

صلاة الختن الثانية



The Ten Virgins

العشر عذارى

Matins of Holy Tuesday

Matins of Holy Tuesday

Priest Blessed is our God always: now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Priest Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

O heavenly King, Comforter, and Spirit of truth, You that are in all places and fill all things; the treasury of blessings and the Giver of life: come to dwell in us, cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O gracious One.

Choir Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy upon us. (*Thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God visit and heal our infirmities for Your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance, granting to Your People victory over all adversaries, and by Your Cross preserving Your Estate.

- **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

O Christ our God, who of Your own good will was lifted up upon the Cross, bestow Your bounties upon the new Nation which is called by Your Name; make glad in Your might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Your aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

- **Now, and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

O Champion, dread who cannot be put to confusion, despise not our petitions. Good and all-praised Mother of God; establish the way of the Orthodox; save those who have been called upon to govern us, leading us all to that victory which is from heaven, for you are she who gave birth to God, and you alone are blessed.

Priest Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Your great goodness, we pray to You: hear us and have mercy.

Choir Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Priest Again we pray for all Orthodox Christians.

Choir Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Priest Again , we pray for our father and Metropolitan ...

Choir Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Priest Again we pray for all Priests, Deacons, Monks and Nuns and for all our Brethren in Christ.

Choir Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Priest For You are a merciful God and love mankind, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen. Bless, Father, in the Name of the Lord.

Priest Glory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-giving and Undivided Trinity, always: Now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (*Thrice*)

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise. (*Twice*)

Psalm 3

Lord, how numerous are my enemies: many they are that rise against me. Many there are that talk of me and say: "There is no help for him in his God." But You Lord are about me as a shield: You are my glory and the lifter up of mine head. I cry to the Lord with a loud voice, and he answers me from his holy hill. I lay myself down and sleep: I wake again because the Lord sustains me. Therefore I will not be afraid of the multitudes of the nations who have set themselves against me on every side. Arise Lord and deliver me, O my God; for You will strike all my enemies upon the cheek, You will break the teeth of the ungodly. Deliverance belongs to the Lord: O let Your blessing be upon Your people. I lay myself down and sleep: I wake again because the Lord sustains me.

Psalm 37

O Lord rebuke me not in Your anger: neither chasten me in Your fierce displeasure. For Your arrows have been aimed against me, and Your hand has come down heavy upon me. There is no health in my flesh because of Your indignation, nor soundness in my bones, by reason of my sin. The tide of my iniquities has gone over mine head: their weight is a burden too heavy for me to bear. My wounds stink and fester because of my foolishness. I am bowed down and brought so low that I go mourning all the day long. For my loins are filled with a burning pain, and there is no sound part in all my body. I am numbed and stricken to the ground: I cry aloud in the yearning of my heart.

O Lord, all I long for is before You and my deep sighing is not hidden from You. My heart is in tumult, my strength fails me, and even the light of my eyes has gone from me. My friends and my companions hold aloof from my affliction and my kinsmen stand far off. Those who seek my life strike at me, and those that desire my hurt spread evil tales and murmur slanders all the day. But I am like a deaf man and hear nothing; like one that is dumb, who does not open his mouth. So I have become as a one who cannot hear, in whose mouth there is no retort. For in You, Lord, have I put my trust: and You will answer me, O Lord my God. For I prayed 'Let them never exult over me those who turn arrogant when my foot slips.'

Truly, I am ready to fall and my pain is with me continually. But I acknowledge my wickedness and I am filled with sorrow at my sin. Those that are my enemies without cause are great in number: and those who hate me wrongfully are many. Those also who repay evil for good are against me because I seek after good. Forsake me not, O Lord, go not far from me, my God: Hasten to my help, O Lord my salvation. Forsake me not, O Lord, go not far from me, my God: hasten to my help, O Lord my salvation.

Psalm 62

O God, You are my God, eagerly will I seek You.

My soul thirsts for You, my flesh longs for You as a dry and thirsty land, where no water is. So it was when I beheld You in the sanctuary and saw Your power and Your glory.

For Your unchanging goodness is better than life, therefore my lips shall praise You. And so I will bless You as long as I live, and in Your name will I lift my hands on high.

My longing shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness: my mouth shall praise You with exultant lips. When I remember You upon my bed, when I meditate upon You in the night watches, how You have been my helper: then I sing for joy in the shadow of Your wings.

Then my soul clings to You, and Your right hand upholds me. Those that seek my life are marked for destruction: they shall go down to the deep places of the earth. They shall be delivered to the sword: they shall be a portion for jackals. The king will rejoice in God and all who take oaths on his name shall glory, but the mouths of liars shall be stopped.

I meditate upon You in the night watches, how You have been my helper: then I sing for joy in the shadow of Your wings, then my soul clings to You and Your right hand upholds me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (*Thrice*)
Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.



Psalm 87

O Lord my God, I call for help by day and by night also I cry out before You. Let my prayer come into Your presence and turn Your ear to my loud crying. For my soul is filled with trouble and my life has come even to the brink of the grave. I am reckoned among those that go down to the Pit: I am a man that has no help. I lie among the dead, like the slain that sleep in the grave, whom You remember no more, who are cut off from Your power. You have laid me in the lowest Pit: in darkness and in the watery depths. Your wrath lies heavy upon me: and all Your waves are brought against me. You have put my friends far from me and made me to be abhorred by them. I am so fast in prison I cannot get free: my eyes fail because of my affliction. Lord I call to You every day: I stretch out my hands toward You. Will You work wonders for the dead, or will the shades rise up again to praise You? Shall Your love be declared in the grave, or Your faithfulness in the place of destruction? Will Your wonders be made known in the dark, or Your righteousness in the land where all things are forgotten? But to You, Lord, will I cry: early in the morning my prayer shall come before You. O Lord, why have You rejected me: why do You hide Your face from me? I have been afflicted and wearied from my youth upward: I am tossed high and low, I cease to be.

Your fierce anger has overwhelmed me and Your terrors have put me to silence. They surround me like a flood all the day long: they close upon me from every side. Friend and acquaintance You have put far from me and kept my companions from my sight.

O Lord my God, I call for help by day and by night also I cry out before You. Let my prayer come into Your presence: and turn Your ear to my loud crying.

Psalm 102

Praise the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me praise His holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits. Who forgives all your sin and heals all your infirmities, Who redeems your life from the Pit and crowns you with mercy and compassion. Who satisfies your being with good things, so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's? The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known His ways to Moses, and His works to the children of Israel. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great goodness. He will not always be chiding, nor will He keep His anger for ever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our wickedness. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy over those that fear Him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He set our sins from us? As a father is tender towards his children, so is the Lord tender to those that fear Him. For He knows of what we are made: He remembers that we are but dust. The days of man are but as grass: he flourishes like a flower of the field. When the wind goes over it, it is gone and its place will know it no more. But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever and ever toward those that fear Him, and His righteousness upon their children's children; upon those who keep His covenant and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord has established His throne in heaven: and His kingdom rules over all. Praise the Lord, all you His angels, you that excel in strength: you that fulfill His word, and obey the voice of His commandment. Praise the Lord, all you His hosts, His servants who do His will. Praise the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion; praise the Lord, O my soul!
In all places of His dominion, praise the Lord, O my soul.

Psalm 142

Hear my prayer, O Lord: in Your faithfulness consider my petition, and in Your righteousness give me answer. Bring not Your servant into judgment, for in Your sight can no man living be justified. For the enemy has pursued me, he has crushed my life to the ground.

He has made me dwell in darkness like those for ever dead. Therefore my spirit grows faint and my heart is appalled within me. I remember the days of old, I think on all that You have done: I consider the works of Your hands. I stretch out my hands toward You: my soul yearns for You like a thirsty land. Be swift to hear me, O Lord, for my spirit fails: hide not Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the Pit. O let me hear of Your merciful kindness in the morning, for my trust is in You: show me the way that I should go, for You are my hope. Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, for I run to You for shelter. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God: let Your kindly spirit lead me in an even path. For Your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life, and for the sake of Your righteousness, bring me out of trouble. In Your merciful goodness slay my enemies, and destroy all those that come against me, for truly I am Your servant. In Your faithfulness consider my petition, and in Your righteousness give me answer. (*Twice*)
Let Your kindly spirit lead me in an even path.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (*Thrice*)

O Lord our Hope, glory to You.

The Great Ektenia

Priest In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For the peace, from on high, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For this holy House, and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For all devout and Orthodox Christians, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For our Father and Metropolitan N..., for the venerable Priesthood, for the Diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For those who govern this country, for all civil authorities and for our Armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For this city, for every city, and land, and for the faithful, who dwell in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For favourable weather, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times; let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For those who travel by sea, by land, by air, for the sick and suffering; for those in captivity; and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger and necessity; let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

Choir Lord, have mercy

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary, with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

**Priest For to You belong all glory, honour, and worship:
to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.**

Choir Amen.

The Choir sings the following in Tone Eight

My spirit seeks You early in the night watches, for Your commandments are a light on the earth.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. *(Repeated after each Stichera)*

- Learn righteousness, you that dwell upon the earth.
- The wrath of God shall fall upon a disobedient people, and fire shall now devour the enemy.
- Bring more evils upon them, O Lord; bring more evils upon them that are glorious on earth.

Troparion *in Tone Eight*

Behold, the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night, and blessed is the servant He shall find awake and watching; unworthy is the other He shall find being lazy. So beware, O soul of mine, be not overcome by sleep, so that you not be handed over to death and be shut out from the Kingdom. But come to your senses and cry aloud: Holy, holy, holy are You, our God. Through Your Forerunner, have mercy on us.

- **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:**

Behold, the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night, and blessed is the servant He shall find awake and watching; unworthy is the other He shall find being lazy. So beware, O soul of mine, be not overcome by sleep, so that you not be handed over to death and be shut out from the Kingdom. But come to your senses and cry aloud: Holy, holy, holy are You, our God. Through all Your Saints, have mercy on us.

- **Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

Behold, the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night, and blessed is the servant He shall find awake and watching; unworthy is the other He shall find being lazy. So beware, O soul of mine, be not overcome by sleep, so that you not be handed over to death and be shut out from the Kingdom. But come to your senses and cry aloud: Holy, holy, holy are You, our God. Through the Theotokos, have mercy on us.

The Little Ektenia

Priest Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us,
O God, by Your grace.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary, with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For Yours is the majesty, and Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now, and forever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

The Kathismata

Tone Four

Brethren, let us love the Bridegroom and prepare our lamps with care, shining with the virtues and right faith; that, like the wise virgins of the Lord, we may be ready to enter with Him into the wedding feast. For God the Bridegroom grants the incorruptible crown to all.

- **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.** (*Tone Four*)

The priests and scribes with wicked envy gathered a lawless council against You, and persuaded Judas to betray You. Shamelessly he went and spoke against You to the transgressing people: 'What will you give me, and I will betray Him into your hands?' Deliver our souls, O Lord, from the condemnation that was his.

- **Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

(Tone Eight)

Impious Judas plots against the Master with avaricious thoughts, and ponders how he will betray Him. He falls away from the light and accepts the darkness; he agrees upon the payment and sells Him that is above all price; and as the reward for his actions, in his misery he receives a hangman's nose and death in agony. O Christ our God, deliver us from such a fate as his, and grant remission of sins to those who celebrate Your most pure Passion with love.

The Matins Gospel

Priest **And that we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.**

Choir Lord, have mercy. (Thrice).

Priest **Wisdom! Attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be to all.**

Choir And to your spirit.

Priest **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.***(22:15-46; 23:1-39)*

Choir Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Priest Let us attend

At that time the Pharisees went and took counsel how to entangle him in his talk, and they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are true, and teach the way of God truthfully, and care for no man; for you do not regard the position of men. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?’ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the money for the tax.’ And they brought him a coin. And Jesus said to them, ‘Whose likeness and inscription is this?’ They said, ‘Caesar’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ When they heard it, they marvelled; and they left him and went away. The same day Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection; and they asked him a question, saying, ‘Teacher, Moses said, ‘If a man dies, having no children, his brother must marry the widow, and raise up children for his brother.’ Now there were seven brothers among us; the first married, and died, and having no children left his wife to his brother. So too the second and the third, down to the seventh. After them all, the woman died. In the resurrection, therefore, to which of the seven will she be wife? For they all had her.’ But Jesus answered them, ‘You are wrong, because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like the angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not God of the dead, but of the living.’ And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test Him. ‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?’ And he said to him, ‘‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.’’

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, ‘‘What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is He?’’ They said to him, ‘‘The son of David.’’ He said to them, ‘‘How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

‘‘The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand, till I put thy enemies under
thy feet’’?

If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?’’ And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Then said Jesus to the crowds and to His disciples, ‘‘The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat; so practise and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practise. They bind heavy burdens hard to bear, and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger. They do all their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long and they love the place of honour at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the market places, and being called rabbi by men. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren.

And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called masters, for you have one master, the Christ. He who is greatest among you shall be your servant; whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you shut the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither enter yourselves, nor allow those who would enter to go in.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widow’s houses and for a pretense you make long prayers; therefore, you will receive the greater condemnation.

“Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you traverse sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.

“Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘If any one swears by the temple, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.’ You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred? And you say, ‘If any one swears by the altar, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.’ You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So he who swears by the altar, swears by it and everything on it; and he who swears by the temple, swears by it and by him who dwells in it; and he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, justice, mercy and faith; these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

“Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you cleanse the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of extortion and rapacity. You blind Pharisee! first cleanse the inside of the cup and of the plate, that the outside also may be clean.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like white-washed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

“Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ Thus you are witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation.

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold your house is forsaken and desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

Choir Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Psalm 50

(Prayer of repentance)

Have mercy on me, O God, in Your enduring goodness, according to the fullness of Your compassion blot out my offences. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin. For, I acknowledge my rebellion, and my sin is ever before me. Against You only have I sinned and done what is evil in Your eyes; so You will be just in Your sentence and blameless in Your judging. Surely in wickedness I was brought to birth and in sin my mother conceived me. You that desire truth in the inward parts, O teach me wisdom in the secret places of the heart. Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean, wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear of joy and gladness, let the bones which You have broken rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me out from Your presence, and do not take Your holy spirit from me. O give me the gladness of Your help again, and support me with a willing spirit. Then will I teach transgressors Your ways and sinners shall turn to You again. O Lord God of my salvation, deliver me from bloodshed, and my tongue shall sing of Your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim Your praise. You take no pleasure in sacrifice or I would give it: burnt offerings You do not want.

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God You will not despise. In Your graciousness do good to Zion; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Then will You delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and oblations; then will they offer young bulls upon Your altar.

The Little Ektenia

Priest Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us,
O God, by Your grace.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and
glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary,
with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one
another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For You are our God and to You we ascribe glory: to the
Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Now and
forever and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

The Kontakion & Oikos are read

KONTAKION

Think, wretched soul, upon the hour of the end; recall with fear how the fig tree was cut down. Work diligently with the talent that is given to you, both watch and pray: May we not be left outside the bridal chamber of Christ!

OIKOS

Why are you slothful, O my wretched soul? Why do you waste your days in imagining vain cares? Why are you busy with things that pass away? The last hour is at hand and we shall soon be parted from all that is here. While there is still time, return to soberness and cry: I have sinned against You, O my Saviour, do not cut me down like the unfruitful fig tree; but, O Christ, in your compassion take pity on me as I call on You in fear: May we not be left outside the bridal chamber of Christ!

THE SYNAXARION

On Tuesday in Holy Week we make remembrance of the Parable of the Ten Virgins written in the Holy Gospel.

Wherefore, O Christ the Bridegroom, number us with the wise virgins and have mercy upon us. Amen.

CANTICLE EIGHT *Tone two*

Irmos The three holy Children were not obedient to the decree of the tyrant; but when cast into the furnace they confessed God, singing: O all ye works of the Lord, bless the Lord.

Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.

Let us cast aside slothfulness and go to meet Christ, the immortal Bridegroom, with brightly shining lamps and with hymns, crying: O all ye works of the Lord bless ye the Lord.

We glorify Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Lord:

May the oil of fellowship in the vessels of our soul be sufficient, so that we may not lose our reward because we have gone to buy oil, and let us sing: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

You have all received equal grace from God; cause your talent to increase, with the help of Christ who gave it you, and sing: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord.



We praise, we bless and worship the Lord.

Repeat Irmos: The three holy Children were not obedient to the decree of the tyrant; but when cast into the furnace they confessed God, singing: O all ye works of the Lord, bless the Lord.

(The Faithful stand)

Priest The Theotokos and Mother of the Light let us honour and magnify in song.

CANTICLE NINE *(Tone Two)*

Irmos We praise you, O Most Holy Virgin; You who in your womb contained the uncontainable God, and who brought joy to the world.

Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.

You, O Lord, said to the Disciples: Watch, for in the hour you know not, the Lord shall come and shall recompense each one.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

At Your fearful second coming, O Master, number me with the sheep at Your right hand, overlooking the multitude of my sins.

Repeat Irmos: We praise you, O Most Holy Virgin; You who in your womb contained the uncontainable God, and who brought joy to the world.

The Little Ektenia

Priest Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us,
O God, by Your grace.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary, with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For all the powers of heaven praise You, and to You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now, and forever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

The Exaposteilarion *Tone Three*

I see Your bridal chamber adorned, O my Saviour, and I have no wedding garment that I may enter there within. Make the robe of my soul to shine, O Giver of Light, and save me. (Thrice)

The Praises (Ainoi) *Stichera in Tone One*

Choir Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord from heaven: O praise Him in the heights.
To You, O God is due our song.

Praise Him, all His angels: O praise Him, all His host.
To You, O God is due our song.

**Praise Him in the blast of the ram's horn:
Praise Him upon the lute and harp.**

How shall I, the unworthy one, appear in the splendour of Your saints? For if I dare enter Your bridal chamber with them, my garments will betray me; they are unfit for a wedding. The angels will cast me out in chains. Cleanse the filth of my soul, O Lord, and save me in Your love for mankind.

**Praise Him upon the high-sounding cymbals:
Praise Him upon the loud cymbals.
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.**

I slumber in slothfulness of soul, O Christ the Bridegroom; I have no lamp that burns with virtue, and like the foolish virgins I go wandering when it is time to act. Do not close Your compassionate heart against me, O Master, but dispel dark sleep from me and rouse me up; and lead me with the wise virgins into Your bridal chamber, where those who feast sing with pure voice unceasingly: O Lord, glory to You.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

O my soul, you have heard the condemnation of him who hid his talent: hide not the word of God. Proclaim his wonders, increase the gifts of grace entrusted to you, and you shall enter into the joy of your Lord.

Choir To You belongs all glory, O Lord our God, and to You we ascribe glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill to all mankind.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give You thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You take away the sin of the world. have mercy upon us; You that take away the sins of the world.

Receive our prayer, You that sit at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.

For You alone are holy, You alone are the Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day I will bless You, and praise Your Name, to the ages of ages.

O Lord You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, have mercy upon me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.

O Lord, unto You have I fled for refuge: teach me to do Your will, for You are my God.

For with You is the fountain of life, and in Your light shall we see light.

Continue Your mercy unto those that know You. Grant, Lord that this day we may be kept without sin.

Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name to the ages of ages.

May Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, even as our hope is in You.

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your statutes.

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your precepts.

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your commandments.

O Lord, Your mercy endures for ever: despise not the work of Your hands.

To You belongs praise, to You is due worship, to You is due glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now, and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Ektenia

Priest Let us complete our morning prayer unto the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us,
O God, by your grace.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and
sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir Grant this, O Lord.

Priest An Angel of peace, a faithful Guide, a Guardian of our
souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir Grant this, O Lord.

Priest Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions,
let us ask of the Lord.

Choir Grant this, O Lord.

Priest All things good and profitable for our souls and peace
for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir Grant this, O Lord.

Priest That we may complete the remaining time of our life in
peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir Grant this, O Lord.

Priest A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless,
peaceful; and a good defence before the dread
Judgment Seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir Grant this, O Lord.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary, with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For You O God are gracious and merciful and full of compassion, and to You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Priest Peace be to you all. (*The Priest faces the people*)

Choir And to your spirit.

Priest Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest (Quietly) O holy Lord, You who dwell on high, and have regard for the humble of heart, and with Your all-seeing eye behold all creation, unto You have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we entreat You: Stretch forth Your invisible hand from Your holy dwelling-place and bless us all. And if in anything we have sinned, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive, inasmuch as You are a good God, and love mankind; granting unto us Your earthly and heavenly good things.

(Aloud) **For yours it is to show mercy and to save us, O our God, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and forever, and to the ages of ages.**

Choir Amen.

Aposticha

(In Tone Six: The faithful sit)

Come, O faithful, let us work zealously for the Master, for He distributes wealth to His servants. Let each of us according to his ability increase his talent of grace: Let one be adorned in wisdom through good works; let another celebrate a service in splendour. The one distributes his wealth to the poor; the other communicates the word to those untaught. Thus we shall increase what has been entrusted to us, and as faithful stewards of grace, we shall be accounted worthy of the Master's joy. Make us worthy of this, O Christ our God, in Your love for mankind.

Stichera **We were filled in the morning with Your mercy, O Lord, and we rejoiced and were glad. In all our days let us be glad: for the days wherein You have humbled us, for the years wherein we have seen affliction. And look upon Your servants, and upon Your works, and guide their children.**

When You come, O Jesus, in glory with the angelic hosts and sit upon the throne of judgment, do not send me from Your presence, O good Shepherd. You accept those who stand upon the right, but those upon the left have turned away from You. Do not destroy me with the goats, even though I am hardened in sin, but number me with the sheep on Your right hand, and save me in Your love for mankind.

Stichera* And let the brightness of the Lord our God be upon us: and do You direct for us the work of our hands, even the work of our hands do You direct. *Tone Eight

O bridegroom, surpassing all the sons of men in beauty, You have called us to the spiritual feast of Your bridal chamber. Through participation in Your sufferings, strip from me the disfigurement of sin; clothe me with a robe of glory, which will proclaim me a radiant guest in the glorious beauty of Your Kingdom; for You, O Lord, are merciful.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

Behold, my soul, the Master entrusts you with a talent. Receive His gift with fear; make it gain interest for Him; distribute to the poor, and acquire for yourself your Lord as your friend; that, when He shall come in glory, you may stand on His right hand and hear His blessed voice: 'Enter, my servant, into the joy of your Lord.' I have gone astray, O my Saviour, but in your great mercy count me worthy of this joy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest It is a good thing to confess unto the Lord, and to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High, to proclaim Your loving kindness in the morning, and Your truth by night.

Choir Holy God, holy mighty, holy immortal, have mercy upon us. (*Thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now, and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All Holy Trinity, have mercy upon us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One visit and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion

Think, wretched soul, upon the hour of the end; recall with fear how the fig tree was cut down. Work diligently with the talent that is given to you, both watch and pray: May we not be left outside the bridal chamber of Christ!

Choir Lord, have mercy (*12 times*)

You who are more honoured than the Cherubim, more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, in all purity you gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos, we exalt you.

In the Name of the Lord, Father, give the blessing.

Priest Wisdom! Christ our God, the Eternal, is blessed, always: now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen

O heavenly King, strengthen Your faithful servants; establish the Faith, calm the nations, give peace to the world. Protect this city, grant to our departed fathers and brethren that they may dwell with the righteous, and accept us in repentance and thanksgiving: for You are good and love mankind.

Prayer of St Ephraim the Syrian.

- Lord and Master of my life, give me not a spirit of sloth, vain curiosity, lust for power and idle talk. (*Prostration*)
- But give to me Your servant a spirit of soberness, humility, patience and love. (*Prostration*)
- Lord and King, allow me to see my own faults and not to condemn my brother, for you are blessed to the ages of ages. Amen. (*Prostration*)

Dismissal

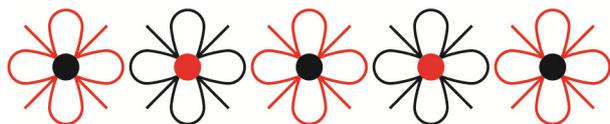
Priest **Glory to You, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to You.**

Choir Glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.
Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)
Bless, Father, in the Name of the Lord.

Priest **May Christ, our true God, the Lord, Who willingly came to Your Passion for our salvation, through the prayers of Your most pure, blameless and holy Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-praised Apostles; of Saint (*Patron Saint of the Church*); of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.**

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

Choir and People Amen.



St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

كنيسة القديس نيقولاوس الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

Parish Priest: Fr. Dimitri Baroudi

176 Simpson St., East Melbourne, Victoria

3/2006