

SUNDAY 20 JULY 2025
+Holy Glorious Prophet Ilías C9 BC
6th Sunday Tone 5 & Eothinón 6

VESPERS

Lord I have cried

Tone 5

10: Bring my soul out of prison

that I may acknowledge your name.

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*.

9: The just will wait,
until you reward me.

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."

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

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.

6: O Lord *our* Lord, if you mark offences,
who will stand?

But there is forgiveness with you.

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!

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

We glorify the Author of our salvation. The world was saved from deceit by his resurrection from the dead. The choir of angels rejoices as the error of demons takes flight. Fallen Adam rises as the Devil is overthrown.

4: Let Israel hope in the Lord
from the morning watch until night,
from the morning watch.

O wise Ilías, in your burning zeal for God you slaughtered the priests of confusion with the sword. By your word the heavens were bound so that it might not rain on the earth. By giving your cloak to Elisséos he grew and was filled with a double portion of divine grace.

Tone 2

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

Two lights have shone in the inhabited earth; they are the bright stars of Ilías and Elisséos. One of them stopped the rain from the heavens with the word of God and so convicted the king. He ascended into heaven in a fiery chariot. The other received a double portion of grace. He purified the polluted water and parted the stream of the Jordan. Now they rejoice with the angels and pray for the salvation of our souls.

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

O Ilías the Tishbite, you were lifted into the sky to the gates of heaven by a fiery chariot. The grace of the fire worked a miracle in you. Although you were created in the flesh you did not see death, so that you might preach in every place until the end. Therefore come and grant us your correction and instruction.

1: For he has strengthened his mercy over us
and the truth of the Lord remains for ever.

O never-setting light of the Church, O prophet Ilías, you were ablaze with zeal for God. You made the rain cease from heaven and you were fed by a raven. You convicted kings, caused priests to die and called down fire from heaven. Twice you caused the death of fifty men. The widow's jar of flour did not give out because of you, nor did her flask of oil fail; her son was raised from the dead through your prayers. You made fire burn the

water and caused the streams of the Jordan to be turned back. You ascended into heaven in a fiery chariot; Elisséos received a double portion of your grace. Continually intercede for us before God that he will save our souls.

Glory: Tone 6

Come, all Orthodox people! Let us assemble in the holy place in honour of the two prophets inspired by God. Let us sing together and give glory to Christ our God. Let us raise our voices and say joyfully, "Hail, O earthly angel, and heavenly man, Ilías of great name! Hail O Elisséos, for you received double grace from God! Hail, O pillars, champions and physicians of the Christian people! Rescue from every obstacle and tribulation those who celebrate with faith your all-glorious feast.

Both now:

In the Red Sea of old, a type of the virgin Bride was prefigured. There Moses divided the waters; here Gabriel assisted in the miracle. There Israel crossed the sea without getting wet; here the Virgin gave birth to Christ without seed. After Israel's passage, the sea remained impassable; after Emmanuel's birth, the spotless *Lady* remained a virgin. O eternally-existing God, O Lord appearing as man, have mercy on us.

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

P/D: The Evening Prokeimenon

R: The Lord reigns *and* is clothed with majesty.

S1: The Lord has put on power and clothed himself.

S2: He founded the world, which will not be moved.

Readings

1: From the Third Book of Kingdoms (17:1-24)

In those days Ilías the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there will be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word." ²And the word of the Lord came to him, ³"Depart from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, that is east of the Jordan. ⁴You will drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there." ⁵So he went and did according to the word of the Lord; he went and lived by the brook Cherith that is east of the Jordan. ⁶And the ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook. ⁷And after a while the brook dried up, because there was no rain in the land. ⁸Then the word of the Lord came to him, ⁹"Arise, go to Zar'ephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there. See, I have commanded a widow there to feed you." ¹⁰So he arose and went to Zar'ephath; and when he came to the gate of the city, See, a widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink." ¹¹And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." ¹²And she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a cruse; and now, I am gathering a couple of sticks, that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." ¹³And Ilías said to her, "Fear not; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For thus says the Lord the God of Israel, 'The jar of meal will not be spent, and the cruse of oil will not fail, until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.'" ¹⁵And she went and did as Ilías said; and she, and he, and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶The jar of meal was not spent, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord which he spoke by Ilías. ¹⁷After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill; and his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. ¹⁸And she said to Ilías, "What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to cause the death of my son!" ¹⁹And he said to her, "Give me your son." And he took him from her bosom, and carried him up into the upper chamber, where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed. ²⁰And he cried to the Lord, "O Lord my God, have you brought calamity even on the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?" ²¹Then he stretched himself on the child three times, and cried to

the Lord, "O Lord my God, let this child's soul come into him again."
²²And the Lord listened to the voice of Ilías; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived. ²³And Ilías took the child, and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house, and delivered him to his mother; and Ilías said, "See, your son lives." ²⁴And the woman said to Ilías, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth."

2: From the Third Book of Kingdoms (18 & 19)

In those days the word of the Lord came to Ilías, in the third year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab; and I will send rain on the earth." ¹⁷When Ahab saw Ilías, Ahab said to him, "Is it you, you troubler of Israel?" ¹⁸And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel; but you have, and your father's house, because you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and followed the Ba'als. ¹⁹Now therefore send and gather all Israel to me at Mount Carmel, and the four hundred and fifty prophets of Ba'al and the four hundred prophets of Ashe'rah, who eat at Jez'ebel's table." ²⁰So Ahab sent to all the people of Israel, and gathered the prophets together at Mount Carmel. ²¹And Ilías came near to all the people, and said, "How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Ba'al, then follow him." And the people did not answer him a word. ²²Then Ilías said to the people, "I, even I only, am left a prophet of the Lord; but Ba'al's prophets are four hundred and fifty men. ²³Let two bulls be given to us; and let them choose one bull for themselves, and cut it in pieces and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it; and I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood, and put no fire to it. ²⁴And you call on the name of your god and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the God who answers by fire, he is God." And all the people answered, "It is well spoken. ²⁵Then Ilías said to the prophets of Ba'al, "Choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first, for you are many; and call on the name of your god, but put no fire to it." ²⁶And they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Ba'al from morning until noon, saying, "O Ba'al, answer us!" But there was no voice, and no one answered. And they limped about the altar which they had made. ²⁷And at noon Ilías mocked them, saying, "Cry aloud, for he is a god; either he is musing, or he has gone aside, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened." ²⁸And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their custom with swords and lances, until the blood gushed out on them. ²⁹And as midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice; no one answered, no

one heeded. ³⁰Then Ilías said to all the people, "Come near to me," and all the people came approached him. He repaired the altar of the Lord that had been thrown down. ³¹Ilias took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord came, saying, "Israel will be your name." ³²He built an altar in the name of the Lord with the stones and made a trench around the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed. ³³He put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces and laid it on the wood. He said, "Fill four jars with water, and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood." ³⁴And he said, "Do it a second time," and they did it a second time. And he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it a third time. ³⁵The water ran round the altar and filled the trench also with water. ³⁶At the time of the offering of the oblation, Ilías the prophet came near. He said, "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. ³⁷Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so that this people may know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back." ³⁸Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones and the dust. It licked up the water that was in the trench. ³⁹When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The Lord is God; the Lord is God. ⁴⁰And Ilías said to them, "Seize the prophets of Ba'al; let not one of them escape." And they seized them; and Ilías brought them down to the brook Kishon, and killed them there. ⁴¹And Ilías said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of the rushing of rain." ⁴²So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Ilías went up to the top of Carmel; and he bowed himself down on the earth, and put his face between his knees. ⁴³And he said to his servant, "Go up now, look towards the sea." And he went up and looked, and said, "There is nothing." And he said, "Go again seven times." ⁴⁴And at the seventh time he said, "See, a little cloud like a man's hand is rising out of the sea." And he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot and go down, lest the rain stop you.'" ⁴⁵And in a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel. ⁴⁶And the hand of the Lord was on Ilías; and he girded up his loins and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel. ¹Ahab told Jez'ebel all that Ilias had done, and how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. ²Then Jez'ebel sent a messenger to Ilías, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." ³Then he was afraid, and he arose and went for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

⁴But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree; and he asked that he might die, saying, "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am no better than my fathers." ⁵And he lay down and slept under a broom tree; and See, an angel touched him, and said to him, "Arise and eat." ⁶And he looked, and See, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank, and lay down again. ⁷And the angel of the Lord came again a second time, and touched him, and said, "Arise and eat, else the journey will be too great for you. ⁸And he arose, and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. ⁹And there he came to a cave, and lodged there; and See, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said to him, "What are you doing here, Ilías?" ¹¹And he said, "Go out, and stand on the mount before the Lord." And See, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. ¹³And when Ilías heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And See, there came a voice to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Ilías? ¹⁵And the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, you will anoint Haz'ael to be king over Syria; ¹⁶and Jehu the son of Nimshi you will anoint to be king over Israel; and Elisséos the son of Shaphat of A'bel-meho'lah you will anoint to be prophet in your place.

3: From the Third Book of Kingdoms (19 & 4 Kingdoms 2)

In those days Ilías found Elisséos the son of Shaphat, who was ploughing, with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he was with the twelfth. Ilías passed by him and cast his mantle on him. ²⁰And he left the oxen, and ran after Ilías, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" ²¹And he returned from following him, and took the yoke of oxen, and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Ilías, and ministered to him. ¹Now when the Lord was about to take Ilías up to heaven by a whirlwind, Ilías and Elisséos were on their way from Gilgal. ⁶Then Ilías said to him, "Wait here, I pray you; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the sons

of the prophets also went; they stood at some distance from them, as they were both standing beside the Jordan. ⁸Then Ilías took his mantle, rolled it up, struck the water and the water was divided to the one side and to the other, until the two of them could pass over on dry ground. ⁹When they had crossed, Ilías said to Elisséos, "Ask what I can do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisséos said, "I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be so for you; but if you do not see me, it will not be so." ¹¹And as they still went on and talked, see, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Ilías went up by a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²And Elisséos saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and ripped them into two pieces. ¹³And he took up the mantle of Ilías that had fallen from him, went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. ¹⁴Then he took the mantle of Ilías that had fallen from him, struck the water and said, "Where is the Lord, the God of Ilías?" When he had struck the water, the water was divided to the one side and to the other; and Eli'sha passed over.

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.

Aposticha

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.

¹ The Lord reigns *and* is clothed with majesty;
 the Lord is covered and enveloped with power. Ps 92
 O Giver of life, you have poured out streams of forgiveness, life and salvation for everyone by being pierced in the side. You have granted us immortality by accepting death in the flesh. You have freed us by being placed in the tomb and, as God, have raised us with you in glory. Therefore we cry out, “Glory to you, O Lord, Lover of the human race!”

^{1b} For he established the world
 which will not be moved. Ps 92
 O Lover of the human race, your crucifixion and descent into Hades are awesome. You have captured it and raised the ancient prisoners with you, for you are God in glory. You have opened Paradise and commanded it to take them back. Grant us, who glorify your resurrection on the third day, purification of sins. Make us worthy to be citizens of Paradise, for you alone are merciful.

^{5b} O Lord, holiness is correct for your house
 to length of days. Ps 92
 O Lover of the human race, you accepted death in the flesh for our sake and rose from the dead on the third day. Heal us from our earthly passions, restore us from our evil offences and save us.

Glory: Tone 6

O Prophet, you foretold the coming of Christ. You are now standing at the throne of greatness and are always present at the side of those who lie in sickness. Now, O minister of the Highest, you bless the inhabited earth and are glorified throughout the world, so seek forgiveness for our souls.

Both now:

O Theotokos, 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,

² for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared before all peoples,

³ a light of revelation for *the* nations
and *the* glory of your people Israel.

Triságion Prayers

Apolytikia

O faithful, let us praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father
and the Spirit. He was born from the Virgin for our salvation; for he
determined to ascend the cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the
dead by his glorious resurrection.

Tone 4

O venerable and glorious Ilías, bodily angel, pillar of the prophets and
their cornerstone, forerunner of the coming of Christ, you sent grace from
on high to Elisséos. You dispel diseases, cleanse lepers and abound with
healing for those who honour you.

Tone 4

O Theotokos, the mystery hidden from eternity and unknown to the angels,
is revealed to those on earth through you. God was incarnate from you in
a union without confusion and freely endured the cross for us by his own
will. He raised the first-formed man and has saved our souls from death.

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 5

O faithful, let us praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit. He was born from the Virgin for our salvation; for he determined to ascend the cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

Tone 4

O venerable and glorious Ilías, bodily angel, pillar of the prophets and their cornerstone, forerunner of the coming of Christ, you sent grace from on high to Elisséos. You dispel diseases, cleanse lepers and abound with healing for those who honour you.

Tone 4

O Theotokos, the mystery hidden from eternity and unknown to the angels, is revealed to those on earth through you. God was incarnate from you in a union without confusion and freely endured the cross for us by his own will. He raised the first-formed man and has saved our souls from death.

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 2

O Christ our God, as he caught the nations in his net, the apostle taught the very ends of the earth to fall before you, as well as before the Father and the Spirit. O *Lord* living among the saints, strengthen our faith through his prayers and send your blessing on the faithful.

Tone 1

As a united choir we sing to you, for you are a shining star, the driver of a fiery chariot *and* an angel in the flesh. You were consumed with zeal for God, rebuked the evil king and queen, and drove away immorality. O pillar of the prophets, blessed man who saw God, holy Ilías, preserve us under your protection.

Glory: Both now:

O Mary, precious home of the Lord, help those of us who have fallen, rescue us from terrible despair, from sins and every sorrow. You are truly the refuge of sinners, the advocate, protection and salvation of your servants.

Kathisma 2

Tone 4

Christ who is the Sun of justice sent you to enlighten the whole world like a ray. O holy apostle James, illuminate all the faithful who celebrate your sacred memory with the unfading Light through your prayers before God.

Tone 1

You were united to your God by profound virtue and led on earth a life worthy of heaven. Because you were filled with grace you raised a child from the dead by your breath. O Ilías, inspired prophet, you continue to live and are stronger than death.

Glory: Both now:

We all acknowledge you as the Theotokos who remained a virgin after giving birth. We seek refuge in your goodness, for we sinners have you as an advocate. All-pure Virgin, we have you as a rescuer in temptations.

Evlogitária

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

The assembly of angels was amazed when it saw you among the dead. O Saviour, by destroying the power of death, you raised Adam with you and freed everyone from Hades.

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

The radiant angel cried to the Myrrhbearers from the tomb, "Why do you women mingle myrrh with your tears? Look at the tomb and understand. The Saviour has risen from the tomb."

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.
The Myrrhbearers ran sorrowfully to your tomb very early in the morning, but an angel came to them and said, "The time for sorrow has come to an end. Do not weep, but announce the resurrection to the apostles."

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.
The Myrrhbearers were sorrowful as they approached your tomb, but the angel said to them: Why do you number the Living among the dead? As God he has risen from the tomb."

Glory:
We worship the Father, his Son and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity, one in Being. We cry with the Seraphim, "Holy, Holy, Holy are you, O Lord."

Both now:
O Virgin, because you gave birth to the Giver of Life, you rescued Adam from his sin. You gave Eve joy instead of sadness. The Divine Man who was born from you has restored to life those who had fallen from it.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to you, O God. (X3)
O our God and our hope, glory to you.

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*

Ypakóï

Read without note

The sight of the angel dazzled the minds of the myrrhbearing women and their spirits were enlightened by your divine Resurrection. They preached the good news to the Apostles, "Announce to the nations the Lord's Resurrection. He has worked wonders and grants us great mercy!"

Anaváthmi Tone 5

Antiphon 1 Ps 131
My Saviour, I sing to you like David in my trouble;
save my soul from crafty speech.
The life of those who live in the desert is blessed;
they are supported by divine passion.

Glory: Both now:

Everything seen and unseen is preserved by the Holy Spirit,
for he has power in himself as truly one of the Trinity.

Antiphone 2 Ps 120

My soul, let us ascend the mountains;
come to the place where help is found.

O Christ, let your right hand rush
to guard me from everything sinister.

Glory: both now:

As we speak about divine matters through the Holy Spirit,
we say, "You are God, life, desire, light and mind.
You are goodness and reign for ever.

Antiphon 3 Ps 121

I offer my prayer for those who said to me,
"Let us go to the courts of the Lord,
filled with great joy."

Fearful things will be done to the house of David,
for a fire there will consume every shameful thought.

Glory: Both now:

The government of life belongs to the Holy Spirit
and every creature is given the breath of life through him
as also in the Father and the Word.

Prokeímenon Ps 9

R: O Lord my God, rise,
for you reign for ever.

S: O Lord, I will thank you with all my heart.

Small Litany

For you are the King of Peace and Saviour of our souls, and we send up
glory to you, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, always, now and
for ever, and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Kontákion

Without note

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.”

Ikos

The women set aside their weeping when they heard the words of the angel and saw the resurrection with awe and joy. See, Christ drew near to them and said, “Hail, take courage, for I have overcome the world and set the prisoners free! Go quickly to the disciples and say that I will go before you to Galilee in order to proclaim the good news.” Therefore we all cry to you, “O Lord, save us!”

Synaxárian

Today we remember the fiery ascent to heaven of the glorious prophet Ilías who lived in the Ninth Century before Christ. He prophesied when many people in Israel were following a syncretistic Baal worship. He is accepted as the greatest prophet. The stories of his life are found in the Third Book of Kingdoms. On the Twentieth a fiery chariot came down to earth to take him up.

Together with him we remember:

Holy Ethelwida, Widow of King Alfred the Great C9

Holy Abramius of Galich C14

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, strengthen those who are united in spiritual fellowship and who sing your praises. Make them worthy *to receive* crowns of glory in your divine glory.

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.

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!”

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 his mighty firmament. *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 John.

P/D: Let us attend

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

Eothinón Gospel 6

From the Holy Gospel according to Luke (24:36-53)

At that time, when Jesus rose from the dead, he stood in the midst of his disciples, and said to them, “Peace be with you!” ³⁷ But they were startled

and frightened, and supposed that they saw a spirit. ³⁸ And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts? ³⁹ See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate before them. ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high." ⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he blessed them, he parted from them, and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple blessing God. Amen.

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

Resurrection Ode

P/R: 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 holy resurrection; for you are our God, and we know no one else apart from you. We address your name. All you faithful, come and venerate Christ's holy resurrection. For see, joy has come into all the world through the cross. Let us always bless the Lord and praise his resurrection. For he has destroyed death by death by enduring the cross for us.

Psalm 50

O God, have mercy on me in your abundant mercy
and wipe out my offence through your great pity.
⁴ Wash me thoroughly from my lawless act
and cleanse me from my sin,
⁵ for I know my lawlessness
and my sin is always before me.

- ⁶ I have sinned against you alone
 and done what is evil before you
^{6b} so that you might be right in your words
 and overcome when you are judged,
⁷ for see, I was conceived in lawlessness
 and my mother desired me in sin,
⁸ for see, you have loved truth
 and shown me the mysteries and secrets of your wisdom.
⁹ You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I will be clean;
 you will wash me and I will become whiter than snow.
¹⁰ You will make me hear about joy and gladness;
 humbled bones will rejoice.
¹¹ Turn your face from my sins
 and wipe out all my lawlessness.
¹² O God, make a pure heart within me
 and renew an upright spirit within me.
¹³ Do not banish me from your presence
 or remove your Holy Spirit from me.
¹⁴ Restore your saving joy to me
 and strengthen me with your directing Spirit.
¹⁵ I will teach the lawless your ways
 and the ungodly will return to you.
¹⁶ O God, God of my salvation, free me from bloodshed,
then my tongue will rejoice in your justice.
¹⁷ O Lord, you will open my lips
 and my mouth will announce your praise,
¹⁸ for if you had wanted sacrifice, I would have given it;
 you will not be pleased with burnt offerings.
¹⁹ Sacrifice for God is a broken spirit;
 God will not despise a broken and humbled heart.
²⁰ O Lord, be good to Zion in your pleasure
 and let the walls of Jerusalem be built,
²¹ then you will be pleased with a just sacrifice,
 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:

Jesus has risen from the tomb as he foretold
and grants us eternal life and great mercy.

Intercession

Short form

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 the holy prophet Ilias, 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 only-begotten 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.*

Ode 9

My 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.

² For he has regarded his servant's humility;

see, from now all generations will call me blessed. R:

³ 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:

⁴ He has accomplished strength with his arm
and scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. R:

⁵ 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:

⁶ 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:

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*

Holy is the Lord

Holy is the Lord our God. X3

Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool.
for he is holy.

Exaposteilária

Tone 6

O Saviour, when you rose from the grave, you revealed yourself as human by nature. You stood in the midst of the disciples, ate with them, and taught them about the baptism of repentance. Then you ascended to your heavenly Father after promising to send them the Advocate. Glory to your resurrection, most divine and incarnate God!

Tone 3

O prophet Ilías, the divine fire which made you a passenger in a fiery chariot when you ascended to heaven, did not in any way consume you. Your words on earth had the power to bring down fire from heaven and to dry up the rains.

O Virgin, you gave birth to the divine Fire. O Theotokos, in your prayers plead with your Son to have mercy on me and save me from eternal darkness, for I trust in your divine protection.

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.

S8: This glory will be for all his holy ones.
O Lord, you came out from the grave, which had been sealed by lawless men, just as you were born from the Theotokos. Your bodiless angels did not know how you were incarnate; the soldiers did not see the moment of your resurrection. These two marvels were concealed from curious minds, but were revealed to those who worshipped with faith the mystery about which we sing. Grant us joy and great mercy as we offer you praise.

S7: Praise God in his saints;
praise him in his mighty firmament.
O Lord, you demolished the eternal bars and broke apart the chains of the grave. You rose from the tomb and left your wrappings in the grave as a witness to your three-day burial. You left the guards watching at the tomb and went before your disciples to Galilee. O incomprehensible Saviour, great is your mercy; have mercy on us!

S6: Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him for the abundance of his majesty.
O Lord Christ, you suffered for us and the women hurried to your tomb to see you. When they approached with fear, they saw an angel sitting on the stone which had been rolled away. He cried to them "The Lord is risen. Go and tell the disciples that the Saviour of our souls has risen from the dead."

S5: Praise him with the trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp.

O Lord, you came into the midst of your disciples, although the doors were shut, just as you came from the sealed tomb. O long-suffering Saviour, you revealed the sufferings of the body which you had accepted, for you endured wounds as the Seed of David, but saved the world as Son of God. O incomprehensible Saviour, your mercy is great; have mercy on us.

Tone 8

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

O wonder-working prophet, you were united to God by your virtue and good deeds. He gave you authority, ordered creation according to your will, closed the doors of the rain at your desire and called down fire from above to consume the heathen. Therefore pray for the salvation of our souls.

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;
praise him with joyful cymbals.
Let everything with breath praise the Lord.

O wonder-working prophet, you were united to God by your virtue and good deeds. He gave you authority, ordered creation according to your will, closed the doors of the rain at your desire and called down fire from above to consume the heathen. Therefore pray for the salvation of our souls.

S2: Moses and Aaron *were* among his priests
and Samuel *was* among those who address his name. Ps 98

You grew in your zeal for the Lord, fiercely rebuked the kings who offended against the law, and with stoutness, resolutely slaughtered the priests of confusion and kindled a miraculous fire in the waters. You secured fire without striking for it and divided the waters of Jordan into two with your mantle. Continually pray for the salvation of our souls.

S1: The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind,
"You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."

O prophet, you demonstrated a truly heavenly life on earth and were yourself enriched in by the life of the Spirit. You raised the dead with your breath, remained beyond death yourself and ascended above in a chariot of fire. Therefore pray for the salvation of our souls.

Glory:

O faithful, let us honour in song the leaders of the prophets. *They are* those two all-radiant lights of the inhabited earth, Ilías and Elisséos. Let us raise our voices to Christ, rejoice and say, “O compassionate Lord, grant your people forgiveness of sins and great mercy through the intercessions of your two prophets.”

Both now: Tone 2

O Virgin Theotokos, you are most blessed, for through the One who was born of you, Hades has been captured and Adam recalled. The curse has been annulled, and Eve set free. Death has been slain, so we are given life. Blessed is Christ our God, whose good will it was. Glory to you!

Great Doxology

Glory to you who have shown us the light!

glory to God in the highest!

Peace on earth and goodwill to men!

² We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,
we glorify you, we thank you for your great glory,

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

⁴ 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.

⁵ Receive our prayer,
for you sit on the right of the Father,
and have mercy on us.

⁶ For only you are holy, only you are Lord,
O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

⁷ I will bless you every day
and always praise your name for ever and ever. Ps 144

⁸ O Lord, allow us this day
to be guarded from sin.

⁹ Blessed are you, O Lord God of our fathers!
Praised and glorified be your name for ever. Amen. Daniel 3

¹⁰ O Lord, let your mercy *be* on us,
for we have hoped in you. Ps 32.

- ¹⁶ Blessed are you, O Lord!
 Teach me your statutes. X3 Ps 118
- ¹² 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
- ¹⁴ O Lord, I have fled to you;
 teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Ps 142
- ¹⁵ For with you is the source of life
 and in your light we will see light. Ps 35
- ¹⁶ Stretch out your mercy
 to those who know you. Ps 35

Triságion

Resurrection Troparion

Today salvation has come to the world. Let us sing to the one who rose from the dead, the Author of our life. When he destroyed death by death, he gave us victory and great mercy.

LITURGY

Antiphon 1 Ps 91

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 92

S1: The Lord reigns *and* is clothed with majesty;
 the Lord has put on power and clothed himself,

R: Save us, O Son of God.

You arose from the dead
We sing to you, “Alleluia!”

S2: For he founded the world
which will not be moved.

S3: Your throne *was* made ready in the past;
you are from eternity.

Monogenes

Antíphon 3 Ps 94

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

R: O faithful, let us praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit. He was born from the Virgin for our salvation; for he determined to ascend the cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

S2: Let us enter his presence with thanksgiving
and gladly cry to him with psalms,

S3: For the Lord is a great God
and a high king over all the earth.

Entrance Ps 94

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.
Save us, O Son of God.
You arose from the dead.
We sing to you, “Alleluia!”

Apolytikia

Tone 5

O faithful, let us praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit. He was born from the Virgin for our salvation; for he determined to ascend the cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

Tone 4

O venerable and glorious Ilías, bodily angel, pillar of the prophets and their cornerstone, forerunner of the coming of Christ, you sent grace from

on high to Elisséos. You dispel diseases, cleanse lepers and abound with healing for those who honour you.

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

Prokeimenon Ps 109 Tone 1

⁴ The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind,
 "You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."
 The Lord said to my lord, "Sit at my right hand
 until I make your enemies your footstool."

Apostolos

From the Catholic Letter of James (5:10-20)

Brothers, take for an example of suffering and of patience, the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹See, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the Lord in the outcome, and how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy. ¹²But above all things, my brothers, do not swear, neither by heaven, nor by the earth, nor by any other oath; but let your “yes” be “yes,” and your “no,” “no;” so that you do not fall under judgement. ¹³Is any among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praises. ¹⁴Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord, ¹⁵and the prayer of faith will heal the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶Confess your offences to one another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed. The effective, earnest prayer of a just man is powerfully effective. ¹⁷Ilías was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. ¹⁸He prayed again, and the sky gave rain, and the earth brought forth its fruit.

¹⁹Brothers, if any among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns

him back, ²⁰let him know that the one who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death, and will cover a multitude of sins.

Communion Ps 148

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights. Alleluia.