

## **THE PANIKHIDA (PARASTAS)**

*(Prayer for the Departed)*

### **FOR AN INFANT OR A CHILD**

*The presbyter, vested in epitrakhil and phelon, and the deacon, vested in stikhar and orar, preceded by a reader with a lighted taper, go out from the Altar to the accustomed place. They take their places by a table on which is a dish of koliva (or loaves of bread and/or other foods according to custom).*

*The presbyter takes the censer with incense, and he censens continuously throughout the prayers. The deacon says :*

**Deacon :** Bless, master.

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

**Response :** Amen.

*We sing the Trisagion only :*

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

*(three times) (three metanias)*

**Reader :** O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Our Father, who are in the Heavens, hallowed be Your Name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven ; give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors ; and do not bring us to the test, but rescue us from the evil one.

**Presbyter :** For Yours are the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Reader :** Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *(twelve times)*

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

O come, let us worship God our King ; come let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God ; come let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God. *(three metanias)*

**Reader :**

**Psalm 90**

The one dwelling in the help of the Most High shall abide in the shelter of the God of Heaven. He shall say to the LORD : “You are my Support and my Refuge, O my God”. I shall hope on Him ; for He will rescue you from a snare of the hunters, and from a troubling word. With His shoulders He will overshadow you, and beneath His wings you shall hope. With a shield, His truth shall surround you. You shall not be frightened by a night fear, by an arrow flying by day, by anything walking about in darkness, by a calamity, or by a noon-day demon. A thousand shall fall at your side, and a myriad at your right-hand, but it shall not draw near you. Yet, with your eyes shall you observe and you shall see the requital of sinners ; for You, O LORD, You are my Hope ; you have made the Most High your Refuge. Bad things shall not come towards you, and a scourge shall not come near your tent ; for He will command His angels concerning you, that they watch over you closely in all your ways. Upon their hands they shall raise you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. Upon the asp and the basilisk you shall tread ; you shall trample the lion and the dragon : “for he has hoped on Me, and I will rescue him. I will shelter him, for he has known My Name. He shall cry out to Me, and I will listen to him. I am with him in affliction : I will set him free, and I will glorify him. With length of days will I fill him up, and I will show him My salvation”.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory be to You, O God. (*three times*)

*In the case of infants up to the age of two years, we make no petitions. Only the following is said :*

**Deacon :** Let us pray to the Lord.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O Lord, You watch over children in the present life and in the world to come, because of their simplicity and innocence of mind, and You abundantly satisfy them with a place in Abraham’s bosom, bringing them to live in radiantly shining places where the spirits of the righteous dwell. Receive in peace the soul(s) of Your little servant(s)        ; for You have Yourself said, “*Let the little children come to me, ... for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven*” ; for Yours only is the Kingdom of Heaven and to You we send up glory, together with the unoriginate Father, and the all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**R :** Amen.

*If it be an older child, then the following litany is prayed. The deacon, taking the censer and censuring before the memorial table, begins :*

### **Great Litany**

**Deacon :** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** For the peace from above, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** For the ever-memorable child(*ren*) of God n ; for his (*her/their*) repose, tranquillity, and blessed memory, let us pray to the Lord.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** That he (*she/they*) may stand uncondemned before the dread throne of the Lord of glory, let us pray to the Lord.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** For the weeping and the grieving, who are looking for the consolation of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** That He will release him (*her/them*) from all distress, sorrow, and sighing, and make him (*her/them*) glad where the light of God's countenance shall visit, let us pray to the Lord.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** That the Lord our God will establish his (*her/their*) soul(s) in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all the righteous dwell, let us pray to the Lord.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** That he (*she/they*) may be numbered with those in the bosom of Abraham, and Isaac and Jacob, let us pray to the Lord.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger and necessity, let us pray to the Lord :

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your Grace.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and rest with the saints, for him (*her/them*) and for ourselves, let us ask of Christ, our immortal King and God.

**R :** To You, O Lord.

**Presbyter :** O Lord Jesus Christ, You have promised to bestow the Kingdom of Heaven upon those who have been born of water and the Spirit, and who have passed over to You in purity of life, and You have said, "*Let the little children come to me, ... for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven*". We humbly entreat You that You will give to Your servant(s), the blameless child(*ren*) n now

(*newly*) departed from us, the inheritance of Your Kingdom according to Your unfailing promise. And grant that we may continue in innocence of life, and make a Christian ending of life, and attain to an abode in the heavenly mansions with all Your saints ;  
for You are the Resurrection and the Life and the Repose of all Your servants, and of Your servant(s), this (*these*) child(*ren*) n now (*newly*) taken from us, O Christ our God, and to You we send up glory, together with Your unoriginate Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**R :** Amen.



**Deacon :** In the eighth tone : Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Response :** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Deacon :** Blessed is (*are*) he (*she/they*) whom You have chosen out and taken to Yourself, O Lord.

**R :** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Deacon :** May his (*her/their*) memory be from generation to generation.

**R :** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Deacon :** May his (*her/their*) soul(s) dwell with the blessed.

**R :** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

### **Tropars**

**Tone 8**

O ONLY CREATOR, WHO WITH WISDOM PROFOUND,  
MERCIFULLY ORDER ALL THINGS,  
AND GIVE THAT WHICH IS USEFUL TO ALL MANKIND,  
GIVE REST, O LORD, TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR SERVANT(S)  
WHO HAS (*HAVE*) FALLEN ASLEEP ;  
FOR HE (*SHE/THEY*) HAS (*HAVE*) PLACED HIS (*HER/THEIR*)  
TRUST IN YOU, OUR MAKER AND FASHIONER AND  
OUR GOD.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE  
HOLY SPIRIT :  
FOR HE (*SHE/THEY*) HAS (*HAVE*) PLACED HIS (*HER/THEIR*)  
TRUST IN YOU, OUR MAKER AND FASHIONER AND  
OUR GOD.

NOW, AND EVER, AND UNTO THE AGES OF AGES. AMEN.  
WE HAVE YOU AS A WALL AND A HAVEN,  
AND AN INTERCESSOR WELL-PLEASING UNTO GOD, WHOM  
YOU HAVE BORNE,  
O VIRGIN THEOTOKOS, THE SALVATION OF THE FAITHFUL.

**The Verses on Psalm 118**

**Tone 5**

*The presbyter does a great censing during the verses, beginning at the memorial table.*

**Refrain : BLESSED ARE YOU, O LORD. TEACH ME YOUR STATUTES.**

THE CHOIR OF SAINTS HAVE FOUND THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE  
AND THE DOOR OF PARADISE.  
MAY I ALSO FIND THE WAY THROUGH REPENTANCE.  
I AM A LOST SHEEP : CALL ME, O SAVIOUR, AND SAVE ME.

**R.**

FOR PREACHING THE LAMB OF GOD,  
YOU HOLY MARTYRS WERE SLAIN LIKE LAMBS.  
YOU HAVE BEEN RECEIVED INTO UNAGEING AND  
ETERNAL LIFE.  
NOW, ENTREAT THE LORD TO GRANT US REMISSION  
OF OUR DEBTS.

**R.**

ALL YOU THAT HAVE WALKED THE NARROW WAY  
OF AFFLICTION,  
YOU THAT HAVE BORNE THE CROSS AS A YOKE  
IN LIFE,  
YOU THAT HAVE FOLLOWED ME IN FAITH,  
COME AND ENJOY THE LAUREL PRIZES AND HEAVENLY  
CROWNS THAT I HAVE PREPARED FOR YOU.

**R.**

I AM THE IMAGE OF YOUR INEFFABLE GLORY,  
ALTHOUGH I BEAR THE BRANDS OF TRANSGRESSIONS.  
HAVE COMPASSION ON YOUR CREATURE, O MASTER,  
AND PURIFY ME BY YOUR LOVING-KINDNESS.  
GRANT ME THE HOMELAND OF MY YEARNING,  
MAKING ME AGAIN A CITIZEN OF PARADISE.

**R.**

O YOU, THAT OF OLD FASHIONED ME FROM NON-BEING,  
AND HONOURED ME WITH YOUR DIVINE IMAGE,  
AND WHO, WHEN I TRANSGRESSED YOUR COMMANDMENT,  
RETURNED ME AGAIN TO THE EARTH FROM WHICH I  
WAS TAKEN,  
RESTORE ME TO YOUR LIKENESS,  
SO THAT MY FORMER BEAUTY MAY BE RENEWED IN ME.

**R.**

GIVE REST TO YOUR SERVANT(S), O GOD,  
AND ESTABLISH HIM (*HER/THEM*) IN PARADISE.  
WHERE THE CHOIRS OF THE SAINTS AND OF THE  
RIGHTEOUS, O LORD,  
SHINE LIKE THE STARS OF HEAVEN.

GIVE REST TO YOUR SERVANT(S) WHO HAS (HAVE) FALLEN  
ASLEEP,  
OVERLOOKING ALL HIS (HER/THEIR) OFFENCES.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND  
TO THE HOLY SPIRIT :  
DEVOUTLY, LET US PRAISE THE THREEFOLD  
SPLENDOUR OF THE ONE GODHEAD,  
CRYING OUT,  
“HOLY ARE YOU, O UNORIGINATE FATHER,  
CO-ETERNAL SON, AND DIVINE SPIRIT”.  
ENLIGHTEN US WHO WORSHIP YOU IN FAITH,  
AND RESCUE US FROM ETERNAL FIRE.

NOW, AND EVER, AND UNTO THE AGES OF AGES. AMEN.  
REJOICE, O AUGUST ONE.  
FOR THE SALVATION OF ALL, YOU GAVE BIRTH  
TO GOD IN THE FLESH,  
THROUGH WHOM MANKIND HAS FOUND SALVATION.  
THROUGH YOU, MAY WE FIND PARADISE,  
O PURE, BLESSED THEOTOKOS.

ALLELUIA. ALLELUIA. ALLELUIA. GLORY BE TO YOU,  
O GOD. (*three times*)



*In the case of infants up to the age of two years, we make no petitions.  
Only the following is said :*

**Deacon :** Let us pray to the Lord.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O Lord, You watch over children in the present life and in the  
(*censing*) world to come, because of their simplicity and innocence of  
mind, and You abundantly satisfy them with a place in  
Abraham’s bosom, bringing them to live in radiantly shining  
places where the spirits of the righteous dwell. Receive in peace  
the soul(s) of Your little servant(s)      ; for You have Yourself  
said, “*Let the little children come to me, ... for of such is the  
Kingdom of Heaven*” ;  
for Yours only is the Kingdom of Heaven and to You we send up  
glory, together with the unoriginate Father, and the all-holy,  
good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of  
ages.

**R :** Amen.

*If it be an older child, then the following litany is prayed. The deacon,*

*taking the censer and censuring before the memorial table, begins :*

### **Litany**

**Deacon :** Again, and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** Again, we pray for the repose of this *(these) (newly-departed)* blessed child(ren) *n*\_\_\_\_ ; and that in accordance with His word, He will graciously grant to him *(her/them)* His heavenly Kingdom.

**R :** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** That the Lord God will establish his *(her/their)* soul(s) where the righteous repose.

**R :** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and rest with the saints, for him *(her/them)* and for ourselves, let us ask of Christ, our immortal King and God.

**R :** Grant it, O Lord.

**Deacon :** Let us pray to the Lord.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O Lord Jesus Christ, You have promised to bestow the Kingdom *(censuring)* of Heaven upon those who have been born of water and the Spirit, and who have passed over to You in purity of life, and You have said, “*Let the little children come to me, ... for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven*”. We humbly entreat You that You will give to Your servant(s), the blameless child(ren) *n*\_\_\_\_ now newly departed from us, the inheritance of Your Kingdom in accordance with Your unfailing promise. And grant that we may continue in innocence of life, and make a Christian ending of life, and attain to an abode in the heavenly mansions with all Your saints ;  
for You are the Resurrection and the Life and the Repose of all Your servants, and of Your servant(s), this *(these)* child(ren) *n*\_\_\_\_ now *(newly)* taken from us, O Christ our God, and to You we send up glory, together with Your unoriginate Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**R :** Amen.



**Sessional Hymn** (*Sedalen*) (*Kathisma Hymn*)

**Tone 5**

GIVE REST WITH THE RIGHTEOUS, O SAVIOUR,  
UNTO YOUR SERVANT(S).  
ESTABLISH HIM (*HER/THEM*) IN YOUR COURTS, AS IT IS  
WRITTEN.

OVERLOOK HIS (*HER/THEIR*) FAULTS, BOTH VOLUNTARY  
AND INVOLUNTARY,  
AND ALL THINGS DONE IN KNOWLEDGE OR IN IGNORANCE,  
FOR YOU ARE GOOD, AND THE LOVER OF MAN.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE  
HOLY SPIRIT ; NOW, AND EVER, AND UNTO THE AGES  
OF AGES. AMEN.

FROM A VIRGIN, YOU SHONE FORTH TO THE WORLD.  
THROUGH HER MAKING US CHILDREN OF LIGHT,  
O CHRIST OUR GOD, HAVE MERCY ON US.

**Reader :**

**Psalm 50**

Have mercy on me, O God, in accordance with Your great mercy, and in accordance with the multitude of Your compassions, blot out my transgression of the law. Wash me thoroughly from my lawlessness, and from my sin cleanse me ; for I know my lawlessness, and my sin is before my face continually. Against You alone have I sinned, and evil have I done before Your Face ; so that You may be shown to be righteous in Your words, and to be victorious when You are judged ; for behold, I was conceived in lawlessness, and in sins did my mother crave to conceive me ; for behold, You have loved truth ; the unseen and hidden things of Your wisdom have You shown me. You will sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed ; You will wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. You will make me hear exultation and gladness : my humbled bones shall exult. Turn Your Face away from my sins, and blot out all my lawless acts. Build a pure heart in me, O God, and renew an upright spirit in my inward parts. Cast me not away from Your Face, and take not Your Holy Spirit away from me. Render to me the exultation of Your salvation, and with Your guiding Spirit set me fast. I shall teach the lawless Your ways, and the impious shall turn about to You. Rescue me from blood, O God, O God of my salvation. My tongue shall exult in Your righteousness. O LORD, You will open my lips, and my mouth shall announce Your praise ; for if You had wished for a sacrifice, I would have given it. With whole-burnt-offerings You will not be well-pleased. The sacrifice to God is a shattered spirit : a shattered and humbled heart, God will not reckon as nothing. Do good, O LORD, to Sion in Your good-pleasure, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built. Then You will be well-pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness : an offering and whole-burnt-offerings ; then they shall offer young bulls upon Your altar.

**The Canon**

**Tone 8**



**Ode I :** WHEN ISRAEL HAD PASSED THROUGH THE WATER  
AS THOUGH IT WERE DRY LAND,  
AND HAD ESCAPED FROM THE WICKEDNESS OF EGYPT,  
THEY CRIED ALOUD,  
LET US SING PRAISES TO OUR DELIVERER AND OUR GOD.

**Refrains :**

**Clergy :** Give rest, O Lord, to the child(*ren*) who has(*have*) fallen  
(*censing*) asleep.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the child(*ren*) who has(*have*) fallen  
asleep.

**Clergy :** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

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

*The refrains are sometimes repeated.*

**Ode III :** O LORD, BUILDER OF THE VAULT OF HEAVEN  
AND FOUNDER OF THE CHURCH,  
YOU ARE OUR SUPREME DESIRE AND THE SUPPORT OF  
THE FAITHFUL.  
CONFIRM ME IN LOVE OF YOU,  
WHO ALONE ARE THE LOVER OF MAN.

**Refrains as in Ode I of this canon.**



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Only the following is said :*

**Deacon :** Let us pray to the Lord.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O Lord, You watch over children in the present life and in the  
(*censing*) world to come, because of their simplicity and innocence of  
mind, and You abundantly satisfy them with a place in  
Abraham's bosom, bringing them to live in radiantly shining  
places where the spirits of the righteous dwell. Receive in peace  
the soul(s) of Your little servant(s)      ; for You have Yourself  
said, "Let the little children come to me, ... for of such is the  
Kingdom of Heaven" ;  
for Yours only is the Kingdom of Heaven and to You we send up  
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**R :** Amen.

*If it be an older child, then the following litany is prayed. The deacon,  
taking the censer and censing before the memorial table, begins :*

## Litany

**Deacon :** Again, and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** Again, we pray for the repose of this (*these*) (*newly-departed*) blessed child(*ren*) n\_\_\_\_ ; and that in accordance with His word, He will graciously grant to him (*her/them*) His heavenly Kingdom.

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for You are the Resurrection and the Life and the Repose of all Your servants, and of Your servant(s), this (*these*) child(*ren*) n\_\_\_\_ now (*newly*) taken from us, O Christ our God, and to You we send up glory, together with Your unoriginate Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**R :** Amen.



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**Sessional Hymn**

**Tone 6**

TRULY ALL THINGS ARE VANITY.  
LIFE IS BUT A SHADOW AND A DREAM.  
FOR IN VAIN DOES EVERYONE BORN ON EARTH TROUBLE  
HIMSELF, AS THE SCRIPTURES SAY.  
WHEN WE HAVE GAINED THE WORLD, WE TAKE UP OUR  
ABODE IN THE GRAVE,

WHERE KINGS AND BEGGARS LIE DOWN TOGETHER.  
GIVE REST, THEREFORE, TO YOUR SERVANT  
DEPARTED THIS LIFE, O CHRIST OUR GOD,  
FOR YOU LOVE MAN.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE  
HOLY SPIRIT ; NOW, AND EVER, AND UNTO THE AGES  
OF AGES. AMEN.

O MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS,  
DO NOT FORSAKE ME ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE.  
DO NOT ENTRUST ME TO THE CARE OF MAN, BUT  
HELP ME YOURSELF,  
AND HAVE MERCY ON ME.

**Ode IV :** I HAVE HEARD THE MYSTERY OF YOUR DISPENSATION,  
O LORD.  
I HAVE CONSIDERED YOUR WORKS,  
AND I HAVE GLORIFIED YOUR DIVINITY.

***Refrains as in Ode I of this canon.***

**Ode V :** WHY HAVE YOU CAST ME AWAY FROM YOUR FACE  
O NEVER-SETTING LIGHT ?  
WHY HAS THIS DEEP DARKNESS COVERED ME, AS  
ONE CONDEMNED ?  
BUT TURN ME, AND GUIDE MY PATH TO THE LIGHT  
OF YOUR COMMANDMENTS, I PRAY YOU.

***Refrains as in Ode I of this canon.***

**Ode VI :** I POUR OUT MY PRAYER BEFORE THE LORD  
AND MAKE MY SORROWS KNOWN TO HIM  
FOR MY SOUL HAS BEEN FILLED WITH EVIL, AND  
MY LIFE DRAWS NEAR TO HADĒS.  
AND I PRAY LIKE JONAH, LEAD ME UP FROM  
CORRUPTION, O GOD.



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mind, and You abundantly satisfy them with a place in Abraham's bosom, bringing them to live in radiantly shining places where the spirits of the righteous dwell. Receive in peace the soul(s) of Your little servant(s) n ; for You have Yourself said, "*Let the little children come to me, ... for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven*" ; for Yours only is the Kingdom of Heaven and to You we send up glory, together with the unoriginate Father, and the all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

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send up glory, together with Your unoriginate Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**R :** Amen.



*The deacon makes a lesser censing, beginning at the memorial table.*

**Kontak**

**Tone 8**

WITH THE SAINTS GIVE REST,  
O CHRIST, TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR SERVANT(S),  
WHERE THERE IS NO MISERY NOR SORROW,  
AND NO SIGHING,  
BUT LIFE UNENDING.

**Ikos**

YOU ALONE ARE IMMORTAL,  
WHO HAVE CREATED AND FASHIONED MAN,  
FOR OUT OF THE EARTH WERE WE MORTALS MADE,  
AND UNTO THE EARTH SHALL WE RETURN AGAIN,  
AS YOU COMMANDED WHEN YOU MADE ME, SAYING TO ME,  
“EARTH YOU ARE, AND TO EARTH YOU SHALL RETURN”.  
THERE, WE MORTALS ALL SHALL GO,  
MAKING OUR LAMENTATION THE SONG,  
“ALLELUIA. ALLELUIA. ALLELUIA”.

**Reader :** No-one suffers more than a mother ; no-one is more touched than a father ; for their loins are troubled when they send forth their children from this life. Great is the pity they have in their hearts, for the sake of their children, and yet more when these are sweet of speech, as they call to remembrance their words with the song :  
ALLELUIA.

***Refrains as in Ode I of this canon.***

**Ode VII :** THE HEBREW CHILDREN IN THE FURNACE  
TROD BOLDLY ON THE FLAMES,  
AND THE FIRE WAS TRANSFORMED INTO DEW AS  
THEY CRIED OUT,  
“BLESSED ARE YOU, O LORD GOD, UNTO THE AGES”.

***Refrains as in Ode I of this canon.***

**Ode VIII :** IN HIS RAGE THE CHALDEAN TYRANT  
ORDERED THE FURNACE TO BE HEATED SEVEN-FOLD,

BUT SEEING THE PIOUS YOUTHS BEING SAVED  
BY AN EVEN GREATER MIGHT,  
HE SANG TO THE CREATOR AND REDEEMER,  
YOU CHILDREN, BLESS, YOU PRIESTS SING  
HIS PRAISES.  
YOU PEOPLE, HIGHLY EXTOL HIM THROUGHOUT  
ALL AGES.

***Refrains as in Ode I of this canon.***

**Ode IX :** THE HEAVENS WERE AFRAID AND THE ENDS  
OF THE EARTH WERE AWED,  
FOR GOD HAS REVEALED HIMSELF TO MAN  
IN THE FLESH,  
AND YOUR WOMB BECAME MORE SPACIOUS  
THAN THE HEAVENS.  
THEREFORE, THE LEADERS OF MANKIND AND  
ANGELS MAGNIFY YOU AS THEOTOKOS.

***Refrains as in Ode I of this canon.***

**Reader :** You granted the heavenly dwellings, O Word of God, to children  
who have done nothing evil, and likewise O Good One, You have  
numbered *n* with them. Console the parents of this (*these*)  
child(*ren*) who now has (*have*) come to You with this promise,  
for You are all-compassionate, and the Lover of Man.

**Reader :** Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.  
*(three times) (three metanias)*  
O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from  
our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit  
and heal our infirmities for Your Name's sake.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ;  
now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.  
Our Father, who are in the Heavens, hallowed be Your Name,  
Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in  
Heaven ; give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our debts  
as we forgive our debtors ; and do not bring us to the test, but  
rescue us from the evil one.

**Presbyter :** For Yours are the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the  
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now, and ever,  
and unto the ages of ages.

**Reader :** Amen.

WITH THE SPIRITS OF THE RIGHTEOUS MADE PERFECT,  
GIVE REST TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR CHILD(REN),  
O SAVIOUR,  
GUARDING HIM (HER/THEM) FOR THE BLESSED LIFE  
WHICH IS WITH YOU, O LOVER OF MAN.

IN YOUR REST, O LORD, WHERE ALL YOUR SAINTS  
REPOSE,  
GIVE REST ALSO TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR CHILD(REN),  
FOR YOU ALONE ARE IMMORTAL.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND  
TO THE HOLY SPIRIT ;  
NOW, AND EVER, AND UNTO THE AGES OF AGES. AMEN.

O ONLY PURE AND UNDEFILED VIRGIN WHO  
INEFFABLY GAVE BIRTH TO GOD,  
INTERCEDE THAT THE SOUL(S) OF THIS (THESE) CHILD(REN)  
MAY BE SAVED.



*In the case of infants up to the age of two years, we make no petitions.  
Only the following is said :*

**Deacon :** Let us pray to the Lord.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O Lord, You watch over children in the present life and in the  
(*censing*) world to come, because of their simplicity and innocence of  
mind, and You abundantly satisfy them with a place in  
Abraham's bosom, bringing them to live in radiantly shining  
places where the spirits of the righteous dwell. Receive in peace  
the soul(s) of Your little servant(s)      ; for You have Yourself  
said, "*Let the little children come to me, ... for of such is the  
Kingdom of Heaven*" ;  
for Yours only is the Kingdom of Heaven and to You we send up  
glory, together with the unoriginate Father, and the all-holy,  
good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of  
ages.

**R :** Amen.

*If it be an older child, then the following litany is prayed. The deacon,  
taking the censer and censing before the memorial table, begins :*

### **Litany**

**Deacon :** Again, and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** Again, we pray for the repose of this (*these*) (*newly-departed*) blessed child(*ren*) n\_\_\_\_ ; and that in accordance with His word, He will graciously grant to him (*her/their*) His heavenly Kingdom.

**R :** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** That the Lord God will establish his (*her/their*) soul(s) where the righteous repose.

**R :** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and rest with the saints, for him (*her/their*) and for ourselves, let us ask of Christ, our immortal King and God.

**R :** Grant it, O Lord.

**Deacon :** Let us pray to the Lord.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O Lord Jesus Christ, You have promised to bestow the Kingdom (*censing*) of Heaven upon those who have been born of water and the Spirit, and who have passed over to You in purity of life, and You have said, “*Let the little children come to me, ... for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven*”. We humbly entreat You that You will give to Your servant(s), the blameless child(*ren*) n\_\_\_\_ now newly departed from us, the inheritance of Your Kingdom in accordance with Your unfailing promise. And grant that we may continue in innocence of life, and make a Christian ending of life, and attain to an abode in the heavenly mansions with all Your saints ;  
for You are the Resurrection and the Life and the Repose of all Your servants, and of Your servant(s), this (*these*) child(*ren*) n\_\_\_\_ now (*newly*) taken from us, O Christ our God, and to You we send up glory, together with Your unoriginate Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**R :** Amen.



**Deacon :** Wisdom.

**Presbyter :** Most holy Theotokos, save us.

**R :** More honourable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

**Presbyter :** Glory be to You, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory be to You.

**R :** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Master (*Father*) bless.

**Presbyter :** May He who rose from the dead, who has power over the living



and the dead, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, establish in the mansions of the righteous the soul(s) of this (*these*) child(*ren*) *n*\_\_\_\_ who is (*are*) now (*newly*) taken from us. May He grant repose to him (*her/them*) in the bosom of Abraham and number him (*her/them*) amongst the righteous ; and may He have mercy on us, for He is good and the Lover of Man.

**R :** Amen.

*Or this dismissal :*

**Presbyter :** May He who rose from the dead, who has power over the living and the dead, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, of the holy and glorious forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, of the holy and righteous Lazarus of the four days, the Friend of Christ, and of all the saints, establish in the mansions of the righteous the soul(s) of His (*newly*) departed servant(s) *n*\_\_\_\_. May He grant repose to him (*her/them*) in the bosom of Abraham and number him (*her/them*) amongst the righteous ; and may He have mercy on us, for He is good and the Lover of Man.

**R :** Amen.

**Presbyter :** May your memory be eternal O *n*\_\_\_\_, worthily-blessed and ever-memorable child(*ren*).

**R :** MEMORY ETERNAL. MEMORY ETERNAL. MEMORY ETERNAL.

*and*

MAY HIS (*HER/THEIR*) SOUL(S) DWELL WITH THE BLESSED.

**[THE END OF PRAYER FOR A DEPARTED CHILD]**