

B U R I A L S E R V I C E S

O V E R O R T H O D O X

L A Y - P E R S O N S

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# BURIAL SERVICES OVER ORTHODOX LAY-PERSONS

## BURIAL SERVICES OVER A LAY-PERSON (Adult, Monk, Child)

### **Introductory notes :**

#### **WITH REGARD TO THE WORDING OF “OUR FATHER” :**

*The wording presented in this text attempts a closer adherence to the Greek than to the more Latin-based English version in popular use. Note that “daily bread” can have extended meanings including the Eucharistic Meal and Eschatological Banquet, and from this further implications of “bread of the morrow,” and also the meanings of “necessary” or “essential” or “necessary for being”.*

#### **ABOUT PSALMS :**

*The words of the psalms follow our native Septuagint Psalter in words and numbering, different from the Hebrew text usually available in English.*

The asterisks (\*) in the following services indicate places where omissions may be made for various reasons. In some cases it is time, in other cases, pastoral reasons.

#### **ABOUT “MAN” :**

*The word “man” is often used in these texts in the generic sense, meaning “mankind” or “humanity” in translation of the Greek “anthropos”. Circumlocutions regarding gender are often too difficult to accommodate in our texts, and sometimes they make the meaning less clear.*

#### **NOTE :**

*At the Dismissal here, as elsewhere, “fathers” etc. refers to the present persons assembled — i.e. fathers for monks, mothers for female monks, brothers and/or sisters for laity — not only to the departed, as is sometimes supposed.*



## **PREFACE**

# **OUTLINES OF SERVICES**

### **1. ORDER FOR BURIAL SERVICES OVER LAY-PERSONS WITH DIVINE LITURGY**

*It is in some places the custom to serve the Divine Liturgy at the time of burial of the faithful. It is insufficient that there might therefore afterwards be only a Litiya or shorter Panikhida before the actual burial. On the other hand, it is not recommended to attempt a conflation of the Divine Liturgy and Burial. It is further not recommended that the Divine Liturgy be served at burials indiscriminately. It is not a mere matter of custom. It accomplishes no more for the departed than the Burial Service. The serving of the Divine Liturgy should be for those who are in ways locally recognisably attached to the Church, and who are not merely nominally Orthodox believers — i.e. there should be a relationship of Communion on the part of the departed and/or the bereaved family.*

*The best, and most recommended, format for the burial of faithful persons is to serve the full service of burial (following the local customs) on the evening preceding the burial ; and to serve the Divine Liturgy with its memorial elements on the morning, and to conclude with a Litiya and the final prayers.*

*The Divine Liturgy is NOT to be served on Great Lent weekdays.*

*Following is a suggested order for occasions where the two services might be required to be served together at one time, with cautioning about the obvious length :*

#### **A. BURIAL SERVICE**

1. The customary beginning
2. Abbreviated Psalm 118 with following Verses and Refrain
3. Litany
4. Kathisma Hymn (Sedalen)
5. Psalm 50
6. Canon with refrains (with omissions if blessed)
7. The Verses of Saint John of Damascus

#### **B. DIVINE LITURGY**

1. The Divine Liturgy begins as usual
2. The Beatitudes of the Third Antiphon receive the tropars of burial interpolated in the customary places (instead of tropars of the canon)
3. The tropars, Prokeimenon, Epistle, Alleluia, Gospel of funeral
4. The Communion Verse is as in the Prokeimenon
5. The rest to the Dismissal and “Memory Eternal”
6. The “Prayer of Absolution” at the coffin, sprinkling with

- holy water
7. The Last Kiss (with hymns)
  8. Departure to the grave, singing the Trisagion
  9. Litiya at the grave with burial

## **2. ORDER FOR BURIAL SERVICES OVER LAY-PERSONS (REDUCED)**

*Although for the faithful it is recommended to offer the service as fully as possible, the following outline reflects some current practices in shortening where necessary.*

*Shortening of services must not be arbitrary nor indiscriminate, but retain what is necessary. A shortening of the services also requires the knowledge and blessing of the bishop, and be in accordance with the local custom. In order to facilitate these decisions as they arise, some suggestions are given for omissions by the placing of an asterisk (\*) by the texts. We further note in this light that some of the texts require that the faithful understand the theological reflection behind them, and that certain selections may be made by the discerning pastor who knows his flock, although this also ought to be undertaken in the context of receiving a blessing to do so.*

1. Beginning prayers
2. Psalm 90
3. Psalm 118 - selected
4. Verses on Psalm 118 with refrain
5. Litany
6. Kathisma Hymn
7. Psalm 50
8. Canon (Perhaps Odes 1,3,6,9)  
– with refrain, perhaps no tropars  
– after Ode 6 : Litany, Kontak, Ikos
9. Verses of Saint John of Damascus ( #1 and #8 only)
10. Beatitudes with verses
11. Prokeimenon, Epistle, Alleluia, Gospel, Sermon
12. Trisagion Prayers
13. Tropars
14. Litany
15. Dismissal with “Memory Eternal”
16. Parting Prayers, and Last Kiss with hymns
17. Departure to the Grave, singing the Trisagion
18. Litiya at the Grave with burial

**3. BURIAL SERVICES OVER A LAY-PERSON  
ORDER IN BRIGHT WEEK**

**1. After the Parting of the Soul :**

Blessed is our God ....  
Christ is risen (Tone 5) (three times)  
Paschal Verses with "Christ is risen ...."  
    The body and coffin are sprinkled with Holy Water  
Litany for the dead  
Having beheld the resurrection of Christ .... (Tone 6)  
    The Paschal Canon may be sung  
Dismissal of Pascha

**2. At the Temple :**

Blessed is our God ....  
Christ is risen (Tone 5) (three times)  
Paschal Verses with Tropar (Christ is risen ....)  
Litany for the dead  
Paschal Canon (with the usual censuring)  
    After Ode 3  
        Litany for the dead  
        Hypakoe of Pascha  
    After Ode 6  
        Litany for the dead  
        Kontak, Ikos of the funeral  
        As many has have been baptised ....  
        Epistle of the day (from Acts)  
        Alleluia (Tone 2)  
        Gospel of Matins (First Resurrectional)  
        Having beheld the resurrection of Christ .... (Tone 6)  
    The remainder of the Canon  
Hymn of Light of Pascha  
Evlogitarions of Sunday (Blessed are You O Lord, teach me your  
statutes)  
Paschal stikhs with the Tropar of Pascha  
Customary kissing of the departed, singing "Christ is risen ...."  
Litany for the dead beside the coffin  
Dismissal  
Parting Prayer  
    On the way to the grave we sing "Christ is risen ...."  
    At the grave we sing "Open O earth ..."  
    Dirt, oil, ashes from the censer, are put in the grave with the  
    departed  
We sing "Christ is risen..." (three times) and depart

**4. BURIAL SERVICES OVER A LAY-PERSON  
ORDER IN PASCHAL SEASON**

**1. After the Parting of the Soul :**

The service-beginning of the Paschal Season  
The usual prayers at the parting  
The dismissal of the Paschal Season

**2. At the Temple :**

The service-beginning of the Paschal Season  
Great Litany of funerals  
Verses of Psalm 118 with refrains  
Tropars of the Resurrection  
    Blessed are You .... The choir of the saints ....  
Litany for the dead  
Sedalen – Give rest with the righteous  
Psalm 50  
Canon  
    (either funeral or of Pascha - irmoi only)  
    – refrains “Give rest ....”  
Idiomelons of Saint John of Damascus  
Beatitudes  
Prokeimenon : Blessed is the way ....  
Epistle :  
    1 Thessalonians 4 :13-18  
Alleluia  
Gospel :  
    John 5 :24-30  
Sermon  
Trisagion Prayers  
Tropars : “With the souls of the righteous ....”  
Customary kissing of the dead with customary hymns  
Litany for the dead  
Dismissal of the Paschal Season  
On the way to the grave we sing “Christ is risen ....”

**5. MEMORIAL SERVICE (Panikhida)**  
**ORDER IN BRIGHT WEEK**  
*but not Pascha itself*

1. Complete Paschal Beginning, with verses and censing as at Matins of Pascha
2. Litany for the Departed (in its augmented form) *or, this is sometimes be omitted*
3. The Canon of Pascha is sung.
  - After the Third Ode, the Litany for the Departed, and the Ypakoë of Pascha
  - After the Sixth Ode, the Litany for the Departed, and the Kontak for the Departed
  - And the rest of the Canon as prescribed
4. The Paschal Stikhs and their verses, from the Praises or the Apostikha (Let God arise...), with Christ is Risen thrice as usual
5. The Litany for the Departed
6. The Dismissal of Pascha

*During the remainder of the Paschal Season, it is appropriate that the Memorial Service, which now follows its customary general form, begin with the Paschal Beginning for Paschaltide, and then continue with "Holy God...."*



## **BURIAL SERVICES OVER A LAY-PERSON**

In Greek, the word for funeral is “kēdeia”, which means “care for”. Therefore, to serve a funeral truly means to take tender, loving care for someone who has newly reposed in Christ. All the prayers and actions of an Orthodox Christian funeral service of prayers over the remains of someone who has reposed in Christ express this very meaning.

*The Father Confessor (the Abbot/Abbess, if it be a monk who is about to repose) comes and inquires whether there may be any word or deed which has been forgotten, or some baseness, or anger against a brother or sister, which has remained unconfessed or is unforgiven. All must be searched as possible, and the dying person questioned as to repentance.*

[Note : *The asterisk (\*) indicates parts which may be passed over in shortening the service, should that be necessary.*]

[Note : *With regard to this service, if there be lack of time at the parting of the soul, it is customary that the presbyter read one of the prayers given at the end of the canon instead of reading the whole canon.*]

### **A AT THE PARTING OF THE SOUL FROM THE BODY**

*Incense is put into the censer and given to the presbyter, who begins :*

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

**Response :** Amen.

*(Glory be to You, our God, glory be to You.*

*O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, everywhere present, and filling all things, Treasury of good things, and Provider of Life, come, and abide in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O Good One.)*

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

*(three times) (three metanias)*

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 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 this day 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.

**R :** 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 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, and 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.

**Canon to the Theotokos**

**Tone 6**

*For one who is departing and cannot speak.*

**Ode I :** WHEN ISRAEL PASSED ON FOOT THROUGH THE DEEP,  
AS THOUGH IT WERE DRY LAND,  
AND BEHELD THEIR PURSUER, PHARAOH, DROWNING IN  
THE SEA,  
THEY CRIED ALOUD TO GOD :  
“LET US SING A SONG OF VICTORY”.

**Refrain :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

**Reader :** Like drops of rain dried up by the summer’s heat, my few and evil days are already gradually coming to an end. O Lady, save me.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

O Lady, through your tenderness of heart and your many bounties, being so inclined by nature, in this dread hour intercede for me, O invincible helper.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

\* Great fear now holds my soul, sick with unutterable trembling, as it is about to go forth from the body. Comfort it, O all-pure one.

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

O renowned refuge for the sinful and contrite, make your mercy known to me, O pure one, and deliver me from the hands of demons ; for many dogs have surrounded me.

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

Behold, the time has come for help ; behold, the time has come for your intercession ; behold, the time has come for which night and day I have bowed down before you, and prayed fervently to you, O Lady.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode III :** NO-ONE IS AS HOLY AS YOU, O LORD MY GOD.  
YOU HAVE EXALTED THE STRENGTH OF YOUR FAITHFUL,  
O GOOD ONE,  
AND ON THE ROCK OF YOUR CONFESSION YOU HAVE  
FIRMLY ESTABLISHED THEM.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Foreseeing this day from afar, and meditating ever upon it as though it had arrived, with hot tears I have prayed to you, O Lady, that you would not forget me.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Spiritually, the roaring lions have surrounded me ; they seek to carry me away, and bitterly to torment me. Crush their teeth and jaws and save me, O pure one.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

As an organ of speech I am completely crushed ; my tongue is bound ; my voice is stopped. In contrition of heart, I entreat you, O my deliverer, Save me.

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

Incline your ear to me, O Mother of Christ, my God, from the height of your glory, O good one ; hear my last groan, and give me your hand.

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

Do not turn away from me your many bounties ; do not close off the depths of your love for Man, O pure one ; but intercede for me now, and in the hour of judgement, remember me.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode IV :** CHRIST IS MY POWER, MY GOD AND LORD.  
THE HOLY CHURCH SINGS A HYMN WORTHY OF GOD.  
LIFTING HER VOICE IN PURITY OF HEART,  
SHE CELEBRATES THE FEAST IN THE LORD.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

O good one, appoint now a washing for sin, a stream of tears, and receive the contrition of my heart. In you have I placed my hope, O good one, that you deliver me from frightful, fiery torment, since you are the fountain of Grace, O Theotokos.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us

O refuge that does not make ashamed, and infallible refuge to all who are in need, O Lady all-pure, be my defender in the hour of trial.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

O all-pure one, stretch forth your all-honourable hands, like the wings of a holy dove, and cover me under their protection and shelter, O Lady.

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

O conqueror and tormentor of the fierce prince of the air, as I depart from earth, help me to pass unhindered over the guardian of the dread path, and the searcher of these empty words.

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

Terror has come to meet me, O Lady, and I fear it ; behold, a great struggle awaits me. In this be my helper, O hope of my salvation.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode V :** WITH YOUR DIVINE LIGHT I BEG YOU, O GOOD ONE,  
ILLUMINE THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO WITH LONGING  
KEEP VIGIL FOR YOU,  
SO THAT THEY MAY KNOW THAT YOU ARE TRULY GOD,  
O WORD OF GOD,  
AND BE RECALLED FROM THE GLOOM OF THEIR SINS.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Do not forget me, O good one, nor turn away your face from me, your child ; but hear me, for I am in trouble. Receive my soul,

and deliver it.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

\* You that are my kinsfolk in the flesh and in the spirit, my friends and acquaintances, weep, sigh and wail, for behold, now I am departing from you.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

No-one now delivers, and truly there is no-one to help. Help me, O Lady, or else I shall be a helpless person in the hands of my enemies.

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

As you have entered, O you my holy angels, as you stand before the Judgement Seat of Christ, bending your knees, cry out with weeping to Him, "Have mercy, O Creator of all, upon the work of Your hands, O Good One, and cast it not away".

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

As you, O angels, bow down before the Lady, the all-pure Mother of my God, pray that she bend her knees together with you, and incline Him to mercy — for the true Mother and nourisher shall be heard.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode VI :** BEHOLDING THE SEA OF LIFE TOSSED BY THE WAVES  
OF TEMPTATIONS,  
I RACE AHEAD TO YOUR CALM HAVEN, AND I CRY OUT  
TO YOU,  
"BRING MY LIFE UP FROM CORRUPTION, O GREATLY  
MERCIFUL ONE".

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us

My mouth is silent and my tongue does not speak, but my heart cries out ; for that fire of contrition which inwardly devours is kindled, and in inexpressible tones invokes you, O Virgin.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Look down from on high, O Mother of God, and mercifully listen now to my supplication ; that having beheld you, I may go forth from the body rejoicing.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

\* The destruction of bodily ties, and the overthrow of nature's laws of union and of the whole bodily structure, cause me anguish and intolerable distress.

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

O Lady, transfer me to the holy and honourable arms of the holy angels, that covered with their wings I may not behold the ignominious, revolting and gloomy forms of devils.

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

O all-honourable abode of God, grant to me the heavenly, supersensual abode, after you have kindled my expiring and un radiant light by the holy oil of your mercy.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

### **Kontak**

**Tone 6**

MY SOUL, MY SOUL, ARISE. WHY ARE YOU SLEEPING ?  
THE END DRAWS NEAR, AND YOU MUST SPEAK.  
THEREFORE, RISE UP,  
AND CHRIST OUR GOD WHO IS IN ALL PLACES AND  
FILLS ALL THINGS WILL SPARE YOU.

### **Ikos**

WHEN THE DEVIL BEHELD THE HEALING OF CHRIST  
MADE MANIFEST,  
AND THE HEALTH FLOWING FROM THIS TO ADAM,  
HE WAS DEEPLY WOUNDED, AS IT WERE WITH A  
CALAMITY,  
AND HE LAMENTED AND CRIED OUT TO HIS FRIENDS,  
“WHAT SHALL I DO TO THE SON OF MARY ?  
THE BETHLEHEMITE WHO IS IN ALL PLACES AND FILLS  
ALL THINGS IS SLAYING ME”.

**Ode VII :** FOR THE HOLY YOUTHS,  
AN ANGEL MADE THE FURNACE WET WITH DEW.  
BUT GOD'S COMMAND CONSUMED THE CHALDÆANS,

CONVINCING THE TYRANT TO CRY OUT,  
“BLESSED ARE YOU, O GOD OF OUR FATHERS”.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

The gloomy and moonless night of death has overtaken me, still unready, sending me forth on that long and dreadful journey unprepared ; but let your mercy accompany me, O Lady.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Behold, all my days have truly come to an end in futility, as it is written, and my years also in futility ; and now the snares of death, which truly are bitter, have ensnared my soul, and have surrounded me completely.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Do not let the multitude of my sins conquer your great tenderness of heart, O Lady ; but let your mercy surround me, and let it cover all my iniquities.

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

The ones who shall lead me from here have come and they hem me in on every side. My soul holds back and is dismayed, being filled with much rebellion. Console it, O pure one, by your manifestation.

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

I have not found one who grieves over my affliction, or who comforts me, O Lady ; for all my friends and acquaintances have now abandoned me. But, O my hope, never forsake me.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode VIII :** OUT OF THE FLAMES YOU SPRINKLED DEW ON THE  
HOLY YOUTHS.  
YOU SET AFLAME THE SACRIFICE OF THE RIGHTEOUS  
ELIAS WITH WATER ;  
FOR YOU ACCOMPLISH ALL THINGS BY YOUR WILL ALONE,  
O CHRIST.  
WE EXALT YOU THROUGHOUT ALL AGES.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

You are the Mother who loves mankind, and you are the Mother of God, the Lover of Man. With calm and merciful eyes, see when my soul shall part from its body, for I will glorify you unto the ages, O holy Theotokos.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Grant that I may escape the hordes of bodiless barbarians and rise through the abysses of air, and enter into Heaven, so that I may glorify you unto the ages, O holy Theotokos.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

O holy Theotokos, who bore the Lord Almighty, banish far from me the commander of bitter torments who rules the earth, when I come to die, so that I may glorify you unto the ages.

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

When the last trumpet shall sound at the frightful and dread resurrection of the Judgement, and all shall arise, then remember me, O holy Theotokos.

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

O lofty palace of Christ our Master, who have sent down Grace from on high, help me now in the day of wrath ; and I will glorify you unto the ages, O holy Theotokos.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode IX :** IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR MAN TO SEE GOD,  
UPON WHOM THE RANKS OF ANGELS DARE NOT GAZE.  
BUT THROUGH YOU, O MOST PURE ONE, THE WORD  
WHOM WE EXTOL  
TOOK FLESH AND WAS SEEN BY MORTAL MEN.  
WITH THE HEAVENLY HOSTS WE CALL YOU BLESSED.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Oh, how shall I look upon the invisible ? How shall I endure its dread sight ? How shall I dare to open my eyes ? How shall I dare to gaze upon my Master, whom since my youth, I have

never ceased to grieve ?

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

O holy maiden, Theotokos, look with mercy upon my lowliness. Receive this, my compunctionate and final prayer, and make haste to deliver me from the torturing eternal fire.

**R :** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

I beseech you, O all-honourable temple of God, O maiden, Virgin Mother, that I who have defiled the holy temples, on leaving this base temple of the body, may escape the outer darkness and the cruel burning of Gehenna.

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

O all-pure activator of my soul, as I now behold the end of my life draw near, I am cruelly stung by the stings of conscience as I contemplate my unseemly thoughts and deeds. But mercifully incline to me, and be my intercessor.

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

The Son gave Himself to us out of mercy : the Son of God and King of the Angels, the Eternal Man, who proceeded from your pure blood. Intercede with Him on behalf of my passion-tossed soul, which is cruelly wrested from my accursed body.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

IT IS TRULY MEET TO BLESS YOU, O THEOTOKOS,  
EVER BLESSED AND MOST PURE AND THE MOTHER OF  
OUR GOD.  
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.

**Prayer of forgiveness at the departure of a soul**

**Presbyter :** O Lord God Almighty, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth ;

who desire not the death of a sinner, but that he turn from his way and live, we entreat You and implore You, absolve the soul of Your servant n from all bonds, and free it from every curse. Pardon his (*her*) transgressions committed from youth, both knowingly and unknowingly, of word and of deed, either clearly confessed or concealed, through forgetfulness or through shame ; for You alone loose that which is bound, and guide the compunctionate. You are the hope of the despairing. You are mighty to remit the sins of every one putting trust in You. Yes, O Lord, the Lover of Man, give the command that he (*she*) be released from the bonds of the flesh and of sins. Receive in peace the soul of this, Your servant n, and give it rest in the eternal mansions with Your saints ; through the Grace of Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Reader :** Amen.

#### **Or this prayer**

**Presbyter :** O our Master, Lord God Almighty, You will that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. You desire not the death of a sinner, but that he turn from his way and live. We pray You and beseech You, Deliver the soul of Your servant n from every bond, and free it from every curse ; for it is You that deliver those who are bound, and guide those that are cast down, O Hope of the hopeless. Therefore, O Master, command that the soul of Your servant n depart in peace, and rest in Your eternal mansions with all Your saints ; through Your Only-begotten Son, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Reader :** Amen.

#### **Prayer for a person who has suffered long, and is on the point of death**

**Presbyter :** O Lord our God, in Your ineffable wisdom You created Man, fashioning him out of the dust of the ground, and adorning him with comeliness and goodness as an honourable and heavenly gift, to the exaltation and magnificence of Your glory and Kingdom, that You might bring him into accordance with this image and likeness. However, he sinned against the command of Your law, having accepted the image but not preserving it.

Therefore, that this evil not be eternal, You have ordained remission for it through Your love towards mankind, that this indestructible bond, which You, as God of our Fathers, had sanctified by Your divine will, be dissolved, and that this body be dissolved from the elements of which it was fashioned, but that the soul be translated to that place where it shall remain until the General Resurrection. Therefore, we pray to You, the unoriginate and immortal Father, and to Your Only-begotten Son, and to Your all-holy Spirit, that You will deliver *n*\_\_\_\_\_ from the body unto repose ; and that, out of Your goodness, what is known and what is unknown be struck away. So too, we entreat forgiveness from Your ineffable goodness, if he (*she*) in any manner, whether of knowledge or in ignorance, has offended Your goodness, or is under the ban of a priest, or has embittered his (*her*) parents, or has broken a vow, or has fallen into devilish imaginations and shameful sorceries, through the malice of the crafty demon. Yes, O Master, Lord our God, hear me the sinner, Your unworthy servant, in this hour, and deliver Your servant *n*\_\_\_\_\_ from this intolerable sickness which holds him (*her*) in bitter helplessness, and give him (*her*) rest where are all the souls of the righteous ; for You are the Repose of our souls and of our bodies, and unto You do we give glory : to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Reader :** Amen.

### **Prayer for a person condemned to death**

**Presbyter :** O most merciful, all-gracious and compassionate Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, our Saviour, because of Your love towards sinful mankind, You graciously deigned to accept condemnation unto death, to be crucified for the sake of our salvation, and upon the Cross to give up Your righteous Spirit into the hands of God the Father. We entreat You, most gracious Master, to look also with Your compassion upon this, Your servant *n*\_\_\_\_\_, who has been condemned to death by the judgement of mankind. Forgive him (*her*) his (*her*) mortal fault ; inspire in his (*her*) heart true repentance, that he (*she*) may, even in this hour before death, also confess You, his (*her*) God and Saviour, as once did the wise thief, and be granted mercy from You. Yes, O long-suffering Lord of many mercies, by Your righteous judgement, do not condemn this condemned sinner *n*\_\_\_\_\_. Pardon him (*her*) his (*her*) transgressions ; deliver him (*her*), by this penalty of death, from the eternal death prepared for unrepentant sinners, that he (*she*) may glorify You with all the

sinners who have repented and have been made righteous through You ; for You alone are sinless, and unto You are due all glory, honour and worship, together with Your unoriginate Father, and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Reader :** Amen.

**Presbyter :** Through the prayers of our holy *fathers (mothers/brothers and sisters)*, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

**Reader :** Amen.

*The holy Psalter is read in the presence of the body of the newly-reposed from this time until the time of the funeral.*



**B**                    **AT THE PARTING OF THE SOUL FROM THE BODY,  
WHEN ONE HAS SUFFERED FOR A LONG TIME**

*The presbyter begins :*

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

**Response :** Amen.

*(Glory be to You, our God, glory be to You.*

*O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, everywhere present, and filling all things, Treasury of good things, and Provider of Life, come, and abide in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O Good One.)*

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.

**R :** 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 69**

O God, give heed to my help. O LORD, make haste to help me. Let them be put to shame and be disgraced — those seeking my soul ; let them be turned back and be put to shame — those wishing me bad things. Let them be turned back instantly and be shamed — those saying to me : “Well done, well done”. But let them exult and be glad

in You — all those seeking You, O God ; and let them continually say : “Let the LORD be magnified” — those loving Your salvation. But poor and needy as I am, help me, O God. My Helper and my Rescuer — it is You. O LORD, do not tarry.

### **Psalm 142**

O LORD, hear my prayer ; give ear to my supplication in Your truth ; hear me in Your righteousness. Do not enter into fair-judgement with Your bond-servant, for no-one living shall be found righteous before Your Face ; for the enemy closely pursued my soul : he humbled my life to the earth ; he made me sit in dark places, like those long dead. My spirit within me fell into accidie ; within me, my heart was stirred up. I remembered days of old. I ruminated on all Your works : on the works of Your hands was I ruminating. I spread out my hands towards You ; my soul was to You like a waterless land. Be swift to hear me, O LORD ; my spirit has fainted. Do not turn away Your Face from me, or I shall become like those going down into the pit. Make me hear Your mercy in the morning, for on You have I hoped. Make known to me, O LORD, the way in which I shall walk, for to You have I raised my soul. Set me free from my enemies, O LORD, for I have fled to You for refuge. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God. Your good Spirit will lead me on the way, in the land of uprightness. For the sake of Your Name, O LORD, You will make me live ; in Your righteousness You will lead my soul out of affliction. In Your mercy You will exterminate my enemies, and You will destroy all those afflicting my soul, for I am Your bond-servant.

### **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.

**Canon**

**Tone 6**

**Ode I :** WHEN ISRAEL PASSED ON FOOT OVER THE SEA,  
AS THOUGH IT WERE DRY LAND,  
AND BEHELD THEIR PURSUER, PHARAOH, DROWNING  
IN THE SEA,  
THEY CRIED ALOUD TO GOD,  
“LET US SING A SONG OF VICTORY”.

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

\* **Reader :** Come, let us who still live gather together and piously lament the soul bereft of the glory of God, for shameful demons strive to enslave it.

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

All the time of my life has passed away like smoke and angels sent from God stand before me, mercilessly seeking my accursed soul.

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

\* Behold, a multitude of evil spirits stands before me, holding the handwriting of my sins, and they cry out exceedingly, shamelessly seeking my humble soul.

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

Before whom can I cry ? Who will receive my tears of sickness

and the sighings of my heart ? Only you, O pure one, the hope of Christians and all sinners.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode III :** NO-ONE IS AS HOLY AS YOU, O LORD MY GOD.  
YOU HAVE EXALTED THE STRENGTH OF YOUR FAITHFUL,  
O GOOD ONE,  
AND ON THE ROCK OF YOUR CONFESSION YOU HAVE  
FIRMLY ESTABLISHED THEM.

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

\* My good friends and acquaintances, why do you not weep ? Why do you not lament me who once loved you as friends and brethren, and who now am travelling to the God of you all ?

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

My beloved *brethren (sisters/brothers and sisters)*, seeing my deeds exposed by the balance-beams of the justice of Christ the God of all, pray that He will be merciful to me.

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

O beloved, remembering my friendship for you, beseech Christ to look upon me, the unfortunate suffering one who is being deprived of life.

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

Incline your ear to me, O Mother of my God, from the heights of your many glories, O gracious one, and extending your arm to me, hear the final groans.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode IV :** CHRIST IS MY POWER, MY GOD AND LORD,  
THE HOLY CHURCH SINGS A HYMN WORTHY OF GOD.  
LIFTING HER VOICE IN PURITY OF HEART,  
SHE CELEBRATES THE FEAST IN THE LORD.

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

\* Woe is me, the prodigal. Woe is me, the cursed. As I extend my

hand to my friends, and as I spill out tears from my eyes, no-one is merciful to me.

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

Struggles have begun for me, O ruined soul, and my eyes are gazing towards the bright angels of God, and I cry out, "Leave me a little time to live" ; but no-one hears me.

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

O angelic assemblies and all Christians weep for me. Lament for me ; for my soul is mercilessly parted from my body.

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

O sovereign Lady, be merciful now to my perplexed soul which is looking to your sole shelter ; and do not scorn me, O good one, who am left to the demons.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode V :** WITH YOUR DIVINE LIGHT, I BEG YOU, O GOOD ONE,  
ILLUMINE THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO WITH LONGING  
KEEP VIGIL FOR YOU,  
SO THAT THEY MAY KNOW YOU ARE TRULY GOD, O WORD  
OF GOD,  
AND BE RECALLED FROM THE GLOOM OF THEIR SINS.

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

Shine on me the light of understanding, so that I may see You as soon as possible, O Christ ; for I do not see You, since a cloud of demons has suddenly fallen upon me and the darkness of my shameful deeds covers me.

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

All you that have been saved, beloved, be compassionate to me who have been revealed as being dishonourable and cursed ; for if you all, with one accord, have announced me to my Master, you will have delivered me from the darkness.

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

O great prince of God, Michael, commander of the angels, I am trying to be saved, but already I cannot call on your holy name which is help to me ; for my lips are silent and my tongue is bound.

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

I am trying to be saved, O chaste and pure Mother of my Christ and God ; but already on account of my sins, I who am cursed am not able to gaze on your icon, for my light has been extinguished and the night covers me.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode VI :** BEHOLDING THE SEA OF LIFE,  
TOSSED BY THE WAVES OF TEMPTATIONS,  
I RACE AHEAD TO YOUR CALM HAVEN, AND I CRY OUT  
TO YOU,  
“BRING MY LIFE UP FROM CORRUPTION, O GREATLY  
MERCIFUL ONE”.

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

\* Incline your ears to me, my *brethren (sisters/brothers and sisters)* and gently listen to the humble words of my little announcement, and do not disobey, for you all will receive a reward from the Lord.

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

\* Behold, now my soul, on account of sickness, is parted from my cursed body. Do not bury my body in the ground, for it is not worthy ; but cast it away, and throw it to the dogs.

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

\* What use are you to me, my soul, to be cast to fearsome torments, and the body to be parted from you ? Leave it unburied, and let my heart be eaten by dogs.

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

\* Passing by, O strangers, perhaps seeing bones being dragged along by the dogs, and being moved, cry out from the soul, “O sovereign Lady, help the soul of this cursed body”.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode VII :** FOR THE HOLY YOUTHS,  
AN ANGEL MADE THE FURNACE WET WITH DEW.  
BUT GOD’S COMMAND CONSUMED THE CHALDÆANS,  
CONVINCING THE TYRANT TO CRY OUT,  
“BLESSED ARE YOU, O GOD OF OUR FATHERS”.

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

Behold, draw near, for the cursed soul is suddenly and cruelly torn away from the body and is led to the fearsome and dark Judgement. Having called to remembrance my discourse to you, beloved, make a memorial to me.

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

\* Have mercy on me, all-holy angels of God Almighty, and deliver me from all the evil toll-gatherers ; for I have not good deeds to balance against my evil deeds.

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

When you come up, my all-holy angel, to stand before the Judgement Seat of Christ, having bowed down with weeping on your knees, cry out to Him, “Be merciful, O Creator of all, to the work of Your hands, and do not expel him (*her*) from You, O Blessed One”.

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

Bow down to the sovereign Lady and most-pure Mother of my God, and pray that she bow down with you and incline Him to mercy ; for being His Mother and nourisher, she will be heard.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode VIII :** FROM THE FLAMES YOU SPRINKLED DEW ON THE HOLY  
YOUTHS.  
YOU SET AFLAME THE SACRIFICE OF THE RIGHTEOUS  
ELIAS WITH WATER ;  
FOR YOU ACCOMPLISH ALL THINGS BY YOUR WILL ALONE,  
O CHRIST.  
WE EXALT YOU THROUGHOUT ALL AGES.

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

\* Sigh together, all the ends of the earth, for me who am cursed, and weep together ; for the cruel sentence from above comes, and my hands are tied, and my feet are bound.

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

My cursed life not being sufficient for you the guardian, with moaning I cry out bitterly, look at the irritation of my eternal sores and do not turn away from me, I pray.

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

\* Because I was given out to demons, and by necessity led down to the bottom of Hadēs, I know that now all forget me ; but do you, O angel of the Lord, remember me.

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

O Mother of my Christ, how can you forget me ? How can you not incline to loving-kindness Him who spilled out blood from His side, that He might save that which He fashioned ? Woe is me. How am I shut off from the loving-kindness of my Christ ?

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode IX :** IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR MEN TO SEE GOD,  
UPON WHOM THE RANKS OF ANGELS DARE NOT GAZE ;  
BUT THROUGH YOU, O MOST PURE ONE, THE WORD  
WHOM WE EXTOL  
TOOK FLESH AND WAS SEEN BY MORTAL MEN.  
WITH THE HEAVENLY HOSTS, WE CALL YOU BLESSED.

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

\* Already, I do not remember God ; for no-one in Hadēs remembers the Lord. Cruelly, as by a net, I am covered with darkness, awaiting the resurrection of all mankind, that having been judged in fire I shall fall.

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

\* Already, God does not know me, nor do a multitude of angels, assembly of archangels, prophets, a gathering of apostles, a

multitude of martyrs, and all the righteous ; for alone I draw from the evil which I have gathered.

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

Weep for me now, and lament ; for in the bottom of Hadēs and the abyss, worms and every torment have risen up against me ; for alone amongst Christians I was led, and I have been presented to you to be tormented cruelly.

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

O Mother of God, look down into the abyss, and gaze on the soul presented to the torturer to be tormented. Shed tears while bowed down on the knees, that by your prayers, He who gave His blood for me may be inclined to raise me up.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

#### **Prayer for a soul being judged**

**Presbyter :** O our Master, Lord God Almighty, You will that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. You desire not the death of a sinner, but that he turn from his way and live. We pray You and beseech You, Deliver the soul of Your servant n from every bond, and free it from every curse ; for it is You that deliver those who are bound, and guide those who are cast down, O Hope of the hopeless. Therefore, O Master, command that the soul of Your servant n depart in peace, and rest in Your eternal mansions with all Your saints ; through Your Only-begotten Son, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Reader :** Amen.

#### **Prayer for a person who has suffered long and who is at the point of death**

**Presbyter :** O Lord our God, in Your ineffable wisdom You created Man, fashioning him out of the dust of the ground, and adorning him with comeliness and goodness as an honourable and heavenly gift, to the exaltation and magnificence of Your glory and Kingdom, that You might bring him into accord with this image and likeness. However, he sinned against the command of Your law, having accepted the image but not preserving it.

Therefore, that this evil not be eternal, You have ordained remission for it through Your love towards mankind, that this indestructible bond, which You, as God of our Fathers, had sanctified by Your divine will, be dissolved, and that this body be dissolved from the elements of which it was fashioned, but that the soul be translated to that place where it shall remain until the General Resurrection. Therefore, we pray to You, the unoriginate and immortal Father, and to Your Only-begotten Son, and to Your all-holy Spirit, that You will deliver *n* \_\_\_\_\_ from the body unto repose ; and that, out of Your goodness, what is known and what is unknown be struck away. So too, we entreat forgiveness from Your ineffable goodness, if he (*she*) in any manner, whether of knowledge or in ignorance, has offended Your goodness, or is under the ban of a priest, or has embittered his (*her*) parents, or has broken a vow, or has fallen into devilish imaginations and shameful sorceries, through the malice of the crafty demon. Yes, O Master, Lord our God, hear me the sinner, Your unworthy servant, in this hour, and deliver Your servant *n* \_\_\_\_\_ from this intolerable sickness which holds him (*her*) in bitter helplessness, and give him (*her*) rest where are all the souls of the righteous ; for You are the Repose of our souls and of our bodies, and unto You do we give glory : to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Reader :** Amen.

**Presbyter :** Through the prayers of our holy *fathers (mothers/brothers and sisters)*, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

**Reader :** Amen.

**[THE END OF THE SERVICES FOR THE PARTING  
OF THE SOUL FROM THE BODY]**



**C****LITIYA AT THE TIME OF REPOSE**

[Note : *This Litiya for the Departed is also known as the Trisagion for the Departed and is to be served in the home of the departed (and/or the place of repose) at repose and while the body remains there. It is served before bringing the body to the Temple. It is served at the home, after the mourners return from the burial. This service is used on other occasions, such as after the conclusion of Vespers, Matins, or Divine Liturgy, using the appropriate words for the occasion. An offering of Koliva (Kutia) and/or bread (and sometimes other foods) often accompanies this service.*]

*When one of the Orthodox has ended this life, the priest is immediately summoned to be with the family (if he was not present at the reposing). Going to the place where the remains lie, he puts on the epitrahil and he puts incense into the censer. He censens the body of the newly-departed, and he censens all those standing round about, and the room, and he begins :*

**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.

**R :** Amen.

**Tropars**

**Tone 4**

WITH THE SPIRITS OF THE RIGHTEOUS MADE PERFECT,

GIVE REST TO THE SOUL OF YOUR SERVANT, 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 OF YOUR SERVANT,  
FOR YOU ALONE ARE IMMORTAL.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE  
HOLY SPIRIT.

YOU ARE OUR GOD WHO DESCENDED INTO HADĒS AND  
DESTROYED THE SUFFERINGS OF THOSE  
IMPRISONED THERE.

GIVE REST ALSO, O SAVIOUR, TO THE SOUL OF YOUR  
SERVANT.

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 YOUR SERVANT MAY BE  
SAVED.

*The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, begins :*

### **Litany**

**Deacon :** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your goodness, we pray  
You, hear us, and have mercy.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** Again, we pray for the repose of the soul of the newly-departed  
servant of God n who has fallen asleep, and that he (*she*)  
may be pardoned all his (*her*) sins, both voluntary and  
involuntary.

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

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

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

**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission  
of his (*her*) sins, 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 God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and

(*censing*) made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul of Your newly-departed servant n who has fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression which he (*she*) has committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ; for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your servant n who has fallen asleep, 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 :** O 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.  
Father (*Master*) 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 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.

*It may be that "Memory Eternal" is intoned and sung.*

*The Psalter is read beside the body of an Orthodox believer until the time arrives for the burial. The kathismas may be separated with litanies or prayers for the departed.*

**[THE END OF THE LITIYA]**



## **D PRAYERS AT THE PREPARATION AND DRESSING<sup>1</sup>**

*When all the preparations have been made, and the icons are in their appropriate places, then the body (respectfully covered) is placed on a suitable surface. All other activities nearby cease, the prayers are begun. The body of the departed is washed, and then rubbed with oil (using oil of Unction if any remain to this person). This is done out of respect and a desire that the departed be presented clean before the presence of God in the Resurrection. The body should be clothed in new clothes, if not in a shroud, recalling Holy Baptism. An icon is usually placed in the hands of departed lay-persons. If it is the custom, as with some Russians, the strip of the Trisagion is placed on the forehead (formerly denoting payment of death-duties). It is also customary that the body be covered to the waist with a pall, sometimes of special design. The readers should have available a copy of the Apostle (Epistle) Book and of the Psalter.*

*At funerals, four standard candlesticks are placed at the four sides of the coffin, forming a Cross. At both funerals and at panikhidas all those present hold lit tapers throughout.*

*If there be a presbyter, then the presbyter begins :*

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

**Response :** Amen.

*If there be no presbyter, then the leader begins :*

**Leader :** Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

*We sing the Trisagion only :*

**Response :** 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,

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These prayers are adapted from : J. Mark and Elizabeth J. Barna, *A Christian Ending: A Handbook for Burial in the Ancient Christian Tradition* (Manton, CA : Divine Ascent Press, 2011), pp. 111-147). © 2011 by Divine Ascent Press.

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.

*If there be no presbyter, then the reader continues :*

**Reader :** Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

**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*)

*If it be the time of a great feast, then its tropar is read or sung at this time.*

### **Symbol of Faith**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty :  
Maker of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible ;  
and in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten,  
begotten of the Father before all ages :  
Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not made ;  
of one essence with the Father ;  
through whom all things were made ;  
who for us Men, and for our salvation, came down from Heaven,  
and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit, and the Virgin Mary, and became Man ;  
and He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried ;  
and the third day, He rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures ;  
and ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father ;  
and He shall come again with glory, to judge the living and the dead ;

whose Kingdom shall have no end ;  
and in the Holy Spirit : the Lord, the Giver of Life, who  
proceeds from the Father ;  
who, with the Father and the Son together, is worshipped  
and glorified ;  
who spoke by the prophets ;  
in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church ;  
I confess one baptism for the remission of sins ;  
I wait for the resurrection of the dead ;  
and the life of the age to come.

**R:** Amen.

*Before beginning the preparation, the presbyter (or the reader) prays the following prayer :*

**Presbyter/Reader :** Almighty God, our Help and our Refuge, the Fountain of Wisdom and Tower of Strength, who know that we can do nothing without Your guidance and help, assist us, we pray You, and direct us to divine Wisdom and Power, so that we may faithfully and diligently accomplish this task of preparing the body of Your departed servant *n* for burial according to Your Will, so that it may be profitable to him (*her*), to ourselves and to others, and to the glory of Your holy Name ; 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.

**R :** Amen.

**R :** Beloved brother (*sister*) in Christ, *n*, forgive us.

*Now is begun the preparation of the body.*

*If there is no deacon or priest, a reader may read the Gospel lessons (although in the manner of a reader). If the preparation of the body be completed before the conclusion of all the readings provided, then at the conclusion of the current reading or psalm, the concluding prayers of the service of preparation are read.*

**R :** 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 3**

O LORD, why have those afflicting me multiplied ? ... upon Your people

is Your blessing.

**Psalm 8**

O LORD, our LORD, how wonderful is Your Name ... how wonderful is Your Name in all the earth.

**Psalm 16**

Hear, O LORD, my righteousness ; ... I shall be sated when Your glory appears to me.

**Psalm 18**

The Heavens recount the glory of God, ... O LORD, my Helper and my Redeemer.

**Psalm 21**

O God, my God, give heed to me ; ... whom the LORD has made.

**Psalm 22**

The LORD shepherds me, ... in the house of the LORD for length of days.

**Psalm 56**

Have mercy on me, O God ; have mercy on me, ... and over all the earth, Your glory.

**Psalm 62**

O God, my God, to You do I arise at day-break ... unrighteous things has been stopped up.

**Psalm 70**

On You, O LORD, have I hoped ; ... those seeking bad things for me.

**Psalm 83**

How beloved are Your tents, ... blessed is the Man hoping on You.

**Psalm 102**

Bless the LORD, O my soul, ... Bless the LORD, O my soul.

**Psalm 114**

I have loved, for the LORD will hear ... in the land of the living.

**Tropars**

**Tone 4**

WITH THE SPIRITS OF THE RIGHTEOUS MADE PERFECT,  
GIVE REST TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR SERVANT(S),  
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 SERVANT(S),  
FOR YOU ALONE ARE IMMORTAL.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE  
HOLY SPIRIT.

YOU ARE OUR GOD WHO DESCENDED INTO HADĒS AND  
DESTROYED THE SUFFERINGS OF THOSE  
IMPRISONED THERE.

GIVE REST ALSO, O SAVIOUR, TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR  
SERVANT(S).

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 YOUR SERVANT(S)  
MAY BE SAVED.

**Reader :** The Reading from the First Book of Moses.  
(1 Moses [Genesis] 1:1-2:15)

**Reader :** The Reading from the First Epistle of the holy Apostle Paul to  
the Thessalonians. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 ; 5:1-28)

**Presbyter/Reader :** The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to  
John. (John 3:1-21)

**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and  
(*censing*) made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You  
Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul of Your newly-departed  
servant *n* who has fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a  
place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress,  
sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good  
and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression which he  
(*she*) has committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for  
there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only  
are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal  
righteousness, and Your word is truth ;  
for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your  
servant *n* who has fallen asleep, 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.

**Reader :** 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 24**

To You, O LORD, have I raised ... O God, redeem Israel from all his afflictions.

**Psalm 29**

I shall exalt You, O LORD, ... O LORD my God, unto the age shall I confess You.

**Psalm 30**

On You, O LORD, have I hoped ; ...all you, hoping on the LORD.

**Psalm 32**

Exult in the LORD, O you righteous ; ... even as we have hoped on You.

**Psalm 34**

O LORD, give judgement to those wronging me ; ... and Your praise, the whole day long.

**Psalm 41**

As the hind yearns for springs of waters, ... the Salvation of my face, and my God.

**Psalm 45**

Our God is Refuge and Power, ... our Support is the God of JakJohnb.

**Psalm 50**

Have mercy on me, O God, ... offer young bulls upon Your altar.

**Psalm 54**

Give ear, O God, to my prayer, ... But as for me, O LORD, I shall hope on You.

**Psalm 103**

Bless the LORD, O my soul. ... Bless the LORD, O my soul.

**Psalm 117**

O confess the LORD, for He is good, ... for eternal is His mercy.

**Psalm 142**

O LORD, hear my prayer ; ... for I am Your bond-servant.

**Reader :** 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)

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

**Tone 5**

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

*[Note : In older times, the body would have been covered with a shroud and placed on a suitable board. This board, supporting the body, would have been carried to the Temple and then ultimately lowered into the grave with the body. In recent times, after the preparation and dressing, the body is customarily placed into a coffin. This would occur before continuing with the readings and the concluding prayers.]*

**Reader :** The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah.  
(Isaiah Chapter 61)

**Reader :** The Reading from the First Epistle of the holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians. (1 Corinthians 15:1-40)

**Presbyter/Reader :** The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John. (John 4:1-24)

**Third Kneeling Prayer of Pentecost**

**Presbyter/Reader :** O Fountain, ever-flowing, living, illumining ; creative Power, co-eternal with the Father, O Christ our God, You have most excellently fulfilled all the plan for the salvation of mankind. You shattered the indestructible bonds of death, and the bolts of Hadēs, and You trampled under foot a host of evil spirits. You offered Yourself as a blameless victim for us, giving Your all-holy body for an inviolate sacrifice, unassailed by every sin ; and, through that formidable and ineffable act of sacrifice, You bestowed upon us eternal life. You descended into Hadēs ; You broke the everlasting bars, and You showed the way of ascent unto those who abode in the lower world. O Wisdom greatly glorified of the Father, after having enticed, by divinely wise allurements, the origin of evil, the serpent of the abyss, and having bound him with cords of nethermost gloom and unquenchable fire in Tartarus, and in outer darkness, through Your infinite and fettering might, You manifested Yourself as the mighty Helper of the abused ; and You enlightened those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

O Lord of eternal glory and beloved Son of the Father most high, Light Eternal of Light Eternal, the Sun of Righteousness, hear us, who now make our fervent supplications unto You ; and give rest to the souls of Your servants our *fathers* and *brethren*, and our other kinsfolk after the flesh, and of all who are of the household of faith, who have fallen asleep, and whom we now keep in memory ; for You have power over all things, and in Your hand You uphold all the ends of the earth. O Almighty Master, God of our fathers and Lord of mercy, Creator of the race of mortals and immortals, and of every nature of man ; of that which is brought together and is again put asunder ; of life and of death ; of sojourn in the world that now is, and of translation to the world which is to come ; You measure out the years of life, and You appoint the time of death. You bring down to Hadēs, and again You raise up. You bind unto impotency and loose unto power. You order things present according to their necessity, and You appoint things to come as is expedient. You quicken with the hope of Resurrection those who were smitten with the sting of death ; for You are truly the Master of all mankind, O God our Saviour, the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of those who are far off upon the sea.

On this last, and great, and redeeming day of the Feast of Pentecost, You revealed unto us the mystery of the Holy Trinity, one in Essence, co-eternal, undivided and unmingled. You

poured out the inspiration and descent of the holy and life-giving Spirit, in the form of tongues of fire, upon Your holy apostles. You appointed them to be the heralds of the glad tidings of our holy Faith, and You made them to be confessors and teachers of the true divine knowledge. You also, on this all-perfect and saving Feast, are graciously pleased to accept propitiatory prayers for those who are imprisoned in Hadēs, thus promising unto us who are held in bondage great hope of release from the vileness that hinders us and did hinder them, and that You will send down Your consolation.

Hear us, Your humble ones, who make our supplications unto You, and give rest to the souls of Your servants who have fallen asleep, in a place of light, a place of verdure, a place of refreshment, from which all distress, sorrow and sighing have fled away. Speedily establish their souls in the mansions of the righteous, and graciously deem them to be worthy of peace and pardon ; for the dead shall not praise You, neither shall they who are in Hadēs be so bold as to offer confession to You. However, we who are living will bless You, and we will pray, and offer unto You propitiatory prayers and sacrifices for their souls.

O God, great and eternal, You are holy and the Lover of Man. You have deemed us worthy at this present hour to stand before Your ineffable glory, and to sing and to praise Your wonders. Purify us, Your unworthy servants, and grant us Grace that, with a contrite heart, and without presumption, we may offer unto You the Thrice-Holy Hymn of praise and thanksgiving for Your great gifts, which You have bestowed and always do bestow upon us. Remember, O Lord, our weakness, and do not destroy us in our iniquity, but show great mercy upon our humility ; that, fleeing from the darkness of sin, we may walk in the daylight of righteousness ; and that, putting on the armour of light, we may remain unassailed by any despicable attack of the Evil One, and we may with boldness glorify in all things You, the only true God, who also love mankind. O Lord and Creator of all, Yours is that great and veritable mystery, the dissolution of Your creatures for a season, and thereafter their resurrection and their eternal life. We confess Your Grace in all things ; for our coming into this world and our going out of it ; for our hopes of Resurrection and of life eternal faithfully pledged unto us through Your unfailing promises, which we shall receive hereafter in Your Second Coming ; for You are the Chieftain of our Resurrection, and the impartial and compassionate Judge of the dead, and the Master and Lord of recompense. Because

of Your exceedingly great condescension, and of Your own will, You became a partaker, on equal terms, of our flesh and blood, so that You might place Yourself under temptation ; and You accepted our unavoidable passions, because of Your compassion, and You suffered through them. Being Yourself untempted by them, You became for us who are tempted the Helper which You Yourself had promised ; and thereby, You have led us to Your passionlessness.

Therefore, O Master, receive our prayers and supplications, and give rest unto the fathers, mothers, children, brothers and sisters, blood-relations and kinsfolk of each and all of us, and unto all the souls which have fallen asleep before us, and establish their spirits in the hope of Resurrection unto life eternal ; and inscribe their names in the Book of Life, in the bosom of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, and in the land of the living, in the Kingdom of Heaven, in the Paradise of sweetness, by means of Your radiant angels guiding all into Your holy mansions, raising up with You, also, our bodies, in that day which You have appointed by Your holy and faithful promise. There is no death, O Lord, for Your servants when we depart from the body and come unto You, our God, but a change from things very sorrowful unto things most benign and most sweet, and unto repose and gladness.

If, therefore, we have in anything transgressed against You, be merciful unto us and unto them ; because there is no one pure from stain in Your sight, even for a single day of life, except You alone, who manifested Yourself sinless upon earth, O our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we all trust to receive mercy and the remission of our sins.

Therefore, since You are a gracious God and love mankind, both to them and to us, pardon, remit, and forgive our sins, both voluntary and involuntary, which we have committed whether wilfully or through ignorance ; whether those which are manifest or those which have escaped our notice ; whether of deed, or of thought, or of word, whatever they may be, in all our acts and lives. Unto the departed also, grant release and pardon, and bless us who are here present. Grant unto us, and to all Your people, a good and peaceful ending, and open unto us the tenderness of Your mercy and love towards mankind at Your dread and fearful Second Coming ; and make us worthy of Your Kingdom ;

for You, O God, are Good, and the Lover of Man, and unto You do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**R :** Amen.

### **Concluding Prayers**

**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.

*If there be no presbyter, then the reader continues :*

**Reader :** Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

**Reader :** Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *(twelve times)*

**Deacon :** Wisdom.

**Presbyter :** O 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. Father (*Master*) 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, of the holy Joseph of Arimathaea, of the holy Myrrh-bearing Women, and of all the saints, establish in the mansions of the righteous the

soul of His newly-departed servant n\_\_\_\_. May He grant repose to him (*her*) in the bosom of Abraham and number him (*her*) amongst the righteous ; and may He have mercy on us, for He is good and the Lover of Man.

**R :** Amen.

**Deacon :** Grant eternal rest in blessed falling asleep, O Lord, to the soul of Your servant n\_\_\_\_ who has newly departed this life, and make his (*her*) memory to be eternal.

*If there be no deacon or presbyter, then the reader(s) simply sing(s) the following :*

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

*And then those who have prepared the body ask forgiveness :*

Beloved brother (*sister*) in Christ, n\_\_\_\_, forgive us if at any time we have offended you by anything we have done or have left undone. May your memory be eternal.

**[THE END OF THE PREPARATION PRAYERS]**

**E****THE FUNERAL SERVICE**

*When everything is prepared and the time has come (it may be after another "Litiya" as previously), the presbyter gives the blessing, and those present begin to sing the Trisagion. The priest, preceded by acolytes bearing lanterns (and Cross), departs from where the body rests. He is followed by the deacon carrying the censer, and by the family who take up the remains and carry the departed. The bells are rung in the prescribed manner. When they arrive at the Temple, they set the remains in the midst of the Temple (or in the narthex if it not yet be the time for the service), and surround the coffin with four candle-sticks in Cross-form, one on each side. Those present hold lighted tapers until after the reading of the Holy Gospel, when they are extinguished. The texts of this service include the plural, should some extraordinary event require this service of prayer for more than one person.*

*However, should the presbyter not have accompanied the body to the Temple, then when the body arrives, he takes the censer and he meets the coffin as it arrives at the Temple. He censes the coffin, and as he and the others sing the Trisagion, he leads the coffin and its bearers with the family into the Temple and to the place where the coffin will rest. There, he opens the coffin and he censes around it.*

*Depending on the blessing given, the Divine Liturgy may be served before or after the following service of prayer.*

*When all is ready, the presbyter takes the censer, he stands at the head of the coffin, facing towards the Altar, and he begins :*

**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.

**R :** 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”.

*The Seventeenth Kathisma is read or sung completely, with refrains. If the blessing is given, the stases are reduced to selected verses (in bold).*

**Psalm 118**

**First Stasis (vv. 1-72)**

**Tone 6**

**Refrain : ALLELUIA.**

<b>Blessed are the blameless in their way, those walking in the law of the LORD.</b>	<b>R.</b>
<b>Blessed are those searching out His testimonies : with their whole heart, they shall seek Him out ;</b>	<b>R.</b>
<b>for those working lawlessness have not walked in His ways.</b>	<b>R.</b>
It is You that have commanded Your commandments to be kept diligently.	<b>R.</b>
O, that my ways may be directed, in order to keep Your statutes ; then I shall not be ashamed, when I look attentively upon all Your commandments.	<b>R.</b>
I shall confess You in uprightness of heart, when I have learned the judgements of Your righteousness.	<b>R.</b>
I shall keep Your statutes ; do not utterly abandon me.	<b>R.</b>
How shall a young man straighten his way ? By keeping Your words.	<b>R.</b>
I sought You out with my whole heart. Do not push me away from Your commandments.	<b>R.</b>
In my heart have I hidden Your teachings, that I might not sin against You.	<b>R.</b>
Blessed are You, O LORD ; teach me Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
With my lips I told forth all the judgements of Your mouth.	<b>R.</b>
In the way of Your testimonies I was delighted, as in all riches.	<b>R.</b>
On Your commandments shall I deliberate, and I shall observe Your ways.	<b>R.</b>
On Your statutes shall I ruminate ; I shall not forget Your words. Requite Your bond-servant ; I shall live, and I shall keep Your words.	<b>R.</b>
Uncover my eyes, and I shall observe the wonders from Your law.	<b>R.</b>
I am, myself, a sojourner on the earth ; do not hide Your commandments from me.	<b>R.</b>
My soul yearned to crave Your judgements at all times.	<b>R.</b>
You rebuked the proud : accursed are those inclining away from Your commandments.	<b>R.</b>
Take away from around me reproach and contempt, for I sought out Your testimonies.	<b>R.</b>
Indeed, princes sat down, and they were speaking against me ; but Your bond-servant was deliberating about Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
Indeed, Your testimonies are my rumination, and my counsels are Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
My soul cleaved to the ground ; make me live in accordance with Your Word.	<b>R.</b>
I told forth my ways, and You listened to me ; teach me Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
Make me understand the way of Your statutes, and I shall deliberate on Your wonders.	<b>R.</b>

My soul slumbered from accidie ; secure me in Your words.	<b>R.</b>
Put away from me the way of unrighteousness, and by Your law, have mercy on me.	<b>R.</b>
I chose the way of truth, and I did not forget Your judgements.	<b>R.</b>
I cleaved to Your testimonies ; O LORD, put me not to shame.	<b>R.</b>
I ran the way of Your commandments, when You broadened my heart.	<b>R.</b>
O LORD, give me a law : the way of Your statutes, and I shall seek it out continually.	<b>R.</b>
Make me understand, and I shall search out Your law, and I shall keep it with my whole heart.	<b>R.</b>
Lead me on the way, on the path of Your commandments, for I have wished for it.	<b>R.</b>
Incline my heart to Your testimonies, and not to covetousness.	<b>R.</b>
Turn my eyes away from seeing futility ; make me live in Your way.	<b>R.</b>
Set before Your bond-servant Your teaching, that I may fear You.	<b>R.</b>
Take away from around me the reproach which I have dreaded, for Your judgements are gracious.	<b>R.</b>
Behold, I have craved Your commandments : in Your righteousness, make me live.	<b>R.</b>
May Your mercy come upon me, O LORD : Your salvation, in accordance with Your Word.	<b>R.</b>
I shall answer a word to those reproaching me, for I have hoped on Your words.	<b>R.</b>
Do not utterly take away from my mouth the word of truth, for I have placed my hope on Your judgements.	<b>R.</b>
I shall keep Your law continually : unto the age, and unto the age of the age.	<b>R.</b>
I was walking in a broad place, for I sought out Your commandments.	<b>R.</b>
I was speaking of Your testimonies in the presence of kings, and I was not ashamed.	<b>R.</b>
I was ruminating on Your commandments, which I loved exceedingly.	<b>R.</b>
I raised my hands towards Your commandments, which I loved, and I was deliberating on Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
Remember Your words to Your bond-servant, in which You gave me hope.	<b>R.</b>
This has consoled me in my humiliation, for Your teaching gave me life.	<b>R.</b>
The proud were utterly transgressing the law, but I did not incline away from Your law.	<b>R.</b>
I remembered Your eternal judgements, O LORD, and I was consoled.	<b>R.</b>

Despondency held me fast, because of the sinners, abandoning Your law.	R.
Your statutes were my chants, in the place of my sojourning. I remembered Your Name in the night, O LORD, and I kept Your law.	R.
This happened to me, for I have sought out Your statutes. You are my portion, O LORD ; I said I would keep Your law. I besought Your Face with my whole heart ; have mercy on me, in accordance with Your teaching.	R.
I thought about Your ways, and I turned my feet towards Your testimonies.	R.
I was prepared, and I was not stirred up, in order to keep Your commandments.	R.
The cords of sinners were woven around me, but I did not forget Your law.	R.
In the middle of the night, I was waking to confess You, for the judgements of Your righteousness.	R.
I am, myself, a companion of all those fearing You, and of those keeping Your commandments.	R.
The earth is full of Your mercy, O LORD : teach me Your statutes. You have done loving-kindness with Your bond-servant, in accordance with Your Word, O LORD.	R.
Teach me loving-kindness and instruction and knowledge, for I have believed in Your commandments.	R.
Before I was humbled, I did wrong : because of this, I kept Your teaching.	R.
You are gracious, O LORD ; and in Your loving-kindness teach me Your statutes.	R.
The unrighteousness of the proud was multiplied against me ; but with my whole heart I shall, myself, search out Your commandments.	R.
Their heart has been curdled, just as milk ; but as for me, I ruminated on Your law.	R.
<b>It is good for me that You humbled me, that I might learn Your statutes.</b>	R.
<b>The law of Your mouth is to me better than thousands of gold and silver.</b>	R.
<b>Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.</b>	R.
<b>Now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.</b>	R.



*The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, 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 the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God *n*\_\_\_\_ newly departed this life, and that he (*she/they*) may be pardoned all his (*her/their*) sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of his (*her/their*) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.

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

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and (*censing*) made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Your newly-departed servant(s) *n*\_\_\_\_ who has (*have*) fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression which he (*she/they*) has (*have*) committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ; for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your servant(s) *n*\_\_\_\_ who has (*have*) fallen asleep, 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.



**Second Stasis (vv. 73-131)**

**Tone 5 (Tone 6)**

**Refrain :** HAVE MERCY ON YOUR SERVANT.

**Your hands made and fashioned me ; make me understand,  
and I shall learn Your commandments.**

**R.**

**Those fearing You shall see me, and be glad, for I have placed**

<b>my hope on Your words.</b>	<b>R.</b>
<b>I know, O LORD, that Your judgements are righteousness, and that in truth You humbled me.</b>	<b>R.</b>
Let Your mercy be my consolation, then, in accordance with Your teaching to Your bond-servant.	<b>R.</b>
Let Your compassions come to me, and I shall live, for Your law is my rumination.	<b>R.</b>
Let the proud be put to shame, for they unrighteously wrought lawlessness against me ;	<b>R.</b>
but as for me, I shall deliberate on Your commandments.	<b>R.</b>
Let them turn towards me — those fearing You, and those knowing Your testimonies.	<b>R.</b>
Let my heart become blameless in Your statutes, that I may not be put to shame.	<b>R.</b>
My soul faints because of Your salvation ; on Your words I have placed my hope.	<b>R.</b>
My eyes failed for Your teaching, saying : “When will You console me ?”	<b>R.</b>
for I became like a leather-bag in the hoar-frost : Your statutes I did not forget.	<b>R.</b>
How many are the days of Your bond-servant ?	<b>R.</b>
When will You make fair-judgement for me upon those closely pursuing me ?	<b>R.</b>
Transgressors of the law recounted idle talk to me ; but it is not like Your law, O LORD.	<b>R.</b>
All Your commandments are truth.	<b>R.</b>
Unrighteously have they closely pursued me ; help me.	<b>R.</b>
In a short time they made an end of me on the earth, but as for me, I did not abandon Your commandments.	<b>R.</b>
In accordance with Your mercy make me live, and I shall keep the testimonies of Your mouth.	<b>R.</b>
Unto the age, O LORD, does Your Word continue in Heaven : unto generation and generation, Your truth ;	<b>R.</b>
You laid the foundations of the earth, and it continues.	<b>R.</b>
By Your plan does the day continue, for all things are Your bond-servants.	<b>R.</b>
If it were not that Your law is my rumination, then I would have perished in my humiliation.	<b>R.</b>
Unto the age I shall not forget Your statutes, for in them You have made me live.	<b>R.</b>
I am Yours : save me, for I have sought out Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
Sinners waited for me, to destroy me ; I understood Your testimonies.	<b>R.</b>
I saw the limit of every achievement ; but Your commandment is exceedingly broad.	<b>R.</b>

How I have loved Your law, O LORD : it is my rumination the whole day long.	<b>R.</b>
You made me wise, more than my enemies, by Your commandment, for it is mine unto the age.	<b>R.</b>
I have understood more than all those teaching me, for Your testimonies are my rumination.	<b>R.</b>
I have understood more than the elders, for I sought out Your commandments.	<b>R.</b>
I restrained my feet from every way of evil, so that I might keep Your words.	<b>R.</b>
I did not decline away from Your judgements, for You gave me a law.	<b>R.</b>
How sweet to my throat are Your teachings, more than honey to my mouth.	<b>R.</b>
Because of Your commandments, I have understood ; because of this, I hated every way of unrighteousness.	<b>R.</b>
A lamp to my feet is Your law, and a light to my paths.	<b>R.</b>
I have sworn, and I stood ready to keep the judgements of Your righteousness.	<b>R.</b>
I have been utterly humbled ; O LORD, make me live in accordance with Your Word.	<b>R.</b>
Be well-pleased, then, with the freewill-offerings of my mouth, O LORD ; and teach me Your judgements.	<b>R.</b>
My soul is in Your hands continually, and I have not forgotten Your law.	<b>R.</b>
Sinners laid a snare for me ; but I did not go astray from Your commandments.	<b>R.</b>
I have inherited Your testimonies unto the age, for they are the exultation of my heart.	<b>R.</b>
I inclined my heart to do Your statutes, unto the age, in requital.	<b>R.</b>
Transgressors of the law I have hated, but Your law I have loved.	<b>R.</b>
You are my Helper and my Support ; I have placed my hope on Your words.	<b>R.</b>
Decline away from me, you evil-doers, and I shall search out the commandments of my God.	<b>R.</b>
Support me in accordance with Your teaching, and make me live, and do not put me to shame from my expectation.	<b>R.</b>
Help me, and I shall be saved, and I shall ruminate on Your statutes continually.	<b>R.</b>
You reckoned as nothing all those standing aloof from Your statutes, for unrighteous is their reasoning.	<b>R.</b>

I reckoned as deviators all the sinners of the earth ; because of this, I loved Your testimonies.	R.
Nail my flesh because of the fear of You, for I was fearful of Your judgements.	R.
I have done judgement and righteousness ; do not give me over to those wronging me.	R.
Be surety for Your bond-servant for the good ; do not let the proud denounce me.	R.
My eyes failed for Your salvation, and for the teaching of Your righteousness.	R.
Do with Your bond-servant in accordance with Your mercy, and teach me Your statutes.	R.
I am Your bond-servant : make me understand, and I shall know Your testimonies.	R.
It is the time for the LORD to act ; they have dispersed Your law.	R.
Because of this, I loved Your commandments more than gold and topaz.	R.
Because of this, I was being set straight towards all Your commandments ;	R.
I hated every unrighteous way.	R.
Wonderful are Your testimonies ; because of this, my soul has searched them out.	R.
<b>The revelation of Your words shall illumine, and shall make infants understand.</b>	R.
<b>I opened my mouth, and I drew in the Spirit, for I was yearning for Your commandments.</b>	R.
<b>Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.</b>	R.
<b>Now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.</b>	R.



*The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, 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 the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God *n*\_\_\_\_ newly departed this life, and that he (*she/they*) may be pardoned all his (*her/their*) sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

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

righteous repose.  
**R :** Lord, have mercy.  
**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of his (*her/their*) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.  
**R :** Grant it, O Lord.  
**Deacon :** Let us pray to the Lord.  
**R :** Lord, have mercy.  
**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and (*censing*) made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Your newly-departed servant(s) *n*\_\_\_\_ who has (*have*) fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression which he (*she/they*) has (*have*) committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ; for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your servant(s) *n*\_\_\_\_ who has (*have*) fallen asleep, 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.



**Third Stasis (vv. 132-176)**

**Tone 8 (Tone 6)**

**Refrain : ALLELUIA.**

<b>Look attentively upon me, and have mercy on me,</b>	<b>R.</b>
<b>in accordance with the judgement of those loving</b>	
<b>Your Name.</b>	<b>R.</b>
<b>Direct my foot-steps in accordance with Your teaching,</b>	
<b>and do not let any lawlessness lord it over me.</b>	<b>R.</b>
Redeem me from the denunciation of Men, and I shall keep	
Your commandments.	<b>R.</b>
Make Your Face shine upon Your bond-servant, and teach	
me Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
My eyes have shed streams of waters, since I have not kept	
Your law.	<b>R.</b>
You are righteous, O LORD, and upright are Your	
fair-judgements.	<b>R.</b>

You commanded Your testimonies to be righteousness and truth, exceedingly.	<b>R.</b>
Your zeal has melted me away, for my enemies have forgotten Your words.	<b>R.</b>
Your teaching has been greatly tested by fire, and Your bond-servant has loved it.	<b>R.</b>
As for me, I am young, and reckoned as nothing ; I have not forgotten Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
Your righteousness is righteousness unto the age, and Your law is truth.	<b>R.</b>
Afflictions and anguish have found me ; Your commandments are my rumination.	<b>R.</b>
Your testimonies are righteousness unto the age ; make me understand, and I shall live.	<b>R.</b>
I cried out with my whole heart ; listen to me, O LORD.	<b>R.</b>
I shall seek out Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
I cried out to You ; save me, and I shall keep Your testimonies.	<b>R.</b>
I anticipated day-break, and I cried out ; on Your words have I placed my hope.	<b>R.</b>
My eyes anticipated day-break, that I might ruminate on Your teachings.	<b>R.</b>
Hear my voice, O LORD, in accordance with Your mercy ; in accordance with Your judgement, make me live.	<b>R.</b>
They have drawn near — those closely pursuing me with lawlessness, and they have kept far away from Your law.	<b>R.</b>
You are near, O LORD, and all Your ways are truth.	<b>R.</b>
From of old I knew of Your testimonies, for You laid their foundations unto the age.	<b>R.</b>
See my humiliation, and set me free, for I have not forgotten Your law.	<b>R.</b>
Adjudge my fair-judgement, and redeem me ; because of Your Word, make me live.	<b>R.</b>
Far off from sinners is salvation, for they did not seek out Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
Your compassions are many, O LORD : in accordance with Your judgement, make me live.	<b>R.</b>
Many are those chasing me away, and afflicting me ; I did not incline away from Your testimonies.	<b>R.</b>
I saw those who are without understanding, and I was melting away,	<b>R.</b>
for they did not keep Your teachings.	<b>R.</b>
See that I have loved Your commandments ; O LORD, in Your mercy, make me live.	<b>R.</b>
The beginning of Your words is truth, and unto the age are all the judgements of Your righteousness.	<b>R.</b>

Princes pursued me closely without a cause, and my heart was afraid because of Your words.	<b>R.</b>
I shall exult in Your teachings, as one finding much spoils. Unrighteousness I have hated and loathed, but Your law I have loved.	<b>R.</b> <b>R.</b>
Seven times a day I have praised You for the judgements of Your righteousness.	<b>R.</b>
There is much peace for those loving Your law, and there is no stumbling-block for them.	<b>R.</b>
I was awaiting Your salvation, O LORD, and Your commandments I have loved.	<b>R.</b>
My soul kept Your testimonies, and loved them exceedingly. I kept Your commandments and Your testimonies, for all my ways are in Your presence, O LORD.	<b>R.</b> <b>R.</b>
Let my supplication draw near to Your Face, O LORD ; in accordance with Your teaching, make me understand.	<b>R.</b>
May my petition come before Your Face, O LORD ; in accordance with Your teaching, rescue me.	<b>R.</b>
May my lips pour forth a hymn, whenever You may teach me Your statutes.	<b>R.</b>
May my tongue sound forth Your teachings, for all Your commandments are righteousness.	<b>R.</b>
Let Your hand be there to save me, for I have chosen Your commandments.	<b>R.</b>
I yearned for Your salvation, O LORD, and Your law is my ruminantion.	<b>R.</b>
<b>My soul shall live, and shall praise You, and Your judgements shall help me.</b>	<b>R.</b>
<b>I have gone astray as a lost sheep ; seek Your bond-servant ; for I did not forget Your commandments.</b>	<b>R.</b>
<b>Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.</b>	<b>R.</b> <b>R.</b>

**The Verses on Psalm 118**

**Tone 5**

*The presbyter begins a great censing, commencing at the coffin :*

**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 THE HUMAN RACE HAS FOUND  
SALVATION.  
THROUGH YOU, MAY WE FIND PARADISE,  
O PURE, BLESSED THEOTOKOS.

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



*The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, 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 the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God *n* newly departed this life, and that he (*she/they*) may be pardoned all his (*her/their*) sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

**R :** Lord, have mercy

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of his (*her/their*) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.

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

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and (*censing*) made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Your newly-departed servant(s) *n* who has (*have*) fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression

which he (*she/they*) has (*have*) committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ; for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your servant(s) *n* who has (*have*) fallen asleep, 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**

**Tone 5**

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

**Canon**

**Tone 6**

*by Saint Theophanes the Branded*

**Ode I :** WHEN ISRAEL PASSED ON FOOT OVER THE SEA,  
AS THOUGH IT WERE DRY LAND,  
AND BEHELD THEIR PURSUER, PHARAOH, DROWNING  
IN THE SEA,  
THEY CRIED ALOUD TO GOD,  
“LET US SING A SONG OF VICTORY”.

**Refrain :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

**Reader :** In the heavenly mansions, O Christ, the valiant martyrs  
continually pray with fervour to You. Graciously enable Your  
faithful servant(s) whom You have called from earth, to obtain  
eternal good things.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

You adorn all things, and have created me a blended creature of  
lowliness and greatness. Therefore, O Saviour, give rest to the  
soul(s) of Your servant(s).

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

In the beginning You created me to be a citizen and gardener of Paradise ; but when I transgressed Your commandment, You drove me forth. Therefore, O my Saviour, give rest to the soul(s) of Your servant(s).

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

He who once formed our first mother, Eve, from a rib, assumed flesh through your most holy womb, O pure one, and thereby he destroyed the power of death.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode III :** NO-ONE IS AS HOLY AS YOU, O LORD MY GOD.  
YOU HAVE EXALTED THE STRENGTH OF YOUR FAITHFUL,  
O GOOD ONE,  
AND ON THE ROCK OF YOUR CONFESSION YOU HAVE  
FIRMLY ESTABLISHED THEM.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

O Life-giver, Your holy martyrs have rightly contended, and are adorned with a crown of victory by You. They eagerly adjudge eternal redemption to the dead who is departed hence in faith.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

After You had first with many signs and wonders chastened me who had gone astray, in the fulness of time You emptied Yourself because of Your tender compassion, and You sought, found and saved me.

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

Mercifully grant, O Good One, that he (*she/they*) who from the passing, unstable things of corruption has (*have*) passed over to You, may dwell in the heavenly mansions, O God, being made righteous by faith and by Grace.

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

O most pure Mother of God, there is none blameless like you.  
You alone, in all the ages, have conceived in your womb the true  
God, who has shattered the power of death.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.



*The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, 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 the soul(s) of the servant(s) of  
God n newly departed this life, and that he (*she/they*) may  
be pardoned all his (*her/their*) sins, both voluntary and  
involuntary.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission  
of his (*her/their*) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King  
and God.

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

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and  
(*censing*) made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You  
Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Your newly-departed  
servant(s) n who has (*have*) fallen asleep, in a place of  
brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all  
distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God,  
are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression  
which he (*she/they*) has (*have*) committed, whether by word, or  
deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does  
not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an  
eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ;  
for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your  
servant(s), n, who has (*have*) fallen asleep, 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

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 ARE 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.

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 :** CHRIST IS MY POWER, MY GOD AND LORD :  
THE HOLY CHURCH SINGS A HYMN WORTHY OF GOD.  
LIFTING HER VOICE IN PURITY OF HEART,  
SHE CELEBRATES THE FEAST IN THE LORD.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

Revealing a great token of wisdom, and through the abundance  
of gifts the fulness of perfection of Your goodness, O great  
Master, You united the company of the martyrs to the angels.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

Mercifully enable him (*her/them*) who has (*have*) now appeared  
before You, O Christ, to obtain Your unspeakable glory, in the  
abode of those who rejoice, and the voice of pure gladness.

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

O greatly merciful One, receive those who sing praise to Your divine majesty, whom You have taken away from earth. Make them children of light, cleansing them from the gloom of sin, O exceedingly-merciful One.

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

The Lord has chosen you, the Beauty of Jacob, O undefiled Vessel, O all-blameless Temple, O all-holy Ark, O Virgin, Place of sanctification.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode V :** WITH YOUR DIVINE LIGHT I BEG YOU, O GOOD ONE,  
ILLUMINE THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO WITH LONGING  
KEEP VIGIL FOR YOU,  
SO THAT THEY MAY KNOW YOU ARE TRULY GOD,  
O WORD OF GOD,  
AND BE RECALLED FROM THE GLOOM OF THEIR SINS.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

As a sacred whole-burnt-offering, and as the first-fruits of the human race, the martyrs offered themselves to God all-glorified. Thus, they unceasingly intercede for our salvation.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

Grant to the faithful member(s) of Your household who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep before us, to be worthy of Your gifts and a heavenly abode, O Lord. Grant him (*her/their*) redemption from his (*her/their*) sins.

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

You are the only Author of Life. You are truly by nature a fathomless Abyss of Goodness : graciously bestow Your heavenly Kingdom, upon the departed, O only bountiful, immortal One.

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

He who was born of you, O Lady, has become for those who

were perishing, the strength, the song, and the salvation of the world, delivering from the gates of Hadēs those who in faith call you blessed.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode VI :** BEHOLDING THE SEA OF LIFE  
TOSSED BY THE WAVES OF TEMPTATIONS  
I RACE AHEAD TO YOUR CALM HAVEN, AND I CRY OUT  
TO YOU,  
“BRING MY LIFE UP FROM CORRUPTION, O GREATLY  
MERCIFUL ONE”.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

By being nailed to the Cross, O Good One, You drew to Yourself the company of the martyrs who have imitated Your passion. Therefore, we beseech You, give rest to him (*her/them*) who has (*have*) been translated into Your presence.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

When You come awesomely in Your ineffable glory to judge all the world, graciously enable Your faithful servant(s) whom You have taken from the earth, to meet You joyfully in the clouds, O Redeemer.

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

You are the Fountain of Life, O Master. In Your Divine-Manhood, You set free those who are bound. Establish Your servant(s) who has (*have*) departed to You in faith in the bliss of Paradise.

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

We have returned back to the earth because we have sinned against the divine commandments of God. But through you, O Virgin, we have ascended from earth to Heaven, shaking off the corruption of death.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.



*The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, 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 the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God n newly departed this life, and that he (*she/they*) may be pardoned all his (*her/their*) sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of his (*her/their*) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.

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

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Your newly-departed servant(s) n who has (*have*) fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression which he (*she/they*) has (*have*) committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ; for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your servant(s), n, who has (*have*) fallen asleep, 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.



*The deacon does a lesser censuring, beginning at the coffin.*

**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”.



*The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, 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 the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God *n*\_\_\_\_ newly departed this life, and that he (*she/they*) may be pardoned all his (*her/their*) sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

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

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**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of his (*her/their*) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.

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

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Your newly-departed servant(s) *n*\_\_\_\_ who has (*have*) fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression

which he (*she/they*) has (*have*) committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ; for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your servant(s) n who has (*have*) fallen asleep, 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.



**Ode VII :** FOR THE HOLY YOUTHS,  
AN ANGEL MADE THE FURNACE WET WITH DEW.  
BUT GOD’S COMMAND CONSUMED THE CHALDEANS,  
CONVINCING THE TYRANT TO CRY OUT,  
“BLESSED ARE YOU, O GOD OF OUR FATHERS”.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has (*have*) fallen asleep.

Being redeemed by Your blood from the first transgression, and being sprinkled with that same blood, O Lord, Your martyrs plainly reveal Your sacrifice. Blessed are You, O God of our Fathers.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has (*have*) fallen asleep.

You have slain arrogant death, O Word, the Source of Life. Receive him (*her/them*) who in faith has (*have*) fallen asleep, O Christ. He (*she/they*) even now praise(s) You with these words, “Blessed are You, O God of our Fathers”.

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

O sovereign God, You have given life to me, a human being, by Your divine breath. Graciously grant to the departed Your Kingdom, that he (*she/they*) may sing to You, O Saviour, “Blessed are You, O God of our Fathers”.

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

You have become more excellent than any other creature, by conceiving God, O most blameless one. He has shattered the gates of death and burst its bars. Therefore we, the faithful, magnify you in songs as the Mother of God, O pure one.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode VIII :** FROM THE FLAMES YOU SPRINKLED DEW ON THE HOLY YOUTHS.  
WITH WATER, YOU SET AFLAME THE SACRIFICE OF THE RIGHTEOUS ELIAS ;  
FOR YOU ACCOMPLISH ALL THINGS BY YOUR WILL ALONE, O CHRIST.  
WE EXALT YOU THROUGHOUT ALL AGES.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has (*have*) fallen asleep.

When you were revealed as having steadfastly contended for the prize, O martyrs of Christ, you were adorned with the crown of victory, while crying out to Him, “We exalt You, O Christ, unto all the ages”.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has (*have*) fallen asleep.

O Master, receive those who have continued faithful in godly living, and now are translated to You. Since You are of tender compassion, graciously give rest to those who exalt You unto all the ages.

**R :** Let us praise the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

O Saviour, graciously grant that all those who have fallen asleep before us may now be established in the land of the meek. Make righteous by Grace and by faith those who exalt You unto all the ages.

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

We all call you blessed, O all-blessed one, who brought forth the Word. He is truly blessed who for our sake became flesh. We exalt Him unto all the ages.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.

**Ode IX :** IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR MEN TO SEE GOD,  
UPON WHOM THE RANKS OF ANGELS DARE NOT GAZE.  
BUT THROUGH YOU, O MOST PURE ONE, THE WORD  
WHOM WE EXTOL,  
TOOK FLESH AND WAS SEEN BY MORTAL MEN.  
WITH THE HEAVENLY HOSTS WE CALL YOU BLESSED.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

Hope made the choirs of martyrs strong and gave them wings to  
fly to Your love. This revealed for them the truly unshakeable  
future rest. May he (*she/they*) who has (*have*) been taken hence  
attain this rest, O Good One.

**R :** Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) who has  
(*have*) fallen asleep.

Graciously grant that he (*she/they*) who has (*have*) departed in  
faith may receive Your dazzling divine radiance, O Christ. Grant  
him (*her/them*) rest in the bosom of Abraham and eternal  
blessedness, since You alone are merciful.

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

By nature, You are compassionate and kind, and willing to  
show mercy. You are an Abyss of Loving-kindness, O Saviour.  
You have taken him (*her/them*) from this place of affliction and  
the shadow of death. Now establish him (*her/them*) in the place  
where Your light is shining.

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

O pure one, we know you to be a holy tabernacle ; the ark and  
tablet of the Law of Grace ; for through you, forgiveness has  
been given to those who have been made righteous by the blood  
of Him who became flesh through your womb, O all-undefiled  
one.

Katabasia : repeat Irmos.



*The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, begins :*

## Litany

- Deacon :** Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.  
**R :** Lord, have mercy.  
**Deacon :** Again, we pray for the repose of the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God *n*\_\_\_\_ newly departed this life, and that he (*she/they*) may be pardoned all his (*her/their*) sins, both voluntary and involuntary.  
**R :** Lord, have mercy.  
**Deacon :** That the Lord God will establish his (*her/their*) soul(s) where the righteous repose.  
**R :** Lord, have mercy.  
**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of his (*her/their*) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.  
**R :** Grant it, O Lord.  
**Deacon :** Let us pray to the Lord.  
**R :** Lord, have mercy.  
**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and (*censing*) made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Your newly-departed servant(s) *n*\_\_\_\_ who has (*have*) fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression which he (*she/they*) has (*have*) committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ; for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your servant(s) *n*\_\_\_\_ who has (*have*) fallen asleep, 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.



## Verses of Saint John of Damascus

- \* **Tone 1** WHAT PLEASURE IN LIFE REMAINS UNMIXED WITH GRIEF ?  
WHAT GLORY ENDURES UNCHANGING ON EARTH ?  
ALL THINGS ARE FEEBLER THAN SHADOWS AND MORE  
DELUDING THAN DREAMS.  
IN A SINGLE MOMENT, DEATH SUPPLANTS THEM ALL.

BUT IN THE LIGHT OF YOUR FACE, O CHRIST,  
AND IN THE SWEETNESS OF YOUR BEAUTY,  
GIVE REST TO HIM (*HER/THEM*) WHOM YOU HAVE  
CHOSEN,  
FOR YOU ALONE ARE THE LOVER OF MAN.

**\* Tone 2** WOE IS ME.  
WHAT ANGUISH THE SOUL ENDURES  
WHEN IT IS PARTED FROM THE BODY !  
WOE IS ME.  
HOW MANY, THEN, ARE ITS TEARS ;  
AND THERE IS NONE TO SHOW COMPASSION.  
IT TURNS ITS EYES TO THE ANGELS WHOM IT ENTREATS  
IN VAIN.  
EXTENDING ITS HANDS TO MANKIND, IT HAS NO-ONE  
TO HELP.  
THEREFORE, O MY BELOVED, HAVING UNDERSTOOD  
THE BREVITY OF LIFE,  
LET US ASK REPOSE WITH CHRIST FOR THE DEPARTED,  
AND FOR OUR SOULS GREAT MERCY.

**\* Tone 3** ALL HUMAN AFFAIRS ARE VANITY,  
WHICH DO NOT EXIST AFTER DEATH.  
RICHES ENDURE NOT, NOR DOES GLORY ACCOMPANY  
US ON THE WAY ;  
FOR, WHEN DEATH COMES, ALL THESE THINGS UTTERLY  
VANISH.  
THEREFORE, LET US CRY OUT TO CHRIST THE IMMORTAL  
KING,  
“GIVE REST TO HIM (*HER/THEM*) WHO HAS (*HAVE*) BEEN  
TRANSLATED FROM AMONGST US,  
IN THE ABODE OF THOSE WHO ARE GLAD”.

**\* Tone 4** WHERE IS EARTHLY DESIRE ?  
WHERE ARE THE IMAGININGS OF THIS TIME ?  
WHERE ARE THE GOLD AND SILVER ?  
WHERE IS THE DELUGE OF SUPPLIANTS AND  
THEIR TUMULT ?  
ALL ARE DUST ; ALL ARE ASHES ; ALL ARE SHADOWS.  
BUT COME, LET US CRY OUT TO THE IMMORTAL KING,  
“O LORD, DEEM *HIM (HER/THEM)* WHO HAS (*HAVE*) BEEN  
TRANSLATED FROM US  
WORTHY OF YOUR ETERNAL GOOD THINGS.  
GIVE HIM (*HER/THEM*) REST IN YOUR UNAGEING  
BLESSEDNESS”.

**Tone 5** I CALLED TO MIND THE PROPHET, HOW HE CRIED OUT,  
“I AM EARTH AND ASHES” ;  
AND AGAIN, I REFLECTED ON THE TOMBS AND BEHELD  
THE BONES LAID BARE ;  
AND I SAID, “WHO, THEN, IS THIS ? A KING, OR A WARRIOR,  
OR A RICH MAN, OR A NEEDY MAN, OR A RIGHTEOUS ONE,  
OR A SINNER ?”  
YET, GIVE REST AMONGST THE RIGHTEOUS UNTO YOUR  
SERVANT(S),  
O LORD, AS THE LOVER OF MAN.

\* **Tone 6** MY ORIGIN AND MY EXISTENCE COME FROM YOUR  
CREATING COMMAND ;  
FOR IT WAS YOUR WILL TO FASHION ME, A LIVING BEING,  
OUT OF INVISIBLE AND VISIBLE NATURE.  
FROM THE EARTH, YOU SHAPED MY BODY,  
AND YOU GAVE ME A SOUL BY YOUR DIVINE AND  
LIFE-GIVING BREATH.  
THEREFORE, O CHRIST, GIVE REST TO YOUR SERVANT,  
IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING, IN THE DWELLINGS OF  
THE RIGHTEOUS.

\* **Tone 7** IN THE BEGINNING, YOU CREATED MAN AFTER  
YOUR OWN IMAGE AND LIKENESS.  
YOU PLACED HIM IN PARADISE TO RULE OVER YOUR  
CREATURES.  
BUT WHEN HE, BEGUILLED BY THE MALICE OF THE DEVIL,  
TASTED OF THE FRUIT, HE BECAME A TRANSGRESSOR OF  
YOUR COMMANDMENTS.  
FOR THIS REASON, O LORD, YOU CONDEMNED HIM  
TO RETURN AGAIN UNTO THE EARTH FROM WHICH  
HE WAS TAKEN  
AND TO ENTREAT REPOSE.

**Tone 8** I LAMENT AND I MOURN WHEN I THINK ABOUT DEATH.  
I SEE OUR BEAUTY, CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD,  
LYING IN THE TOMBS, DISFIGURED, INGLORIOUS,  
FORMLESS.  
O WONDER, THAT THIS MYSTERY HAS HAPPENED TO US.  
HOW HAVE WE BEEN HANDED OVER TO CORRUPTION ?  
HOW HAVE WE BEEN WEDDED TO DEATH ?  
TRULY, AS IT IS WRITTEN,  
IT IS BY THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD,  
WHO GIVES THE DEPARTED REST.



## The Beatitudes

Tone 6

**Refrain :** IN YOUR KINGDOM REMEMBER US, O LORD, WHEN YOU  
COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT, FOR THEIRS IS THE  
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. **R.**

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN, FOR THEY SHALL BE  
COMFORTED. **R.**

BLESSED ARE THE MEEK, FOR THEY SHALL INHERIT THE  
EARTH. **R.**

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST AFTER  
RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEY SHALL BE FILLED. **R.**

BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL, FOR THEY SHALL OBTAIN  
MERCY.

**Reader :** The thief, O Christ, You first made a citizen of Paradise, when  
he cried out to You, "Remember me". Consider me also, the  
unworthy, to be worthy of his repentance.

BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART, FOR THEY SHALL  
SEE GOD.

You have dominion over life and death, O Christ. You have  
received Your departed servant(s) from this passing world. Give  
rest in the courts of Your saints to him (*her/them*) who cried to  
out You, "Remember me when You come in Your Kingdom".

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS, FOR THEY SHALL BE  
CALLED SONS OF GOD.

You are the Lord of souls and bodies, the consolation of the  
afflicted, and You hold our breath in Your hands. Give rest in  
the land of the righteous to Your servant(s) whom You have  
taken.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED FOR  
RIGHTEOUSNESS' SAKE, FOR THEIRS IS THE  
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

May Christ give you rest in the land of the living. May He open  
to you the gates of Paradise. May He declare you to be a citizen  
of the Kingdom, and grant forgiveness of sins to you that love

Him.

BLESSED ARE YOU WHEN THEY REVILE AND  
PERSECUTE YOU, AND SAY ALL KINDS OF EVIL  
AGAINST YOU FALSELY FOR MY SAKE.

Let us go and look in the graves, and see that mankind is food  
for worms, bare bones, and stench. And we shall learn what  
becomes of wealth, beauty, strength and comeliness.

REJOICE AND BE EXCEEDINGLY GLAD, FOR GREAT IS YOUR  
REWARD IN HEAVEN.

Let us listen to what the Almighty cries aloud, “Woe to those  
who seek to behold the fearful Day of the Lord” ; for that day is  
darkness, and everything will be tried by fire.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE  
HOLY SPIRIT.

I worship the Father who has no beginning in birth or cause ; I  
glorify the Son begotten of Him ; I praise the Holy Spirit who  
shines in unity with the Father and the Son.

NOW, AND EVER, AND UNTO THE AGES OF AGES. AMEN.

How does milk stream from your breasts, O Virgin ? How do you  
nourish Him who nourishes creation ? Only God knows, for it is  
written, “He caused water to gush forth from the rock, streams  
of water for the thirsty people”.



### **Readings**

*And the deacon announces the beginning of the readings.*

**Deacon :** Let us attend.

**Presbyter :** Peace be unto all.

**R :** And with your spirit.

**Deacon :** Wisdom.

**Reader :** The Prokeimenon in the sixth tone :

Blessed is the way in which you shall walk today, O soul, for a  
place of rest is prepared for you.

**v :** Turn about to your Rest, O my soul, for the Lord has done

good for you.

**Deacon :** Wisdom.

**Reader :** The reading from the First Epistle of the holy Apostle Paul to the Thessalonians.

**Deacon :** Let us attend.

**Reader :** Brethren : (*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*)

**Presbyter :** Peace be to you.

**Reader :** And to your spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

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

**Deacon :** Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

**Presbyter :** Peace be to all.

**R :** And to your spirit.

**Deacon :** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

**R :** Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.

**Deacon :** Let us attend.

**Deacon :** The Lord said to the Jews who came to Him ....  
(*John 5:24-30*)

**Presbyter :** Peace be unto you that have proclaimed the Gospel.

**R :** Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.



[*Note : The following litany is usually omitted, and the hymns of the Last Kiss are usually transferred to after the dismissal.*]



\* *The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, begins :*

### **Litany**

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** Again, we pray for the repose of the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God n newly departed this life, and that he (*she/they*) may be pardoned all his (*her/their*) sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of his (*her/their*) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.

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

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Your newly-departed servant(s) *n*\_\_\_\_ who has (*have*) fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression which he (*she/they*) has (*have*) committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ; for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your servant(s) *n*\_\_\_\_ who has (*have*) fallen asleep, 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.



### **Last Kiss**

### **Tone 2**

COME, LET US GIVE THE LAST KISS UNTO THE DEAD  
AND RENDER THANKS UNTO GOD ;  
FOR HE (*SHE/THEY*) HAS (*HAVE*) VANISHED FROM  
    AMONGST HIS (*HER/THEIR*) KIN,  
AND PRESS(ES) ONWARD TO THE GRAVE,  
AND HE (*SHE/THEY*) TROUBLE(S) HIM (*HER/THEM*)  
    SELF (*SELVES*) NO LONGER WITH VANITIES,  
OR WITH THE FLESH, WHICH SUFFERS SORE DISTRESS.  
WHERE NOW ARE HIS (*HER/THEIR*) KINSFOLK AND  
    FRIENDS ?  
NOW WE ARE PARTED.  
LET US PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL GIVE  
    HIM (*HER/THEM*) REST.

\*  
WHAT SORT OF PARTING IS THIS, O BRETHREN ?  
WHAT SORT OF MOURNING IS THIS ?  
WHAT SORT OF LAMENTATION DO WE SING AT THIS TIME ?  
COME, THEREFORE, LET US KISS HIM (*HER/THEM*),  
WHO ONLY A SHORT TIME AGO WAS (*WERE*)  
    WITH US.

HE (*SHE/THEY*) SHALL BE COMMITTED TO THE GRAVE.  
HE (*SHE/THEY*) SHALL BE COVERED WITH A STONE.  
HE (*SHE/THEY*) SHALL RESIDE IN DARKNESS.  
HE (*SHE/THEY*) IS (*ARE*) BURIED WITH THE DEAD.  
WE, HIS (*HER/THEIR*) FAMILY AND FRIENDS, ARE ALL NOW  
PARTING FROM HIM (*HER/THEM*).  
LET US PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL GIVE HIM (*HER/THEM*)  
REST.

\* NOW BEING DESTROYED IS THE ARTFUL GATHERING OF  
THE VANITIES OF LIFE ;  
FOR THE SPIRIT HAS DEPARTED FROM ITS DWELLING.  
THE CLAY IS TURNING BLACK, THE VESSEL IS SHATTERED.  
IT IS MUTE, WITHOUT FEELING, DEAD, AND STILL.  
AS WE ESCORT HIM (*HER/THEM*) TO THE GRAVE,  
LET US PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL GIVE HIM (*HER/THEM*)  
ETERNAL REST.

UNTO WHAT SHALL LIFE BE COMPARED ?  
IT IS TRULY A FLOWER, OR A VAPOUR, OR THE MORNING  
DEW.  
COME, THEREFORE, LET US GAZE INTENTLY AT THE GRAVE.  
WHERE IS THE BEAUTY OF THE BODY, WHERE IS ITS  
YOUTH ?  
WHERE ARE THE EYES AND THE FORM OF ITS FLESH ?  
LIKE THE GRASS THEY HAVE ALL PERISHED :  
THEY ALL HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.  
COME, THEREFORE, LET US IN HUMBLE SUBMISSIVENESS  
BOW DOWN WITH TEARS BEFORE THE FEET OF CHRIST.

\* THE PARTING OF THE SOUL IS GREAT WEEPING AND  
SORROW,  
GREAT SIGHING AND AFFLICTION.  
HADĒS AND PERDITION ARE THE LIFE OF THINGS THAT  
PASS AWAY.  
THE TOIL OF LIFE ON EARTH IS AN UNTIMELY ILLUSION ;  
SHADOW, UNREALITY, A DECEIVING SLEEP.  
LET US FLEE FAR AWAY FROM EVERY SINFUL DEED OF  
THIS WORLD  
SO THAT WE MAY INHERIT HEAVENLY BLESSINGS.

AS WE LOOK UPON OUR DEAD BROTHER(S) (*SISTER(S)*)  
BEFORE US,  
LET US RECEIVE AN EXAMPLE OF OUR LAST MOMENT ;  
FOR LIKE SMOKE HE (*SHE/THEY*) HAS (*HAVE*) LEFT

THE EARTH.

HE (*SHE/THEY*) HAS (*HAVE*) BEEN CUT DOWN LIKE GRASS.  
HE (*SHE/THEY*) HAS (*HAVE*) BEEN CLOTHED IN RAGS,  
AND WILL BE COVERED WITH EARTH.  
LEAVING HIM (*HER/THEM*) HIDDEN FROM SIGHT,  
LET US PRAY TO CHRIST TO GIVE HIM (*HER/THEM*)  
ETERNAL REST.

\*  
COME, O DESCENDANTS OF ADAM,  
LET US BEHOLD HIM (*HER/THEM*) WHO IS (*ARE*) PLACED  
INTO THE EARTH.  
HE (*SHE/THEY*) WHO IS (*ARE*) IN OUR IMAGE IS (*ARE*)  
BEING CAST AWAY.  
HE (*SHE/THEY*) SHALL BE CONSUMED BY WORMS, IN  
DARKNESS.  
HAVING LEFT HIM (*HER/THEM*) HIDDEN FROM SIGHT,  
LET US PRAY TO CHRIST TO GIVE HIM (*HER/THEM*)  
ETERNAL REST.

\*  
WHEN THE SOUL IS ABOUT TO BE CARRIED OFF BY FORCE  
BY THE FEARSOME ANGELS,  
IT FORGETS ALL ITS FAMILY AND THOSE IT KNOWS,  
AND IT IS MINDFUL OF STANDING BEFORE THE COMING  
JUDGEMENT OF ITS FOLLY AND FLESHLY TOIL.  
COME, LET US ALL IMPLORE THE JUDGE,  
AND PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL PARDON THE SINS HE  
(*SHE/THEY*) HAS (*HAVE*) COMMITTED.

\*  
COME, O BRETHREN,  
LET US SEE IN THE GRAVE THE DUST AND ASHES  
FROM WHICH WE WERE FORMED.  
WHERE ARE WE NOW GOING ?  
AND WHAT SHALL WE BECOME ?  
WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE POOR MAN AND THE RICH  
MAN ?  
WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE MASTER OR THE FREEMAN ?  
ARE THEY NOT ALL ASHES ?  
THE BEAUTY OF THE FACE HAS TURNED TO DUST  
AND DEATH HAS WITHERED UP THE FLOWER OF YOUTH.

\*  
THE ILLUSIONS AND THE THINGS OF GLORY OF THIS LIFE  
ARE TRULY FOLLY AND CORRUPTION ;  
FOR THEY ALL WILL END, AND WE ALL SHALL DIE :  
KINGS AND PRINCES, JUDGES AND RULERS,  
THE RICH AND THE POOR, AND EVERY SORT OF MORTAL

MAN.  
NOW, FOR THOSE WHO WERE IN LIFE AND ARE COMMITTED  
TO THE GRAVE,  
LET US PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL GRANT THEM REST.

\* NOW, ALL THE ORGANS OF THE BODY ARE SEEN TO BE IDLE  
THAT A SHORT WHILE AGO WERE ACTIVE.  
ALL ARE STILL, DEAD, WITHOUT FEELING ;  
FOR THE EYES ARE CLOSED, THE FEET ARE BOUND.  
THE HANDS ARE STILL, AND THE EARS HEAR NOT.  
THE TONGUE IS ENCLOSED IN SILENCE.  
HE (*SHE/THEY*) IS (*ARE*) COMMITTED TO THE GRAVE.  
TRULY, ALL HUMAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE VANITY.

\* SAVE THOSE HOPING ON YOU, O GOD-BIRTH-GIVER,  
MOTHER OF THE NEVER-SETTING SUN.  
IN YOUR PRAYERS, ASK HIM WHO IS EXCEEDINGLY GOOD,  
WE BEG YOU,  
THAT HE WILL GRANT REPOSE, WHERE THE SOULS OF THE  
RIGHTEOUS REST,  
TO HIM (*HER/THEM*) WHO HAS (*HAVE*) DEPARTED.  
PRESENT HIM (*HER/THEM*) (*AN*) HEIR(S) OF DIVINE  
GOOD THINGS, O ALL-BLAMELESS ONE,  
IN THE COURTS OF THE RIGHTEOUS IN ETERNAL  
MEMORY.

\* **Tone 6**  
GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO  
THE HOLY SPIRIT.  
AS YOU SEE ME PLACED BEFORE YOU, MUTE AND  
WITHOUT BREATH,  
WEEP FOR ME, MY BRETHREN, FAMILY, AND ALL  
WHO KNOW ME ;  
FOR I SPOKE WITH YOU ONLY YESTERDAY,  
AND SUDDENLY THE FEARFUL HOUR OF DEATH CAME  
UPON ME.  
COME, ALL THOSE WHO LOVE ME, AND GIVE ME THE  
LAST KISS ;  
FOR NEVER AGAIN SHALL I JOURNEY OR TALK WITH  
YOU UNTIL THE END OF TIME ;  
FOR I GO TO A JUDGE WHO IS IMPARTIAL,  
WHERE SERVANT AND MASTER STAND SIDE BY SIDE :  
KING AND SOLDIER, RICH AND POOR, ARE HELD IN  
EQUAL ESTEEM ;  
FOR EACH WILL BE GLORIFIED BY HIS OWN DEEDS,

OR WILL BE PUT TO SHAME.  
BUT I ASK AND IMPLORE YOU ALL TO PRAY WITHOUT  
CEASING FOR ME TO CHRIST OUR GOD,  
THAT I MAY NOT BE PUT INTO THE PLACE OF TORMENT  
BECAUSE OF MY SINS,  
BUT THAT HE MAY APPOINT ME TO A PLACE WHERE THERE  
IS THE LIGHT OF LIFE.

\* NOW, AND EVER, AND UNTO THE AGES OF AGES. AMEN.  
HE (*SHE/THEY*) WHO HAS (*HAVE*) BEEN TRANSLATED  
HENCE  
HAS (*HAVE*) CROSSED LIFE'S EVER-TROUBLED SEA,  
AND HAS (*HAVE*) SAILED INTO YOUR HAVEN THROUGH  
FAITH ;  
BUT IN YOUR IMMORTAL TRANQUILLITY AND SWEETNESS,  
WITH THE SAINTS INSTRUCTING HIM (*HER/THEM*),  
GIVE REST, O CHRIST, TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR  
SERVANT(S).

**Tone 4**

TODAY IS FULFILLED THE ALL-PRAISED WORD OF DEVOUT  
DAVID,  
WHO SAID, "MAN IS LIKE GRASS,  
HIS DAYS ARE AS THE FLOWER OF THE FIELD WHEN IT IS  
WITHERED" ;  
FOR WE RECENTLY SAW HIM (*HER/THEM*) LIVING AND  
SPEAKING.  
LO, NOW HE (*SHE/THEY*) LIE(S) DEAD, MOTIONLESS,  
BEREFT OF BREATH.  
HE (*SHE/THEY*) HAS (*HAVE*) GONE FORTH AND DEPARTED  
FROM PRESENT THINGS,  
TO THE PLACE WHERE THERE IS RECOMPENSE FOR  
HIS (*HER/THEIR*) DEEDS ;  
THERE, WHERE IS THE JOY OF ALL THE SAINTS.  
WITH THEM, GIVE REST, O GOD, TO HIM (*HER/THEM*) WHO  
HAS (*HAVE*) GONE FROM HERE ;  
FOR YOU ARE MERCIFUL, AND THE LOVER OF MAN.

**Ideomelons**

**Tone 8**

GIVE REST, O LORD ALMIGHTY, TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR  
SERVANT(S),  
IN THE MANSIONS OF THE RIGHTEOUS,  
WHERE THE LIGHT OF YOUR FACE SHINES ON ALL THAT  
ARE WORTHY,  
O YOU THAT ALONE ARE THE LOVER OF MAN.

I HAVE VANISHED FROM AMONGST MY KIN ;  
I HAVE ABANDONED THE REMAINDER OF MY LIFE,  
AND I HAVE FLED TO YOU, O LORD.  
O SAVE ME.

THROUGH THE PRAYERS OF THE THEOTOKOS,  
GIVE PEACE TO THE LIFE OF US WHO CRY OUT TO YOU,  
“O GIVER OF LIFE, GLORY BE TO YOU”.



**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.

**R :** Amen.

**Tropars**

**Tone 4**

WITH THE SPIRITS OF THE RIGHTEOUS MADE PERFECT,  
GIVE REST TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR SERVANT(S), 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 SERVANT(S),  
FOR YOU ALONE ARE IMMORTAL.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE  
HOLY SPIRIT.  
YOU ARE OUR GOD WHO DESCENDED INTO HADĒS AND  
DESTROYED THE SUFFERINGS OF THOSE

IMPRISONED THERE.  
GIVE REST ALSO, O SAVIOUR, TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR  
SERVANT(S).

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 YOUR SERVANT(S)  
MAY BE SAVED.



*The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, begins :*

**Litany (*beside the coffin*)**

**Deacon :** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we beseech You, hearken and have mercy.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** Again, we pray for the repose of the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God n newly departed this life ; and that he (*she/they*) may be pardoned all his (*her/their*) sins both voluntary and involuntary.

**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 the remission of his (*her/their*) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.

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

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Your newly-departed servant(s) n who has (*have*) fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression which he (*she/they*) has (*have*) committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ;

for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your servant(s) *n* who has (*have*) fallen asleep, 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. O most holy Theotokos, save us.

**R :** More honourable than the Cherubim and beyond compare more honourable 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.  
Father (*Master*) 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 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.

*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.

**Deacon :** Grant eternal rest in blessed falling asleep, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Your servant(s) *n* who has (*have*) newly departed this life, and make his (*her/their*) memory to be eternal.

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

ETERNAL.

*Immediately, the presbyter may say this prayer beside the coffin. Should the burial service include more than one person departed, the prayer is read separately for each one. However, the prayer having been said at the repose, the prayer in writing may be put in the hand of the deceased. It is also most appropriate for the one who was the confessor for the departed to read this prayer.*

### **Parting Prayer**

**Presbyter :** May the Lord Jesus Christ, our God, who gave His divine commandments to His holy disciples and apostles, that they bind and loose the sins of the fallen, and we, in turn, have received authority to do the same, forgive you, my spiritual child, whatever transgressions you have committed in life, voluntary or involuntary, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**R :** Amen.

### **Or this prayer**

*In Constantinopolitan use, this prayer is read by a bishop.*

**Bishop :** O Lord, our God, in Your inexpressible wisdom You created Man from the dust and transformed him into form and beauty. You adorned him to be a precious and heavenly being for the glorification and majesty of Your glory and Kingdom as You made him in Your image and likeness. But Man transgressed Your commandment and changed the image, and did not keep it. Therefore, so that evil not become immortal, God commanded by His divine will in His love for mankind, that the composite and mixture (of which Man is made) might be broken. Thus, the soul might depart from where it received existence until the General Resurrection : while the body might be dissolved into the dust from which it was made. Therefore, we beg You, the unoriginate Father, and Your Only-begotten Son, and Your most holy, consubstantial, and life-giving Spirit, do not allow Your creation to be consumed in destruction ; but allow the body to be dissolved into the dust from which it was made, and the soul to be appointed amongst the choir of the righteous. Yes, O Lord, our God, let Your immeasurable mercy and Your incomparable love for mankind prevail. And if Your servant has fallen under a curse of his (*her*) father or mother, or

under his (*her*) own anathema ; or if he (*she*) has provoked one of the presbyters and received from him an unbreakable bond ; or if he (*she*) incurred excommunication by a bishop, and through indifference and thoughtlessness did not receive forgiveness, forgive him (*her*), O Lord, through me, a sinner and Your unworthy servant. And dissolve his (*her*) body into the dust from which it was made and place his (*her*) soul in the mansions of the saints. Yes, O Lord, our God, You gave Your holy disciples and apostles this authority, to grant the forgiveness of sins, when You said, “*Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in Heaven*”. And You transmitted the same gift through them to us, even if we are unworthy. Release Your servant who has fallen asleep, of sin of soul and body, and he (*she*) shall be forgiven in the present age and in the age to come. This we ask through the intercessions of Your most pure and ever-virgin Mother, and of all Your saints.

**R :** Amen.

### **Or this prayer**

**Presbyter :** O greatly merciful sovereign Lord Jesus Christ our God, after Your holy Resurrection from the dead on the third day, You gave to Your holy disciples and apostles the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and also the authority both to bind and to loose the sins of mankind, so that bound in Heaven would be whatever things through them might be bound on earth, and likewise loosed in Heaven whatever things through them might be loosed. You gave also that as their successors, we, Your deficient and unworthy servants, might have, by Your unspeakable and Man-befriending love, this same exceedingly holy gift and Grace from You, so that we in the same way might both bind and loose the things that happen to be done amongst Your people. Do You Yourself, O all-good King, through me, Your humble and unprofitable servant, forgive this Your servant whatever mistakes as a human being he (*she*) has made in this present life. Remit for him (*her*) whatever sins he (*she*) has committed in word, deed, or thought ; and loose him (*her*) also from any ban which in any manner whatsoever has come upon him (*her*), whether he (*she*) himself (*herself*) out of recklessness or by some other fault has bound it upon himself (*herself*) ; or by a bishop or another when, because of the envy and co-operation of the evil one, he (*she*) stumbled into so grievous a state ; since You are alone good and greatly merciful, be well-pleased that his (*her*) soul be appointed a place with the saints

who from the beginning have been well pleasing to You, and that his (*her*) body be given to the nature which You have fashioned ; for You are blessed and glorified unto the ages.

**R :** Amen.

*The remains are then sprinkled with holy water.*

*Afterwards, they take up the remains of the departed and go to the grave, the clergy before, the deacon(s) with censer(s) before the departed, and the family and others following.*

*They sing the Trisagion as they depart :*

**R :** HOLY GOD, HOLY MIGHTY, HOLY IMMORTAL, HAVE MERCY ON US.

*Thus they sing, until they come to the grave.*

### **At the Grave**

*Having come to the grave, they continue thus to sing until all is in readiness. When everything is ready, then the reader continues straightaway :*

**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.

**R :** Amen.

*The mortal remains are buried with thanksgiving and with joy. As the body is set in the grave, they sing the following tropar :*

### **Tone 8**

OPEN WIDE, O EARTH, AND RECEIVE THAT WHICH WAS

FORMED FROM YOU BY THE HAND OF GOD.  
RECEIVE THAT WHICH RETURNS TO ITS MOTHER ;  
FOR THE CREATOR HAS TAKEN AWAY THAT WHICH WAS  
OF HIS IMAGE.  
RECEIVE THIS BODY, O EARTH, AS IT IS YOUR OWN.

*The presbyter pours oil from the lamp, and/or oil remaining from  
anointing upon the body, saying :*

You will sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed ;  
You will wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.

*The presbyter puts the ashes from the censer into the grave, and he  
takes a shovelful of earth and pours it Cross-wise on the remains,  
saying :*

The earth belongs to the LORD, and its fulness : the world, and  
all those dwelling in it.

*The grave is filled in the usual way. They meanwhile sing these tropars :*

**Tropars**

**Tone 4**

WITH THE SPIRITS OF THE RIGHTEOUS MADE PERFECT,  
GIVE REST TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR SERVANT(S), 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 SERVANT(S),  
FOR YOU ALONE ARE IMMORTAL.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE  
HOLY SPIRIT.  
YOU ARE OUR GOD WHO DESCENDED INTO HADĒS AND  
DESTROYED THE SUFFERINGS OF THOSE  
IMPRISONED THERE.  
GIVE REST ALSO, O SAVIOUR, TO THE SOUL(S) OF YOUR  
SERVANT(S).

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 YOUR SERVANT(S)

MAY BE SAVED.

*In some places, the four corners of the grave are “sealed” with these following words at each corner :*

**Presbyter :** This grave is sealed until the Second Coming of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ, in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**R :** Amen.



\* *The deacon, taking the censer and censuring, begins :*

**Litany**

**Deacon :** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we beseech You, hearken and have mercy.

**Response :** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon :** Again, we pray for the repose of the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God n newly departed this life ; and that he (*she/they*) may be pardoned all his (*her/their*) sins both voluntary and involuntary.

**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 the remission of his (*her/their*) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.

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

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

**R :** Lord, have mercy.

**Presbyter :** O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who have trampled death and (*censuring*) made the devil powerless, and given life to Your world, may You Yourself, O Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Your newly-departed servant(s) n who has (*have*) fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all distress, sorrow, and sighing have fled away. Since You, O God, are good and the Lover of Man, pardon every transgression which he (*she/they*) has (*have*) committed, whether by word, or deed, or thought ; for there is no human who lives and yet does not sin, for You only are without sin ; Your righteousness is an eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth ; for You are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Your

servant(s) n who has (*have*) fallen asleep, 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 :** Grant rest eternal in blessed falling asleep, O Lord, to the soul of Your servant(s) n who has (*have*) newly departed this life, and make his (*her/their*) memory to be eternal.

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

**Presbyter :** Through the prayers of our holy fathers (*mothers/brothers and sisters*), Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and save us.

*If a bishop presides, then he says the above prayer, and afterwards the presbyter says :*

Through the prayers of our holy bishop, Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and save us.

*Giving thanks to God, they depart.*

## AT THE DIVINE LITURGY

### Propers for the Memorial Divine Liturgy

#### Tropar

**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.

#### 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.

#### Prokeimenon

**Tone 6**

MAY HIS (HER/THEIR) SOUL(S) DWELL ✕ WITH THE BLESSED.  
▼ : To You, O Lord, have I raised my soul.

#### Alleluia

▼ : Blessed is (are) he (she/they) whom You have chosen out  
and taken to Yourself, O Lord. May his (her/their)  
remembrance be from generation to generation.  
▼ : May his (her/their) soul(s) dwell with the blessed.

#### Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:47-57

#### Gospel

John 6:48-54

### **Communion Hymn**

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

May his (*her/their*) remembrance be from generation to  
generation.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*At the conclusion, usually in the context of a Trisagion for the Departed,  
they say the Parting Prayer with the dismissal ; they give the Last Kiss,  
and they depart to the grave.*

**[THE END OF THE LITURGY PROPERS]**

**[THE END OF THE BURIAL SERVICES OVER AN  
ORTHODOX LAY-PERSON]**

t h e e n d

G L O R Y B E T O G O D

