Tone 6

O Theotokos, Mother of the Life, clouds caught up the apostles into the air at your deathless Dormition. Although they were dispersed throughout the world, they were brought together to form a single choir before your most pure body. While they buried you with reverence, they sang aloud the words of Gabriel, "Hail, O full of grace, unwedded virgin Mother, the Lord is with you. Plead with your Son and our God to save 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**

### **Apolytíkion**

Tone 1

O Theotokos, when you gave birth you preserved your virginity; when you fell asleep you did not forsake the world. O Mother of Life, you were transferred to life and rescue our souls from death through your prayers.

### **LITURGY**

#### **Antiphon 1 Ps 99, 47 & 75 Tone 2**

S1: All the earth, shout with joy to God.

R: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, Saviour, save us.

S2: Thank him *and* praise his name.

S3: In the city of the Lord of Hosts, in the city of our God.

S4: His place has been established in Salem  
and his home in Zion.

S5: Glory: Both now:

#### **Antiphon 2 Ps 86, 47 & 45 Own Tone**

S1: The Lord loves the gates of Zion  
more than all the homes of Jacob.

R: Save us, O Son of God.

You are wonderful in your saints.

We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

S2: O City of God, glorious things are spoken about you.

S3: God has established her for ever.

S4: The Most High has made his tabernacle holy.

S5: Glory: Both now:

*Monogenes*

### **Antiphon 3 Ps 56 & 115 Tone 1**

S1: My heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready.

R: O Theotokos, when you gave birth you preserved your virginity; when you fell asleep you did not forsake the world. O Mother of Life, you were transferred to life and you rescue our souls from death through your prayers.

S2: What shall I give back to the Lord  
for everything which he has given me?

S3: I will take up the cup of salvation  
and call on the Lord's name.

### **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!"

### **Apolytikion**

Tone 1

O Theotokos, when you gave birth you preserved your virginity; when you fell asleep you did not forsake the world. O Mother of Life, you were transferred to life and rescue our souls from death through your prayers.

### **Kontáktion**

Tone 2

Neither tomb nor death could hold the Theotokos who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. For being the Mother of Life, she was transferred to life by the *Lord* who made his home in her virginal womb.

## **Triságion**

### **Prokeimenon Lk Tone 3**

R: My soul glorifies the Lord

and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

S: For he has observed the humility of his servant.

## **Apostolos**

From the Letter of Paul to the Philippians (2:5-11)

Brothers, have this in your mind, which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, existing in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, yes, the death of the cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him, and gave to him the name which is above every name; <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, those on earth, and those under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Alleluia Ps 131 Tone 3**

S1: O Lord, rise into your resting-place.

S2: The Lord has sworn in truth to David  
and will not set it aside.

## **Gospel**

From the Holy Gospel according to Luke (10:38-42, 11:27-28)

At that time Jesus entered a certain village, and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. <sup>39</sup>She had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. <sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she came up to him, and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister left me to serve alone? Ask her therefore to help me."

<sup>41</sup>Jesus answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, <sup>42</sup>but one thing is needed. Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her." <sup>27</sup>It came to pass, as he said these things, a certain woman out of the multitude raised her voice, and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts which nursed you!" <sup>28</sup>But he said, "On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God, and keep it."

### **Especially**

O Theotokos, all generations call you blessed.

O pure Virgin, the limits of nature are overcome in you, for birth-giving remains virginal and life is united to death. O Theotokos, you were a virgin after childbearing, alive after death and always save your inheritance.

### **Communion Ps 115**

I will take up the cup of salvation

and address the name of the Lord. Alleluia!